

COLCHESTER UNITED v SWINDON TOWN - NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO - WEDNESDAY JANUARY 30" - PROGRAMME UPDATE

Welcome to this evening's game against Swindon Town – as with last season, it's second time lucky after a New Year's Day postponement. Things have certainly changed since we faced the Robins earlier in the season – the visitors have a new manager (well, an old one back in charge!) and the U's have lost their captain and signed three new players. Here's hoping, after a defeat at the County Ground back in August, that the result is also a little different tonight!

The matchday magazine is the one produced for the fixture on January 1st, but this four-page wraparound has the up-to-date statistics as well as the latest comments from U's boss Steve Whitton. The postponement somewhat scuppered our big plans as we were intending to surprise you all by giving away the matchday magazine FREE, but being the nice chaps we are, we've decided to do the same again tonight.

We have been able to do this thanks to the generosity of tonight's match sponsors Wilkin and Sons. As part of this matchday magazine, you can find out just how the world famous jams and preserves company – based in nearby Tiptree – are supporting sport locally, and there's also an interview with

Welcome to tonight's Match Ball Sponsors...





John Worsp - interview inside

Colchester United director John Worsp who also works for the Essex firm.

Tonight's game is of course the last in what has been a tumultuous January. As mentioned above, Simon Clark has left the club and Andy Woodman joined

Layer Road exit door, at least on a temporary basis.
Meanwhile,
Arsenal loanee
Graham Barrett has been joined by team-mate
John Halls, with the central defender looking for his first win in a Colchester shirt this evening.

him through the

With the month drawing to a close, it's once again time to consider who will win your Colchester United player of

the month crown. Graham Barrett won December's vote but who will come out on tops for you this time around? We'll have further details in Saturday's matchday magazine of how to win an adidas watch in conjunction with The Co-op Jewellery Store, Colchester, but if you want to send in your votes early, you can let us know your choice by e-mail at editor@colchesterunited.net. The winner will be presented with their watch on the pitch before the game against Blackpool on January 16th.

Enjoy the game!

Matt Hudson, Media Manager

Nationwide League Division Two

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	P	W	D	1	F	Α	W	D	t.	F	Д	Gd	Pt
Reading	30	10	2	4	27	13	9	2	3	20	11	23	61
Brighton & H.A.	28	9	2	1	24	11	5	8	3	16	19	10	52
Bristol City	29	8	3	3	23	14	7	3	5	23	17	15	51
Stoke City	29	9	4	2	26	10	5	5	4	16	17	15	51
Brentford	29	10	3	1	35	9	4	3	8	17	23	20	48
Huddersfield Town	29	9	4	3	25	15	4	5	4	18	16	12	48
QPR	30	7	6	2	26	14	6	2	7	17	19	10	47
Oldham Athletic	30	9	4	2	31	13	3	6	6	22	27	13	46
Tranmere Rovers	27	8	5	2	32	13	5	2	5	15	21	13	46
Cardiff City	28	6	6	3	24	19	5	5	3	17	13	9	44
Wycombe Wdrs	28	9	4	1	28	11	2	5	7	13	24	6	42
COLCHESTER UTD	30	8	2	4	25	17	3	4	9	21	33	-4	39
Port Vale	30	8	3	4	26	17	3	3	9	12	26	-5	39
Wigan Athletic	30	4	5	6	21	18	5	6	4	21	19	5	38
SWINDON TOWN	29	6	4	4	16	15	3	5	7	15	24	-8	38
Peterborough Utd	27	7	2	3	27	12	3	3	9	10	22	3	35
Chesterfield	27	6	1	7	25	24	3	6	4	12	14	-1	34
Blackpool	29	5	7	3	21	20	3	3	8	15	28	-12	34
Bournemouth	29	6	2	5	19	16	1	7	8	16	29	-10	30
Bury	29	4	4	6	14	17	4	2	9	13	29	-19	30
Notts County	29	3	5	5	16	19	3	3	10	19	31	-15	26
Northampton Town	28	4	2	9	13	24	3	1	9	15	27	-23	24
Wrexham	30	4	5	7	18	25	2	1	11	15	39	-31	24
Cambridge Utd	28	5	6	4	19	21	0	1	12	9	33	-26	22



Steve Whitton

the views of the U's manager

We're obviously disappointed at losing on Saturday and at losing three games in a row, but in fairness the two away fixtures were tough ones anyway against very strong sides but what really done is losing the home game against Chesterfield. The best way to get it out of our system is with a win against Swindon tonight, so that we can then look forward to Saturday.

In a way, it is good that the games are coming around so quickly, as it means we don't dwell on Saturday's second half performance. We've attempted to get back to basics again this week, although weather conditions have made it a little tricky at times! Because we've lost three in a row, the lads have lost a little bit of confidence and there's only one way to get that back - by practicing the basics. It is important after recent disappointments to get everybody thinking positively

Swindon will come here tonight and try and make it difficult for us, as all the teams below us will do. Again, we will emphasise to the players how important the start of the game is, and we'll be firing them up to come out with

all guns blazing right from the off. If we do that and take the initiative, we'll win the game, I'm sure, but if we come out lethargic and negative we'll struggle.

Forget the last three games, they're gone now. We have to be positive and look forward to the next two home games. It's the first time we've had a real dip in form this season, but it happens to every team - even Manchester United have had it this year. It is now up to us how we react and respond to the situation we're in, and in previous occasions this season we've reacted well to problems however big or small. I haven't got any problems with the players I have here, so I'm confident they will respond in the right way.

Tonight's game clashes with Ipswich Town's fixture with Fulham, so I know those of you who are here tonight are the genuine supporters and we'll be looking to put a good performance for you. I hope you've enjoyed the football we've put on this season, so here's to getting back to winning ways this evening.

Steve Whitton

"...the lads have lost a little bit of confidence and there's only one way to get that back – by practicing the basics."





Cod Yours Year

Act Now And Guarantee A Prime Position

The orders have flooded in, but have you got YOUR brick yet? We're finding that our layerBRICK scheme is proving very popular with the Colchester United faithful - some of the very first orders are shown below - so if you've got a little bit of Christmas money left over, why not take your place in the U's history?

You can order your brick from the Club Shop or by telephoning the Commercial Department on 01206 508806. You can also order online and for anyone thinking of buying a brick for a group of friends, you can claim an extra brick free when you order four or more. Every request receives a certificate of

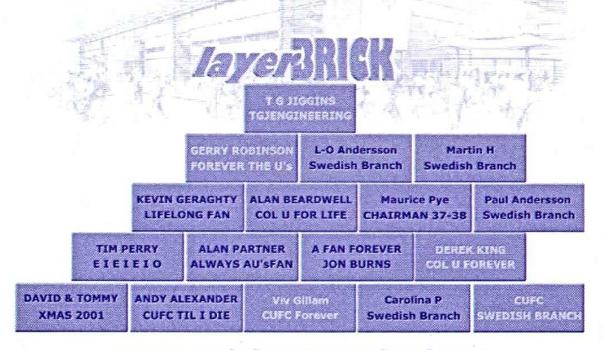
authenticity suitable for framing, and you can also order a replica brick to grace your mantlepiece!

There is a limit of 14 characters on each of the two lines (including spaces), so please be wary of how many words you use! Bricks cost from £35, but cost £42.50 if you order one with gold lettering instead of the standard black.

Once we receive your order, it will be processed and then you can add your name to this historic pathway.

Remember, every brick will be taken to the new stadium, so your piece of history also becomes part of the U's future!

Thank you again for your support of CUFC.



www.colchesterunited.net



Colchester United

Manager: Steve Whitton Colours: Blue & White

Pld GI	
1 Simon BROWN	
2 Joe DUNNE	
3 Joseph KEITH 🗀	
4 Gavin JOHNSON	
5 Ross JOHNSON	
7 Karl DUGUID	
8 David GREGORY	
9 Scott McGLEISH	
10 Kem IZZET 🗀 🗔	
11 Graham BARRETT 🗆 🗆	
12 Scott FITZGERALD	
13 Glenn WILLIAMSON 🗆	
14 Chris KEEBLE	
15 Thomas PINAULT 🗆 🗆	
16 Dean MORGAN 🗀	
17 Bobby BOWRY	
18 Anthony ALLMAN 🗆 🗆	
19 Alan WHITE	
20 Micky STOCKWELL	
21 Kevin RAPLEY	
22 Triston CHAMBERS	
23 Lloyd OPARA	
24 Oliver BLACKWELL	
25 Marc CANHAM 🗆 🗆	
26 David HADRAVA 🗇 🗇	
27 Ben CRANFIELD	
28 Adrian COOTE	
29 Andy WOODMAN	
30 John HALLS	

Swindon Town

Manager: Andy King Colours: All Red

	Pld GI
1 Bart GRIEMINK	0 □
2 Mark ROBINSON	○□
3 Sol DAVIS	○ □
4 Matthew HEWLETT	0 □
5 Adam WILLIS	0 🗆
6 Andy GURNEY	0 □
7 Keith O'HALLORAN	0 □
8 Bobby HOWE	○□
10 Giuliano GRAZIOLI	0 🗆
11 David DUKE	0 □
12 Juan COBIAN	○ □
14 Eric SABIN	
15 Richard McKINNEY	○ □
16 Neil RUDDOCK	○ □
17 Daniel INVINCIBLE	0 🗆
18 Berti BRAYLEY	
19 Matthew HAYWOOD	○ □
20 Paul EDWARDS	О 🗆
22 Alan REEVES	0 🗆
23 Wayne CARLISLE	
24 Dominic FOLEY	○ □
25 Steve ROBINSON	
26 Alan YOUNG	○ □
27 Paul McAREAVEY	0 🗆
28 Nathan EDWARDS	
29 James WILLIAMS	
31 Kevin HALLIDAY	ОП

last line-ups:

COLCHESTER UNITED

(lost 0-3 at Reading)

Brown, Halls, White, Fitzgerald, Duguid, Keith (Gavin Johnson, 55), Stockwell, Izzet, Bowry (Pinault, 77), McGleish, Barrett Subs not used Williamson, Coote, Morgan,

SWINDON TOWN

(drew 2-2 at Wrexham)

Griemink, Willis, Reeves, Heywood, Davis, Duke (Howe, 70), Gurney, Steve Robinson (Hewlett, 70), Invincible, Sabin, Foley (Grazioli, 60) Subs not used McKinney, Nathan Edwards, Today's Match Officials REFEREE:

Mr. W.M. JORDAN (Herts)
ASSISTANT REFEREE:

Mr. R. LEE (Essex)
ASSISTANT REFEREE:

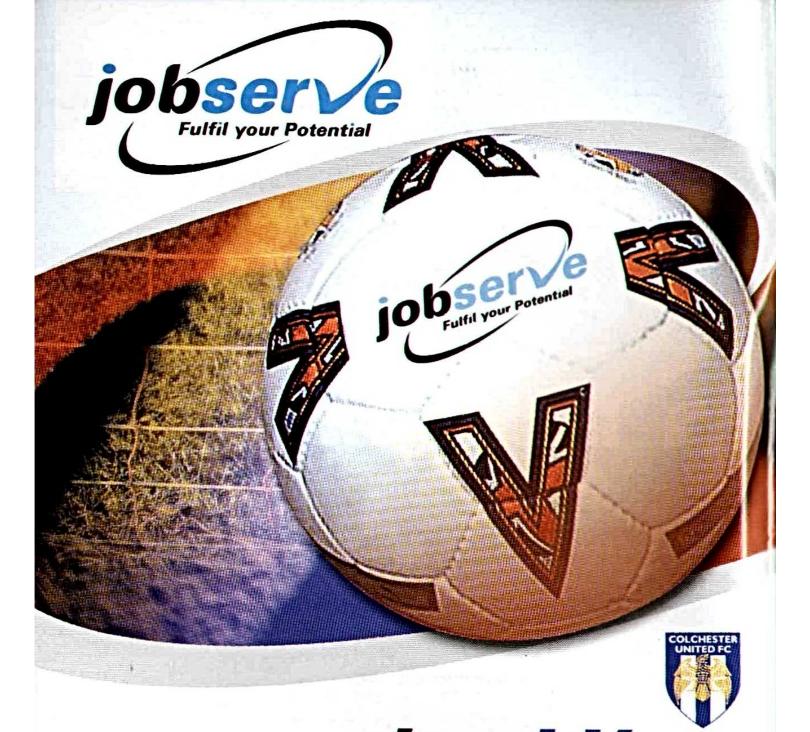
ASSISTANT REFEREE: Mr. I.J. WOODWARD (Kent) FOURTH OFFICIAL:

Mr. M. THORPE (Suffolk)

Next at home v BRENTFORD

Nationwide League Division Two Saturday February 2nd 2002 kick off 3.00pm





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Layer Road Colchester, CO2 7JJ Tel: 01206 508800 Fax: 01206 508803

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Chief Executive: Marie Partner
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Asst Manager/Coach: Geraint Williams
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Happy New Year!

It's time to shake off the hangovers and cheer on the lads to another home win against Swindon today. The two teams have met twice already this season, with each side winning their home game 1-0, so the U's will be hoping to keep up that trend this afternoon.

This game is the final one where we will have our 56-page magazine. But panic not, the game against Wrexham on Tuesday will see a new and improved matchday magazine with no fewer than 64-pages, including a new player columnist, Eddie The Eagle's Blue Eagle Club, You're The Boss and more!

Finally, a big thank you to Tiptree Jam and Preserves, who are today's Match Sponsors. As part of their package, they have kindly sponsored the matchday magazine, enabling every single U's fan to take a look at what we think is a decent publication!

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CLUB WILL NOT TOLERATE THE THROWING OF COINS OR ANY OTHER ITEMS ON TO THE PITCH AREA, IT IS NOT ONLY EXTREMELY DANGEROUS BUT AN OFFENCE. WE WILL HAVE NO HESITATION IN SERVING, ANYONE INVOLVED, A LIFE BAN TO ATTENDING ANY FUTURE GAMES AT COLCHESTER UNITED.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

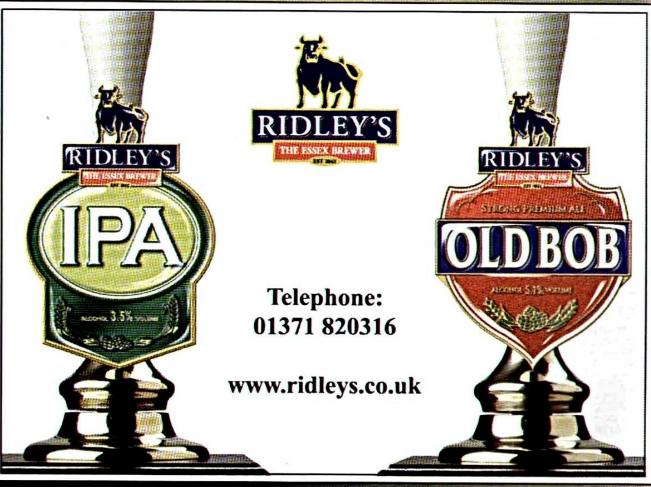
- Steve Whitton looks back on the first half of the season and picks out the positives and negatives so far.
- Meet this afternoon's visitors to Layer Road - Swindon Town.
- 10. Action pictures from our recent game against Huddersfield Town.
- 13. Hungry? Take a look at the Colchester United Good Food Guide.
- 14. Matt Hudson reveals the latest topics on our official website.
- We pose the questions that matter to U's Director John Worsp.
- 21. U's fans welcome Adrian Coote to the club and talk about other footballing matters in Barside Banter.
- 23. Jon Burns reports from the Colchester United Supporters' Association.
- 24. Colchester United fan Lea Finch looks forward to the U's second half of the season.
- The subject of this afternoon's player interview and poster is Scott Fitzgerald.
- 32. News from Jerry Carter in the club's commercial and marketing department.
- **36.** Rob Hadgraft takes a look at happenings elsewhere in Division Two.

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- 39. Geraint Williams brings us the latest from the Reserve team - a successful start to the season despite the results!
- 43. Micky Cook updates us on life in the Youth team set-up.
- 45. A profile of the Youth team's speedy wingback Dwayne 'Eddie' Edwards who has friends in high places.
- 47. Rob Hadgraft's series focuses on the U's 16th manager, Steve Foley.
- **49.** Colchester United Community Sports Trust news.
- Geoff Harrop brings us the latest news from the Centre of Excellence.
- 53. They're today's Match Sponsors, but just who are Tiptree Jams and Preserves?







Steve Whitton

the views of the U's manager

Welcome to this afternoon's game against Swindon and here's hoping you had a great Christmas and a good New Year's celebration last night.

Also a warm welcome to Roy Evans, his Swindon players and the Robins' supporters who have managed to make the trip today. Enjoy the game and here's to a safe journey back to Wiltshire.

After good results against Huddersfield and Northampton we are now just over halfway through the season and far as performances go, I am very pleased with how things have gone and how the players have adapted to how we've expected them to play. The new players have come in and done very well and kept going all season. Kem Izzet and Thomas Pinault have come in for their first full season and they've been successful because they haven't played in league football before, whilst at the other end of things Micky Stockwell has carried on from where he left off last year. Karl Duguid and Joey Keith have both done well when they've been in the side and the lads at the back have kept it tight.

We've got a young bunch of players now and they're a good age, and if we can keep the squad together for the next three or four years, who knows what we can achieve, because they're only going to get better! Also, when you've got a small squad such as ours, you are going to get into situations with injuries and suspensions, you're going to have to put kids on the bench. If we think they are good enough, they will be involved and with the long term injuries we've got, it's going to be the case throughout the season. They take their toll and we have to adjust our training regimes to keep the other players fresh and avoid a real injury crisis.

Whilst I've been pleased with the displays - and the battling qualities that have seen us come from behind

to get either a draw or a win on a number of occasions in recent games - I still feel we could have been coming into the New Year four or five points better off, because when you look back at some of the games we've lost when we should have drawn and drawn when we should have won, there are results we've let slip. That makes a hell of a difference, especially towards the end of the season but I'm hoping that we can pick up those loose points in the second half of the campaign.

We come into the New Year in a relatively healthy position compared to previous seasons, but of course it can soon change. You lose a few and you're down in the relegation zone, but equally you can go on a winning run and be up and around the playoffs. Anything can happen, so I don't want to make any predictions now, but we will keep playing the right way and keep looking to bring fresh faces in people who can improve the squad and then see where we will end up.

Up until the recent arrival of Adrian Coote and Graham Barrett the main frustration of the season has been the inability to bring in the new players that we would have liked. Teams like Cardiff, Reading, Wigan and Stoke pay out good money for players with the resources they have, and it makes it very hard to compete. So when you go in for their players who aren't making it into their first team, they are on good deals from when they signed for the club and it's hard to attract people here. We've done it with a few people and we hope to keep doing it the same way.

As far as 2002 goes, our aim has to be as successful as we can and to fulfil our potential. That has to be every player's aim, to be the best they can be - and if everyone does that and we all lift ourselves by one perfect, then we will be moving in the right direction.

STEVE WHITTON





Swindon Town

After being appointed Swindon manager for a second time eight days ago, Andy King's first match back in charge saw him receive a mixed reception from Robins' fans at the goalless draw with Bournemouth on Boxing Day.

But King has vowed to beat the County Ground boo-boys and said: "Getting a reception like that makes you wonder what you have come back for. I did not deserve it."

King had been axed in the summer after just nine months in charge of the Wiltshire club despite leading them to Second Division safety last season. But he has been hired again now that Evans has quit

after just 16 weeks because of the lack of funds available to him.

King said: "When I was here last time I did my all to keep this club in the Second Division and yet I get treated like that. The only thing that kept me going after that was the reaction of the players who have made it clear that they are all 100 per cent behind me."

New chairman Willie Carson commented: "Roy Evans made up his mind to go and there was nothing we could do about it. We couldn't promise him much and it was his decision to leave. Andy King did a good job here before - he saved us from relegation last season and because of that we decided he deserves another go."

King believes that the Boxing Day draw with Bournemouth was not a game where three players should have been sent-off.

Swindon's Andy Gurney was dismissed after 70 minutes for picking up two yellow cards in the space of a minute, while Guiliano Grazioli was red carded for a bust-up with Cherries defender Eddie Howe - who was also dismissed.

Referee Paul Taylor had to be given a police escort from the pitch at the end of the game, as the man in the middle once again became the talking point of a game.

Meet the men from the County Ground: BART GRIEMINK

Giant keeper signed by Colin Todd on a free in the summer of 2000. Griemink is a former Dutch Under-21 international who spent a successful loan spell with The Robins two years ago as cover for Frank Talia. He came to English football in 1995

				The state of the s	
SWIND	ON TOWN AT LAY	ER ROAD		The same	44
Year	Date	Comp	Res	Scorers (CUFC/STFC)	Attendance
50-1	Aug 31	Div 3(s)	4-1	Turner 5, 40 Curry 37 Church 45 / Hudson 67	12,579
51-2	Dec 29	Div 3(s)	2-0	Keeble 75 McKim 86	7,407
52-3	Sept 6	Div 3(s)	3-1	Edwards 23 Church 48 McKim 77 / Betteridge 18	9,062
53-4	Feb 6	Div 3(s)	2-2	Dale 23 Plant 46 / Owen 10 Sampson 22	6,824
54-5	Aug 21	Div 3(s)	0-0	- (Figure 1991)	9,747
55-6	Mar 3	Div 3(s)	5-0	Plant 12, 84, 86 Dale 20 Fisher 43	6,836
56-7	Mar 30	Div 3(s)	1-1	Wright 44 / Richards 77	9,275
57-8	Mar 15	Div 3(s)	1-3	Langman 65 / Edwards 35 Richards 56 Kelly 63	9,241
58-9	Nov 8	Div 3	1-0	Plant 19	8,011
59-0	Nov 21	Div 3	0-0		6,537
60-1	Apr 1	Div 3	3-1	RR Hunt 26 King 52 Wright 75 / Woodruff 15	3,182
62-3	May 6	Div 3	0-2	- / Smart 26, 50	6,952
66-7	Sept 26	Div 3	2-1	Hall 49 Hodgson 68 / Penman 44	7,874
67-8	Oct 21	Div 3	2-1	Blackwood 60 Price 77 / Penman 43	4,907
71-2	Sept 7	LC2	4-1	Lewis 7, 52p, 70 Mahon 60 / Horsfield 13	7,437
74-5	Mar 4	Div.3	2-0	Svarc 14, 55	4,041
75-6	Apr 6	Div 3	1-2	Leslie 23 / Anderson 17p Syrett 26	2,694
77-8	Nov 11	Div 3	2-0	Garwood 25 Bunkell 60	4,788
78-9	Oct 6	Div 3	3-2	Rowles 53 Evans 77 Gough 89 / Gilchrist 14 Bates 43	3,324
79-0	Aug 31	Div 3	2-3	Gough 32 Hodge 66 / Moss 26 Rowlands 42, 90	2,794
80-1	Nov 8	Div 3	1-0	Hodge 76p	2,153
82-3	Feb 18	Div 4	1-0	Cook 71	2,386
83-4	Feb 25	Div 4	0-0		2,448
84-5	May 4	Div 4	151	A English 77 / Ramsey 43	1,867
85-6	Mar 28	Div 4	1-1	A English 54 / Bamber 62	2,997
00-1	Mar 20	Div 2	0-1	- / Reddy 28	2,736
01-2	Oct 16	AMC	1-0	Tzzet 49	1,521
	it in				
League I	P25 W13 D7 L5 F4	10 - A23 O LC P	1 W 1	D0 L0 F 4 - A 1 • Other P 1 W 1 D0 L0 F 1 - A 0	
SWIND	ON TOWN AT WE	MBLEY			
1968-9	LC III	Arsenal	3-1	Smart, Rogers(2)	100,000
1989-0	D2 P/O	Sunderland	1-0	McLoughlin Market Marke	72,873
1992-3	D1 P/O	Leicester	4-3	Hoddle, Maskell, Taylor, Bodin(pen)	73,802
			引用網		



with Birmingham and deputised for the injured Ian Bennett, playing in the 1995 League Cup semi-final. He then followed Barry Fry to Peterborough.

MARK ROBINSON

A former club captain, 'Robbo' has made over 300 appearances for the Robins. An apprentice at WBA, Mark made three appearances before switching to Barnsley where he played more than 150 games. He spent a year at Newcastle before joining the Robins for £600,000 in 1994.

SOL DAVIS

Young left-back who progressed through the youth team ranks at Swindon to make his debut in 1997 just after his 18th birthday. He played in more than half the games in the 1999-2000 season and was a regular again the following campaign. A committed player, Davis' main problem is his poor disciplinary record, which results in frequent suspensions: he was booked 14 times in 2000-1.

MATTHEW HEWLETT

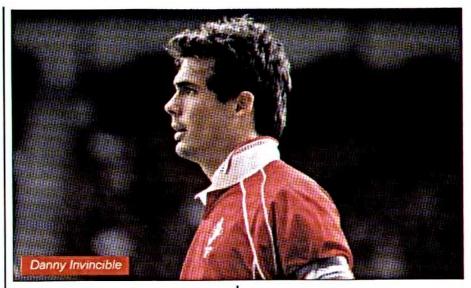
An attacking central midfielder, Matt was once tipped for the top by all at Ashton Gate. The former Bristol City player was called into the England Under 21 squad, but a number of injuries curtailed his flourishing career. Hewlett made over 100 appearances for City, but left them to join the Robins on a Bosman in the summer of 2000.

ADAM WILLIS

Centre back who was revitalised under Colin Todd. Willis arrived at the County Ground in 1998 on a free transfer from Coventry and was Steve McMahon's last signing for The Robins. He scarcely figured for Jimmy Quinn and was allowed to go on loan to Mansfield after being told he could leave Swindon. But Todd liked the tall defender and gave him a new contract.

KEITH O'HALLORAN

Irish midfielder who was one of several Bosman signings Colin Todd made in the summer of 2000. O'Halloran is a talented right-sided player who became first choice on the right of midfield, a position Swindon struggled to fill the previous season. O'Halloran was a trainee at Middlesbrough, but only made six appearances before moving to St Johnstone. Has had along spell out with a broken leg.



BOBBY HOWE

Attacking, skilful midfielder Stephen (who likes to be known as Bobby) often bears the brunt of the crowd's frustration at the County Ground. Howe had a disappointing start to his Swindon career, but recovered to become a regular in the relegation season of 1999-2000 season. Began his career with Nottingham Forest, where he showed promise but only started nine games. Had a loan spell at Ipswich in the nineties.

GUILIANO GRAZIOLI

Striker signed by Peterborough from nonleague Wembley in 1995. His goalscoring record for Fry's Peterborough was impressive: 16 in 23 league starts. While on loan at Stevenage, he scored the goal that knocked Swindon out of the 1999 FA Cup. Jimmy Quinn was impressed and signed him that summer for Swindon.

DAVID DUKE

Left-sided midfielder who arrived on a free transfer from Sunderland in 2000. Appeared regularly in his first season with the Robins and combined well with Sol Davis down the Robins' left and is a good crosser of the ball. Duke can also play at wing-back.

JUAN COBAIN

Attacking right back who chose Swindon instead of his former club Sheffield Wednesday in the summer of 2000. Argentinian Cobian played for Boca Juniors before moving to Hillsborough in 1998. He was subsequently sold to Charlton and Aberdeen without playing much first team football.

DANNY INVINCIBLE

Australian midfielder who endeared himself to the fans having been recommended by Harry Redknapp at West Ham. Danny subsequently joined the Robins on a free transfer. After a slow start (although he did score on his debut against WBA), Danny became top scorer with ten goals, arguably his most important coming in the last home game of the season against Peterborough in the 90th minute.

GARETH DAVIES

Welsh centre back who has been plagued with injury during his time at the County Ground. Davies is a solid centre back who is competent in the air and a good tackler as well as being more comfortable on the ball than many defenders. He was signed by Swindon by his former Reading boss, Jimmy Quinn in 1999 after falling out of favour with then Royals boss, Tommy Burns.

ALAN REEVES

Experienced centre back who is particularly strong in the air. Reeves always causes problems from set pieces and for a brief period last term he was the club's top goalscorer. In 2000/1 he was told by Colin Todd that he could leave the club, but persuaded the manager to reconsider with some fine pre-season performances. Reeves went on to be a permanent fixture last season and even ended up captaining Swindon in Mark Robinson's absence. Before joining Swindon in 1998, he spent four years at Wimbledon, where he had the tough task of replacing John Scales.





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today's visitors

ColchesterUnited

STEVE ROBINSON

Tough-tackling, energetic right-footed midfield terrier signed from Birmingham City for £50,000 in February 2001, he was an automatic choice for the Robins for the remainder of the season. Found in the centre or right of midfielder, Robinson likes to win the ball and pass it on quickly. A former Birmingham trainee, he broke into the Blues team under Barry Fry but has constantly been dogged by injuries that have limited his first team chances. He made over 50 league starts for Blues, but almost joined Sheffield United in 1999, only to fail the medical.

ALAN YOUNG

One of Swindon's brightest hopes for the future. Having already played for England's Youth team, Young more than held his own in the club's second string and marked his first team debut in the FA Cup by scoring against non-league Ilkeston Town.

PAUL McAREAVEY

Northern Ireland Under 21 international midfielder who holds the dubious distinction of being the first player sent-off for his country at that level. Made his first two appearances for Swindon as a substitute against Norwich and on another substitute appearance, netted his first Swindon goal against Oldham in March 2001, impressing with his lively movement.

JAMES WILLIAMS

Teenage defender who first played for Swindon at the end of the 1998-9 season when just 16 and appeared in more than half of the Robins' games the following campaign. A quick right back who is composed in possession, Williams only played seven league games in the 2000-1 season.

MATTHEW HEYWOOD

Heywood failed to break through at Burnley's Turf Moor and, after being alerted as to his availability by Shaun Reid, Andy King snapped him up on a free transfer. It is no coincidence Town's defensive record improved dramatically following his arrival and he also poses a threat in the opposing box.

ANDY GURNEY

Joined Reading from Torquay in January 1999 for £100,000 as an attack-minded, right-sided defender who can also play in midfield. He started his career at hometown club Bristol Rovers, where he spent four seasons before moving to Torquay for one year and impressing during their surge to the play-offs. Established a regular starting place with Reading in 1999/2000 and figured in the Royal's promotion push last year. Andy King snapped him up on a Bosman.

ERIC SABIN

Sabin joined Town from French Second Division club Wasquehall who finished 18th last season. Sabin contributed with seven goals in 58 starts and Andy King described his style of play as similar to that of Thierry Henry.

NEIL RUDDOCK

'Razor' as he is more commonly known, began his career at Millwall before establishing himself as a regular with Southampton. A good spell at Spurs saw him secure a lucrative move to Liverpool where he met Roy Evans. After five years at Anfield, Neil has more recently had spells at West Ham and Crystal Palace. A popular character on and off the pitch 'Razor's' experience will benefit many of the players and his positive attitude will be essential to the new campaign. Scored on his debut against Colchester.

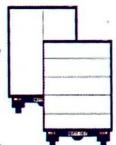
BERTI BRAYLEY

Striker from West Ham, where he played in the same team as Joe Cole and Michael Carrick. Berti also had a spell at Spurs before moving to QPR for a season. Brayley has a good first touch and fine ball skills. He's a very confident player and signed on a short-term deal.



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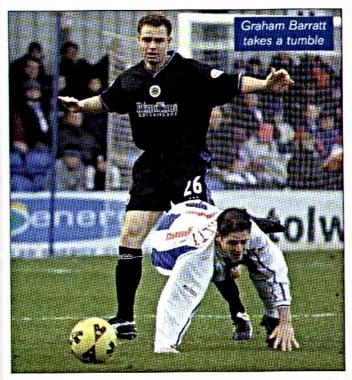
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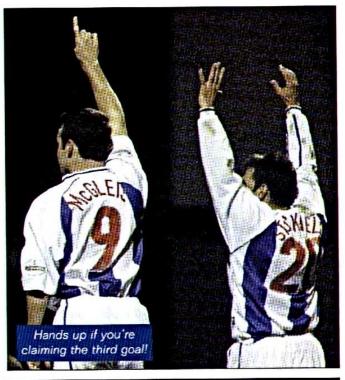


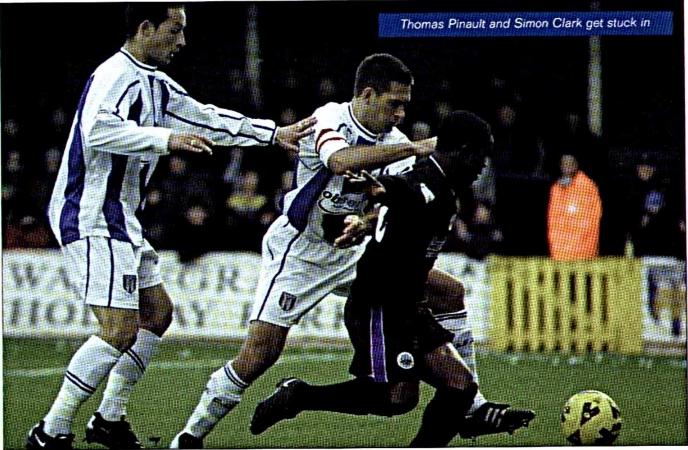


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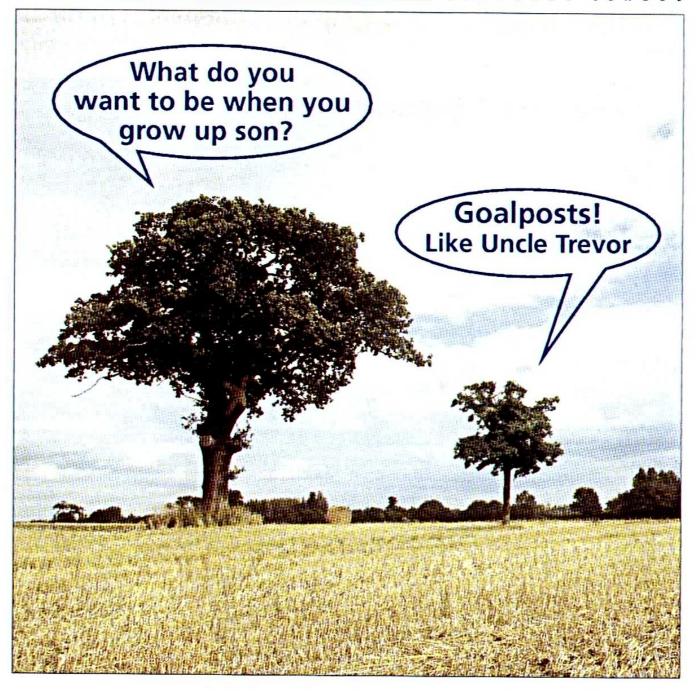












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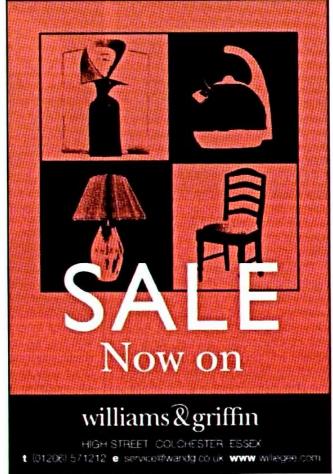
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Colchester United Good Food Guide!

THESE EATING PLACES ARE ALL HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

- Bar 33 Crouch Street, Colchester
- Baumanns Brasserie Coggeshall
- Butterfly Hotel A12/A120 Junction, Colchester
- Café Rouge High Street, Colchester
- Chicago Rock Café Queen St. Colchester
- China Chef Crouch St. Colchester
- Clowns High St. Colchester
- Five Lakes Tolleshunt Knights, Maldon, Essex.
- Granata's Restaurant North Hill, Colchester
- Harbour Lights Titchmarsh Marina, Walton on Naze
- Harry's Bar .Colchester
- Harvester Inn Stanway, Colchester
- Hintlesham Hall Hintlesham, Ipswich, IP8 3NS
- Holiday Inn Eight Ash Green, Colchester
- Huntsmans Tavern Shrub End Road, Colchester
- Kingsford Park Hotel Layer Road, Colchester.
- Jade Garden St. Johns St. Colchester
- Laver Fox Laver de la Haye, Colchester
- McDonald's Colchester
- Nindy's Dugard Avenue, Colchester
- Noodles North Hill, Colchester
- Playhouse St Johns Street, Colchester
- Pizza Hut High St, Colchester
- Quilters Wine Bar North Station Road, Colchester
- Red Onion Bistro Head St. Colchester
- Romford Stadium Romford
- Rose & Crown East Gates, Colchester
- Rovers Tye Ipswich Road, Colchester
- Sloppy Joes Diner High St. Colchester
- The Bell Inn Kersey, Suffolk
- The Brewers Arms Polstead, Suffolk
- The Chequers The Street, Great Tey,
- The Compasses Great Totham, Maldon.
- The House Without A Name Easthorpe



- The Lemon Tree St. Johns St. Colchester
- The North Hill Exchange Brasserie North Hill, Colchester
- The Old Anchor 132 Feering Hill, Feering.
- The Pier at Harwich The Quay, Harwich,
- The Playhouse Osborne St. Colchester
- The Plough Inn Lower Road, Peldon,
- The Siege House East St, Colchester
- The Taverner Cut Throat Lane, Colchester
- The White Hart Nayland, Nr.Colchester
- The White Hart West Bergholt
- Trotters Wine Bar North Station Road, Colchester
- Yates Wine Lodge Head St. Colchester

A big thank you to all of the above restaurants and eating houses for donating a meal for two in the U's big Christmas draw. If you were not lucky enough to win a free meal then why not give one a try anyway – tell them you saw them in the COLCHESTER UNITED GOOD FOOD GUIDE.

U's Online

with Matt Hudson

Welcome to this afternoon's game against Swindon Town - I'm sure that the atmosphere on the terraces could be a bit hushed as you all recover from last night's celebrations!

2001 was most certainly an eventful year for the U's, but we come into 2002 looking in good shape and certainly the next twelve months promise to be an interesting time.

This year also will be an exciting year for the official website. We are currently busy working behind the scenes to develop a slightly different look for colchesterunited.net, and there will be a whole host of exciting features to be launched on the site. There will be more interactivity than ever, more great prizes and more exclusive interviews with faces new and old.

We've nearly quadrupled the amount of visitors to the official site since the end of last season, and the aim now is to raise that even higher. For those of you that click on from work, why not tell your workmates to have a look? They might not be interested in everything that is going on at Layer Road, but every hit counts in earning the club more money - and heck, that means earning more money to strengthen the squad!

What's more, we all know that after a heavy night on the booze after the game on a Saturday, the last thing your eyes want to do is read words! So we're

planning - within the next two months - to launch exclusive audio and video interviews on the official site. You've seen the lads out on the pitch, seen their pictures in the paper, but what do they sound like? Well, you'll be able to see the U's players in serious - and not so serious - interviews on your computer in 2002!

And should you not be able to make a game, then our matchday service is set to be completely relaunched in the not too distant future. With a whole host of interactive features, it will be the most comprehensive, most exciting and almost the best way to watch the U's - after all, nothing is better than



actually being there! Stay tuned to colchesterunited.net in the coming months to see what we've got in store.



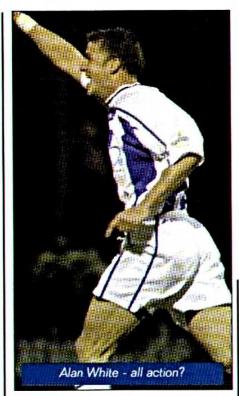
ColchesterUnited



Player Of The Month Time Again!

Thomas Pinault, Joey Keith, Kem Izzet and Karl Duguid have all snatched the crown of Player of the Month so far this season, and after a hectic few weeks, it's time to get voting again for your favourite player during December.

So, get your thinking caps on all you have to do is tell us who you think has been the outstanding player during the last four weeks, and you will be



entered into the draw to win a superb 'adidas' Flux 100 watch, courtesy of The Co-op Jewellery Store and 'adidas' Watches. Just write into the club with your vote - the address is on page three of this matchday magazine - or e-mail us at editor@colchesterunited.net.

If you are picked out by our randomised computer process (i.e. when someone tells me to stop scrolling down the list of entries!), then you will be presented with your watch ON THE PITCH before the U's home

Old programmes wanted...

Anyone with old Colchester United programmes and other memorabilia is urged to contact Mr Mick Middleton of 76 The Willows, Colchester CO2 8PX (telephone 01206 571547).

Mick represents the major CUFC collectors (about six to eight of

collectors (about six to eight of them) who are able to enhance their programme collections from this 'central' point of contact. If you have anything to sell or dispose of, please contact Mick now!

game against Chesterfield on January 19th.

But who will you pick? Who has provided you with the best present over Christmas? Will Scott McGleish's combination of hard work, goals and celebrations make you lean towards him and put your vote on his head? Or has last year's Player of the Year Micky Stockwell done enough to persuade you with his festive performances that he is back on the top of his game? Or with Alan White getting a regular run in the side in the past four weeks, perhaps you feel his all action displays are worthy of the nod?

Closing date for votes is Wednesday, January 16th - good luck!

First rule of football. Get into the box.



kitsponsors

If you would like to sponsor a U's player's home or away kit call the Commercial Department on 01206 508806 and we wll add your name to the waiting list.

Steve Whitton...

...is sponsored by

Home kit... C.U.S.A.

Away kit...

Helen & Jeffrey **Phillips of Boxted**

Geraint Williams...

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C.U.S.A. -The Corner Bar

Away kit...

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Mike Luckett, Stonehouse, Gloucstershire

Away kit...

Layerbet

Alan White...

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C.U.F.C. Stewards

Away kit...

Glenn & Sue Austin

Kevin Rapley...

... is sponsored by

Home kit...

Mick Barnes

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Micky Stockwell...

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Home kit...

Jeanette, Roger & **Ben Westlake**

Away kit...

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Simon Brown...

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Scott Robinson - in loving memory of Gerry Robinson

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Karl Duguid...

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Home kit...

Andy & Babsy

Away kit...

Kylie & Roanna Jones

Ross Johnson...

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Terry Sutton

Away kit...

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Duncan

Stonehouse

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MG

Kem Izzet...

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Helen & Jeffrey Phillips of Boxted

Away kit...

Matt Hudson

Adrian Coote

...is sponsored by

Home kit ...

lan Mills .

Stroud, Gloucestershire

Away kit...

Andy Hunt...

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CHARLES AND AND THE TOTAL CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE





Jammy sponsors!

Today's Match Sponsors are Tiptree Jams and Preserves, based in the village of Tiptree (unsurprisingly!), just nine miles from the U's Layer Road ground.

The business - famed worldwide for its' superb jams and marmalades amongst other foodstuffs - is now well over a hundred years old and the family are still major shareholders. Whole families can and do work in the business, and several of today's workforce are following in the footsteps of their parents and grandparents.

Colchester United have a strong connection with the company, with one of Tiptree's directors, John Worsp, also sitting on the U's board of directors for the past eleven years. John speaks of his time at Layer Road, the changes he has seen, as well as how the two companies he spends his time with represent all that is good about Essex on the next page.

Their links with the U's - via sponsorship of the perimeter boards and also of club skipper Simon Clark's kit - is far from the only involvement they have with local sport. In fact, there is an extremely impressive portfolio of individuals and teams that they support, the most notable of which has been the county's cricket team. For the past two years, they have the main sponsor of Essex County Cricket Club and have seen the team go up a division and down a division in consecutive years. Essex have appointed a new sponsor for 2002, but no doubt Tiptree will be watching their progress with interest.

Tiptree also sponsor Arron Spall, a fourteen year old roller skater from Tiptree. Arron competes at international level and has recently travelled to Germany and Slovenia for international competitions. Arron and his mum and dad have

found it particularly difficult to get support for his efforts as roller skating is not yet recognised as an Olympic sport. Tiptree were pleased to sponsor Arron when they saw the level of commitment he puts into his sport -he is a glowing example to other youngsters and yet still manages to be a star pupil at Thurstable School, Tiptree.

Connections

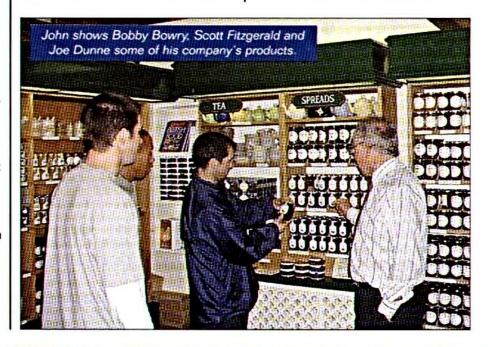
Furthermore, Tiptree have connections going back some years now with Frinton Lawn Tennis Club. In past years, they have sponsored the Junior Open tournament, encouraging youngsters from all over Europe to play an active part in lawn tennis. Tiptree are currently discussing an exciting new sponsorship opportunity with the club for next year. And for the first time this year, Tiptree have committed money to sponsorship of Real Tennis at nearby Prested Hall. This game, the forerunner of Lawn Tennis, receives very little publicity and is seen by the few



who know about it as a rather eccentric sport.

However, the company's interest in sport is not only an external one. The Tiptree jam factory has its own highly competitive amateur karting squad. Staff members race at Ipswich, Indikart in Colchester and have even competed at the Buckmore Park outdoor circuit where the likes of Johnny Herbert and Jenson Button learned their skills. The Tiptree team welcome challenges from any other local companies (or football clubs for that matter!).

Colchester United thank Tiptree for their support this afternoon and so far this season - and hope that the links continue to grow in the coming months and years.



Colcheste United

Director's Cut

putting the important questions to John Worsp

U's director John Worsp is also on the board at Tiptree's Wilkins Jams. With the Essex-based company being match sponsors for today's game, we took time to pose YOUR questions to one of Colchester United's key men...

Having signed Adrian Coote, is there still money there for Steve Whitton to add fresh faces?

There is always money available for other players who fit within our current budget, because we have ambitions to finish as high as we can in the Second Division. The purchase of Coote was to consolidate the good start to the season - we've been considering signing him for some time, and Steve Whitton has been tracking his progress for some months.

You've been on the board for eleven years, what are your particular highlights?

I've been a fan of the club for 51 years, so I've seen things both as a supporter and as a director! Since I have been on this side of things, obviously the Wembley visits rate highly - and I expect that is the case for the majority of Colchester supporters. For a club the size of ours to visit Wembley three times in eleven years is an amazing achievement, and there was absolutely no way you could see that happening when I joined the board.

Having made such rapid progress in the last ten years, what do you envisage in the next decade?

I would like to see Colchester United well established as a team in a brand new stadium, and challenging well in the First Division. We've made good progress again this season, and I believe that within a ten year timeframe that it is a realistic ambition for us to be aiming that high.

Managers have fallen by the wayside all season, how highly do you rate Steve Whitton as U's boss?

Steve is a very good and a prudent manager. I think he has done very well with the resources a club like ours has at our disposal. He continues to progress and the team is doing very well under him.

At present, there are only two directors and the chairman on the board. Are there any plans to expand?

As they stand, I think things are good and well balanced as they are, but should a potential candidate come along with an offer of suitable expertise, then obviously we would have to listen and consider what they are saying.

How key is the new ground?

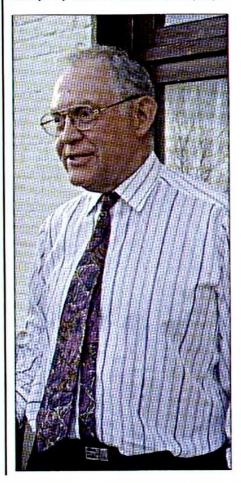
It's very important as we are absolutely at our potential at the moment. We're in the middle of a residential area, very limited parking, very limited facilities within the ground and it's very hard to generate any additional income from it. The income potential from a new stadium is significantly greater than it is at Layer Road.

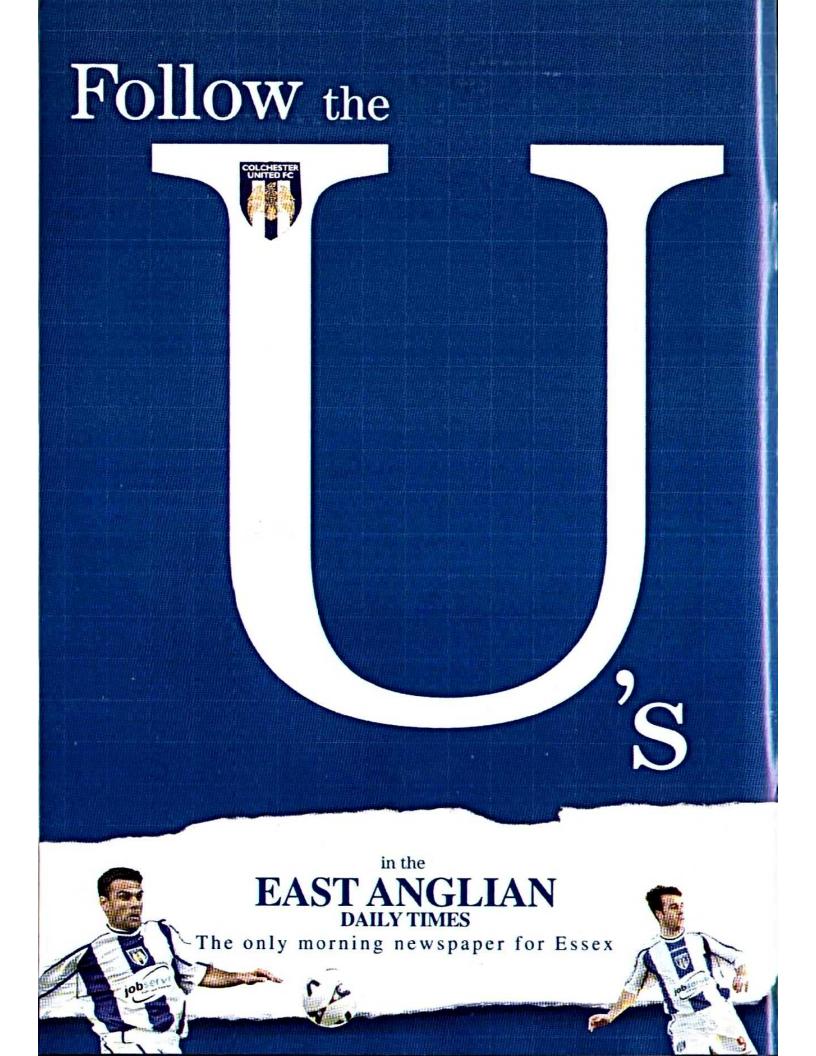
Other clubs have got their grounds completed a lot quicker than us - why are we taking so long?

On this particular project, we have worked very closely with the council, who have been very supportive. We have had to have a number of feasibility studies which have taken a great deal of time, to ensure we had the best planning application at the date of submission.

Being a director of both the U's and Tiptree, how do they represent the county?

I see that the football club is very important for the town and also the county of Essex, whilst Tiptree Jams and Preserves take the county worldwide, so each company has its own role to play!





Colchester United

Barside Banter

In our first Barside Banter of the New Year, we have a real mixed bag of letters, although the main theme appears to be 'Welcome Adrian!' The U's new signing made a big impact in his first game at Layer Road - his shot hitting the bar before being tucked in by top scorer Scott McGleish.

As well as welcoming Mr Coote, we also have a collection of contributions looking forward to the New Year - what does 2002 hold for Colchester United Football Club? Don't forget, you can contribute to Barside Banter by e-mailing us at editor@colchesterunited.net or by writing to us at the club address on page three.

Friends Reunited?

May I be one of the first to welcome Adrian Coote to Layer Road? Although I live in Great Yarmouth, as my late father was from Colchester, they have always been my 'second team'. Adrian is known to me personally and I know deep down he is keen to show Norwich City that given a decent run in the first team he would have proven all his doubters wrong. Adrian has already said that he would like to play against his old club next season. Lets hope he does and he gets the winning goal.

Peter Harden

Welcome To The Canary!

It's early days, but I believe we might have made yet another excellent signing with the addition to Mr Coote to the U's squad. From his time on the pitch against Huddersfield, it is clear that he likes to put himself about a bit, and with his height in the box, we will now have a real danger man when the corners come across - oh, to have had him for the game against York when all those set-pieces went

astray!

Not only that, the fact that the club has gone out and spent money on a YOUNG striker gives supporters reassurance that they are interested in consolidating what has been a promising start to the season. Remember, during the summer, many supporters were panicking that we had failed to add fresh blood to the squad, but despite a number of knock backs we've hung in there and got some decent young players.

Start banging them in, Ade!

Peter Ellis

...And He Doesn't Like Ipswich Much!

We've signed a striker that can obviously score goals, but has been a bit unfortunate not to make the first team at his previous club. What I particularly like is that he is Norwich through and through, meaning that like many of us on the terraces he is less than enamoured with the team from down the road in Suffolk! A few goals and he'll soon become a bit of a hero!

Paul Rowland

The Coming Twelve Months...

Well, we come into the second half of the season looking up rather than down, so that's a good start! I think that if we can keep up our passing game when the pitches get worse, then we'll always be in with a shout of staying where we are, if not moving up the table a bit. With Coote added to the squad, we've got a different option if the smooth passing isn't working, and with Barrett adding yet another choice, we're in good shape.

Steve Williams

...Could Be Good

If we can pick up our home form again, we could be there or

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thereabouts at the end of the season. Home results have been the key for teams at the top of the table, so we need to ensure that Layer Road becomes a place that other teams are afraid of. Good luck lads!

Matt Fitzgerald



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A look back at a very eventful year...

Happy New Year to you all, and welcome to Layer Road for our first fixture of 2002 against Swindon Town. I hope that you all had a trouble-free New Year's Eve wherever you ended up, or woke up!

Just where have the last 12 months gone? Time really does fly when you're having fun. I will now take you on a journey through the last year, tracking some of the workings of the CUSA and some of the on/off-field activities of the Football Club through the eyes of the fans.

Back in JANUARY 2001, the CUSA was boasting some 419 members and was busy making preparations for our party on the 20th at Wivenhoe Town FC. A complete sell-out and a fantastic evening was had by all who attended and 'danced' the night away. One thing is for certain when it comes to our parties, you will never ever leave hungry!

A trip to Blackburn was organised to watch the youth team play in an FA Youth Cup tie, much as we had done the previous year at Leeds. This is done not only to provide supporters with a chance to visit a new modern stadium, but also to assist members of the players' families who want to see the game. Also in this month, the Football Club appointed Julie Ager as the Supporters Liaison Officer, and this was a move that we were delighted with, not only because it provided an important link, but also because Julie was a CUSA member and a committed fan.

In FEBRUARY, four of our members had a memorable evening at the Charity Sportsman's Dinner in aid of the NSPCC. I apologise now that we did appear to hog a certain Mr Tommy Docherty for most of the pre-dinner drinks. A fascinating and entertaining man who seemed very much at home with the slightly merry likely lads from Colchester!

Also in February, the Fans Forum saw presentations from the Football Club, Football in the Community, Council officers and representatives from the companies which will be involved in the construction of the new home for the U's. We saw a rough outline of the broad shape and design of the ground, and learned of the immense benefits to be gleaned from its construction, both financially for the U's and in the Community as a whole. I remember that the main hall of the institute

was packed with both fans and members of the public - a nerve-racking experience for both myself and Jeff Whitehead!

MARCH came and the CUSA purchased a new strip for the successful CUSA football team, and it was put to good use when we played Lincoln on the morning before the abandoned game at Notts County. It absolutely chucked it down!

Speaking of rain, at Layer Road, David Blacknall had just about had enough to last him all year. Covers went on, covers went off - it was hard work, and I know that David was greatly appreciative of the manual labour that the CUSA and the other volunteers could lend.

In APRIL and MAY, we had our AGM and took an active part in the Open Day on May 19, with our five-a-side team and programme stall. On May 5, the CUSA team competed for the first time for the Les Oakes Trophy against a team from our coach company, Hedinghams. It was an important and moving evening in honour of one of the most legendary supporters and members that I have known.

The all-ticket affair at Wycombe on the last day of the season was extremely well-supported by U's fans - our numbers swelled by numerous police! It was also Barry Conlon Appreciation Day with bald wigs a-plenty! Such a shame that he didn't even play that day, perhaps we should have guessed then that his time was up.

During the SUMMER, we set about organising coaches for the new season and could barely take a breath before the pre-season games were upon us. The rain came again at Richard Wilkins' Bury and my car aqua-planed along the A14 quite happily! After the Charlton match we organised a trip to the Romford greyhound racing, always great entertainment as long as you don't keep on backing dodgy dogs like me!

AUGUST, and what a way to start the new campaign with six goals at Chesterfield. This excellent start was beyond everybody's wildest dreams - just how long could it continue? The Corner Bar started going again full throttle and it was pleasing to see that the number of people taking the annual membership had increased, and that renewals of the general CUSA membership was good.

Great news! The planning applications for the Cuckoo Farm development and the Community Stadium were finally submitted for approval. It

has been a long while coming, but the end result will be on so crucial for the fans and the Club.

Proposed OCTOBER overnight stops in both Biackpool and Brighton for our members sadly had to be cancelled because of accommodation problems, but undeterred we looked forward and continued to organise trips to every away game - LDV Trophy included!

Many of our members enjoyed themselves at the Youth Team Race Night - one even came away with a giant teddy bear! Just recently, in DECEMBER we ran a successful Xmas shopping trip to Lakeside and made some good friends at Peterborough when we played them in a friendly.

Well, that in a nutshell was 2001! Let's hope that 2002 is even better, and I look forward to your support of the Club and the Colchester United Supporters Association over the next 12 months and beyond,

Up The U's,

JON BURNS

CUSA AWAY TRAVEL DETAILS

Venue: Tranmere Rovers
Competition: Nationwide League
Date: Saturday 12th January
Coach leaves Layer Road:
7.00am
Adult Members: £18

Concessions Members: £15 Adult Non-Members: £24 Concessions Non-Members: £20

Venue: Huddersfield Town Competition: Nationwide League Date: Tuesday 22nd January Coach leaves Layer Road: 12.30pm Adult Members: £17

Adult Members: £17 Concessions Members: £14 Adult Non-Members: £23 Concessions Non-Members: £19

Venue: Reading
Competition: Nationwide League
Date: Saturday 26th January
Coach leaves Layer Road:
11.00am
Adult Members: £10

Adult Members: £10
Concessions Members: £8
Adult Non-Members: £15
Concessions Non-Members: £12

Happy New Year?

I certainly hope so! I hate New Year's Day if I've nothing to do (low boredom threshold, me!), so having a game at home to go and get those post Christmas cobwebs blown away is my idea of a good time.

I've just had a little look at the programme for the game the Christmas before our play-off success. We were 16th when we hit that rich vein of form that carried us into the playoff spot. I've decided that I really do need to see the Millennium Stadium this season, but I can't think of any other team which could lure me there. I've told my mate in Cardiff to prepare for a visit, I've got my lucky piglet socks on standby, and I want this season to be a long one! I always find that summer is about 8 weeks to long, although I suppose this year I will at least have the World Cup to keep me occupied. I just need to calculate the right sort of spot to place the TV in the garden, so I can sit in the sun watching the footy without too

much glare to see the screen. Crumbs, in the depths of winter that all seems such a long way

Still, here we are, just over half way through the season, with an attractive footballing side to watch (I haven't forgotten my New Year's resolutions; I was talking about the style of play. Just don't mention Wads...oops, there goes the other one!), plus one or two new faces on the scene to entertain us. All very exciting.

Got some super away games coming up, as well. The Madejski Stadium is one I always enjoy visiting - largely because I can get in their incredibly swish supporters' bar with Ernie's mate Nick (although last time the girls and I - who look a real menace, obviously - were told to remove our colours in case we 'got done'. Be a bit incongruous, really, football hoolies in something that looks like a rather flash wine bar). The rest of the stadium is a real treat, as well, right down to

the tellies by the food queues, so you don't miss any action if you get the urge for a pie. We've a few more games within easily travelling distance as well, such as Cambridge, Peterborough and Wycombe, And I'll have no problems finding something to do to compensate for another bloomin' birthday - a home game v Stoke has

the look of a girls' night out about it (and I'll put in my order for 3 points now, please). The only disappointments are the Tuesday games - I've got friends in Nottingham, and the last time we went up for a game, we found ourselves with nothing to do but drink and watch racing on the TV. Life is full of compensations but I just have to harden up and stop putting money on Tresor de Mai. Why can't someone get an unbeatable racehorse and call it Doogie, Pinault or something? Then of course there's Bournemouth, I was really up for Easter Monday by the seaside, then the date gets changed. Booooooo.

Actually the 'run in' at the end of the season looks quite tough - either 'bogey' sides like Bury and bournemouth away, or front runners like Brighton and Cardiff. Ha! I'll have faith: we'll have overtaken them by then.

Uh-oh, this is all a bit positive. I can't have sobered up from the festive season yet. I had the same problem last year. In fact my mind was so altered that I thought I was at a match against one of the top teams with two of the best strikers in the division, and Steve McGavin turned into Roy of the Rovers, with Doogie and Lua Lua sharing Billy's boots. It was all quite surreal. My mind was so affected I could have sworn we won 5-4. I don't know what it was I was drinking at the time, but I could definitely do with plenty more of that. In fact if I can find what it was I might get to see something that looks like my childhood team Dagenham (who went on to marry Redbridge) beating Ipswich. Now THAT would be a good start to the year!

Have a great 2002 Up the U's.

Madejski Stadium - home of the flash wine bar

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Scott Fitzgerald

on lucky escapes and a good season so far...

This afternoon Matt Hudson talks to the U's centre-half on putting the game into perspective.

When Clyde Wijnhard came on as a 76th minute substitute in the recent 3-3 draw with Huddersfield Town, no doubt three of the U's players on the pitch that day had a little sympathy with the player who was making his first league appearance for fifteen months. For back in the summer of 2000, the Terriers striker was involved

in a horrific car crash which saw him suffer a serious break to his arm - at one stage, it looked like he might have to have it amputated.

His second half display as substitute for the Yorkshire side came just four days after Andy Woodman, Bobby Bowry and Scott Fitzgerald - as well as defender Anthony Allman who was not involved in the game against Huddersfield - were involved in a major incident on the M25, from which the quartet were extremely lucky to escape from unhurt.

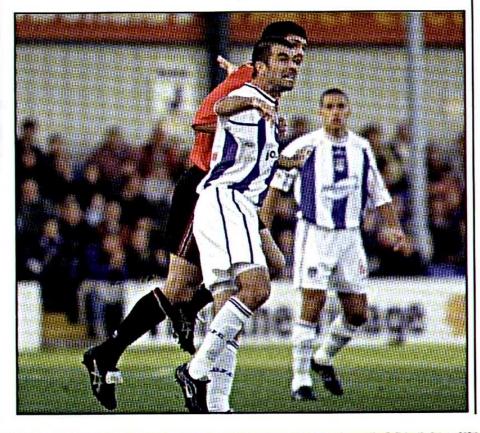
"We were driving along to come into training, and we were late as usual after waiting for Woody to turn up. As we came out of the Dartford Tunnel, a Sainsbury's articulated lorry has jack-knifed right in front of us and at this stage it was looking a bit bad for us. I was sitting in the back with Anthony Allman and we could see it start spinning towards us, and to be fair to Woody he put his foot down and accelerated. We've just managed to squeeze through the tiniest of gaps, and although the car's smashed into the central reservation barrier, we just got past OK."

Avoided

And squeezing through that gap meant that the lads had avoided an extremely dangerous encounter with not only the jackknifed vehicle, but also another lorry on its way right behind. "We looked around and there was another lorry coming towards us so if we didn't make that gap, we would have been like sardines, and Woody did very well for us. It worked out fine, none of us were injured, only the car. Obviously the car was damaged, but that's just a lump of metal and can be replaced, whereas people, arms and legs cannot."

And the incident has made Fitz realise that however het up people might get about football, there are other things that are far more important at the end of the day. Not for the first time this season, the U's players found themselves putting their profession into perspective.

"Football is a passionate game and you do go over the top now and again, but its events such as the crash that put it all into context - we had the fan pass away recently and it was a



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scottfitzgerald



page twenty eight

Scott Fitzgerald

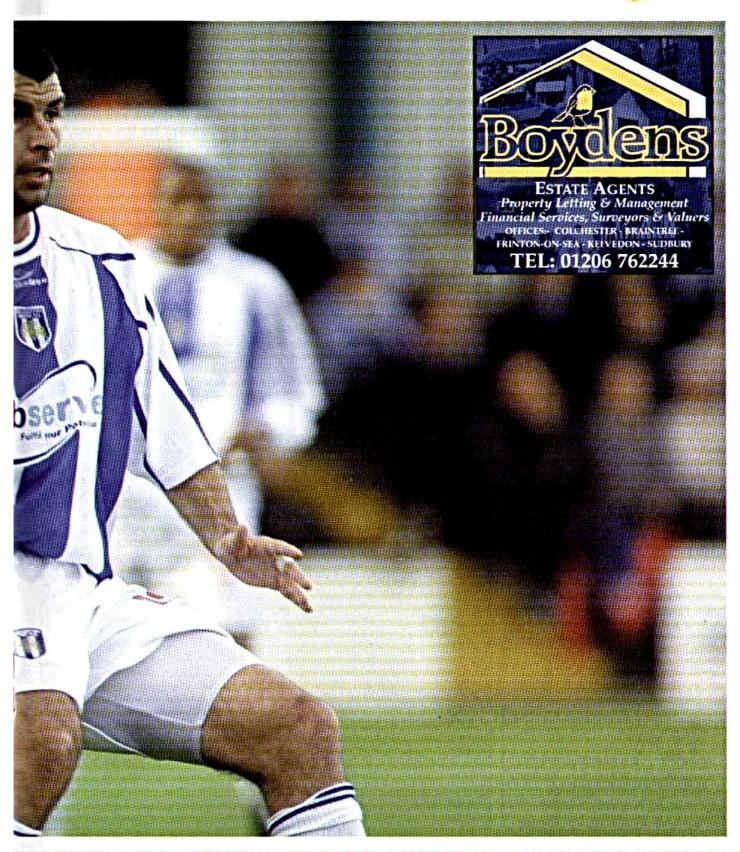
Home kit...

Barbara & Stephen Wood Away kit...

Mike & Andy Baker/Barside







talkingto



similar situation when we had to play Barnsley on the evening when the news of the terrorist attacks in New York were breaking - all things like that show that football is just a game."

And it's a game that's going pretty well for the U's so far this season. At the halfway point of the 2001/2 campaign, Steve Whitton's side found themselves in the top half of the table and with a reasonable shout of reaching the play-offs. It comes in stark contrast to previous seasons in Division Two, where the Layer Road club had been looking over their shoulder at the teams below, rather than striving to reach the teams above.

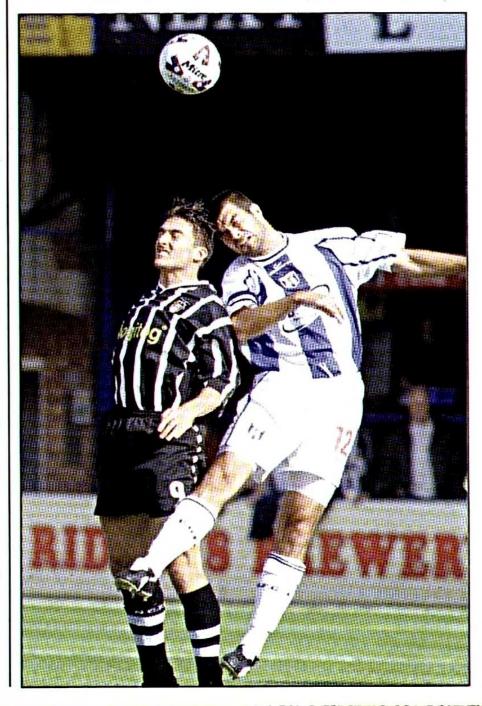
Consolidated

That relatively successful opening to the season has been consolidated in recent weeks by additions to the U's squad, most notably the addition of Norwich City striker Adrian Coote in late December. And Fitzgerald, who is currently in his second season with the club, believes that the new faces have arrived at just the right time for a squad looking to continually improve.

"To be fair, its gone OK so far," Scott continued. "I think we have a small squad compared to some, so the new faces have been really welcome to thicken up the squad and cover the injuries that we've currently got with the likes of Joe Dunne and David Gregory out for a little while. The manager's not hurried, he's taken his time and brought in the players he wanted to buy and so far I think we can be reasonably happy."

However, Fitz - like the rest of the squad - is still aiming higher. He said: "You can always do better and I feel we could be three to six points better off. Looking round the division, there's not anyone who we should be scared of, and that was definitely the case last season. No-one's going to run away with it. The squad can push on now, as the new signings show faith in us, and when I

signed the manager was always talking about wanting to add to the squad and bring in players - now was an ideal time to bring people in with the busy Christmas period. Hopefully the new faces work out and they'll be a plus point for the squad."





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Happy New Year!

Many of you are reading this magazine for the first time thanks to the generosity of Tiptree Jams & Preserves who paid for the production costs to enable us to give away thousands of complimentary copies at this afternoon's match.

We have been earning rave reviews all season for the content and quality of the new look Matchday Magazine this season and felt it was time to encourage those of you that don't normally buy a programme to do so in future. We hope you will agree that this Magazine is a must for all U's fans.

Increasing

As mentioned elsewhere in this Magazine from next week we will be increasing in size by another eight pages. Last season your programme was 48 pages which we increased at the start of this season to 56 pages. From Saturday it will be massive 64 pages. It's a tall order for our hard working Editor Matt Hudson but he's prepared for the task. And the best news of all its still only £2.00 for an extra sixteen pages. I hope you agree that it's fantastic value especially compared with what's on offer from many other clubs.

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We do have back copies from most of our matches this season and as a special promotion we are giving these away in the Club Shop where you can take away any 2001 back copy free with any purchase (subject to availability). So pop into the Club Shop to fill in the gaps in your collection.

First time

What a thrilling match our last home game was, with six goals and a sending off to keep the crowd warm, against a side of quality players followed up with a five-goal thriller at Northampton. We know that many people here today are at Layer Road for the first time this season, so let's hope for more of the same. I know Steve Whitton and most of the U's faithful would rather we take three points without leaking so many at the back but it makes for great entertainment and long may the flowing football last.

The support of local business is vital to the survival of Colchester United Football Club and is very much appreciated. The next Matchday magazine will feature our very own business directory so check it out. If you have helped us out this season, then your company name will be included.



 Match Sponsors of the thrilling 3-3 draw with Huddersfield were our Main Sponsors - Jobserve of Tiptree. Pictured is Robbie Cowling with John Torode receiving a souvenir shirt from Jerry Carter.



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The Christmas Dinner held at the Embassy Suite was an outstanding success despite overcrowding and we thank you for all your kind comments. We must say a big thank you to all the businesses that have supported us so far this season from our major Sponsors to the generous donations to Christmas Raffle. Next year's function has already been booked, so put Wednesday 19th December in your new 2002 diary.

The next function is a Sportsman's Dinner at on the 20th February again at the Embassy. We're expecting another bumper response, so book your place by calling the Commercial Department on 01206 508806

So cheer up the U's to victory today and lets get behind the push for a play-off place.

Come on you U's

Jerry Carter Commercial & Marketing Manager



 Match Ball Sponsor Chris Firminger and friends pictured on the pitch before the Huddersfield Match.

Today's Sponsors

Today's Match Sponsors Are **Wilkin & Sons.** (See features on Pages 18 &19). Better known worldwide as 'Tiptree' this local long established company has put the small Essex town on the map. Always keen to support the local community, Tiptree has invited 400 guests to today's match. Not only that but as sponsors of this New Year's Day fixture, they have covered the printing costs on this Matchday Magazine and to provide the Layer Road faithful with a copy of this Magazine. We thank the Directors & Staff of Wilkin & Sons for their support and hope that everyone enjoys their day out.

DIARY DATES

Social events confirmed for 2002 are
Wednesday 20th February 2002: Sportsman's Dinner, Embassy Suite
Tuesday 9th April 2002: Golf Bay & Dinner — Five Lakes
Friday 3rd May 2002: End of Season Dinner — London

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Have your say to John Essex and the Lottery team!

Wishing all of our Gold Bond Members a prosperous New Year, let's hope that many more of you join John on the pitch this season to be presented with a cheque for the weekly jackpot.

Have you still got Christmas money burning a hole in your pocket? Why not spend some of it in the club shop and as a member of the Gold Bond Super Draw don't forget you are entitled to 10% discount on any non sale item. (You may be

asked to identify your agent by name when you claim your discount).

As you probably saw in the Huddersfield programme, Mr. P Lynn won a Bronx hat for his email, keep your feedback coming. If John likes what you write and it is included in the programme page then you to could find yourself winning a winter warmer to wear at a future game.

Why not let John know if you enjoy the Lottery page, what else would you like to see included? Did you notice the page was missing from the Peterborough programme? Apologies to any of you spotted our absence, unfortunately the

club had a packed programme so we had to make room. I am sure most of you would have enjoyed the advert for Williams and Griffin as much as you do our page.

Once again have a very lucky year and let's hope for many winners of the 450 prizes on offer each week.

John Essex - Lottery Development Officer



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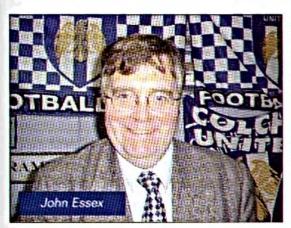
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Division Two Review

Rob Hadgraft takes a look around our division

RANGERS GETTING STRONGER

Ian Holloway believes QPR can return to the First Division this season and slammed the players who left his club during 2001.

More than 20 players left Rangers and, despite a traumatic summer in which Holloway waved goodbye to virtually a whole squad, he insists he is proud of his new-look team and believes they are better than the bigger names they replaced.

"We have lost a lot of highlypaid players and I don't feel that we miss them. I probably shouldn't say that, but that's what I think," said Holloway. "My boys work so hard for me and if the others had done so last season, then this club would not be in the Second Division."

He added: "We can push on from here now and get back to the First Division, and I know we can do it this season. We can do it, and I believe we will. The top two is our target but we are not on target at the moment.

"It's been a tough time but we can get this club back to where it belongs and I honestly, truly, believe we are now heading in the right direction. We're not on schedule, so we now have to push on from here and catch the teams above us."

Rangers have been transformed in recent weeks and after BRENTFORD boss Steve Coppell's recent suggestion that Rangers could be the team that emerges during the second half of the season, BRIGHTON's Peter Taylor has also spoken of his admiration



for Ian Holloway's side following last week's draw with his side at Loftus Road.

Taylor said: "It was a good point for us against QPR - they're as good as you're going to get in the Second Division."

PROBLEMS FOR THE COBBLERS

NORTHAMPTON sank to the bottom of Divison Two after the 3-2 home defeat by COLCHESTER on Boxing Day. Manager Kevan Broadhurst clearly has defensive problems and it emerged that he is keeping tabs on Carlisle goalkeeper Luke Weaver and could be lining up a summer swoop.

The 22-year-old shot-stopper spent a week training at the Sixfields Stadium recently after falling out of favour at Brunton

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Park.

Weaver missed most of last season due to injury, but has made over 50 appearances for Carlisle, and has an impressive list of former clubs for a youngster, including Sunderland, West Ham and Leyton Orient.

Broadhurst had to make do without Richard Hope and Duncan Spedding for The Cobblers' game against OLDHAM on Saturday, who were both substituted during the Colchester defeat after picking up niggling injuries.

Hope came off just before halftime as a precautionary measure due to a tight hamstring, which could keep him out until mid-January. Spedding was injured minutes before the end of the game.

Both players will be sorely missed by The Cobblers in forthcoming games, forcing Broadhurst to reshuffle his pack in order to fill the gaps left at the back.

FOR MACARI

HUDDERSFIELD manager Lou Macari received almost all he could have wished for at Christmas with the Boxing Day 3-1 home win over PETERBOROUGH.

"We won the game comfortably, three good points, three goals and almost a clean sheet," Macari said. The result followed the Terriers battling 3-3 draw at COLCHESTER on December 22.

American international winger John Thorrington marked his return to action after a six-match absence with a brace against Posh and a Kenny Irons free-kick special wrapped up the points for Town.

"Some early chances went begging and we were saved by a sloppy goal," admitted Macari.



"With Simon Baldry injured it was important John Thorrington was fit today."

Posh manager Barry Fry was gracious in defeat and admitted his side were outclassed in the defeat at The McAlpine.

"Huddersfield were too good for us on the day and they were better than us in every department."

Andy Clarke's 86th-minute consolation goal was the only bright moment in an otherwise fruitless afternoon for the visitors, who were without leading goalscorer Leon McKenzie through injury.

"I'm very concerned about our form. That's one point from the last 21 - we're in big trouble," Fry said. "There's a lack of confidence in the squad at the moment. We've lost a lot of players but we've got to stop feeling sorry for ourselves. There's a thin line between success and failure in this division."

TRUNDLE IS THE DANGER MEN

WREXHAM visit Layer Road next Saturday and it was their in-form striker Lee Trundle who snatched an 87th-minute winner to win all three points in a dull Boxing Day game against NOTTS COUNTY at the Racecourse Ground.

The match got off to a disastrous start for the home side when County scored a bizarre opener with just two minutes gone on the clock. In seemingly no danger from a free-kick, the Robins defence failed to clear the ball, which in the scramble fell to Danny Allsopp, who put the ball in through Kristian Rogers's legs and into the net.

The equaliser was equally peculiar as Wayne Phillips's shot ricocheted off Ian Barraclough and looped over Stuart Garden.

In the second half the County

keeper kept his side in the game with several good saves - the best of which from Lee Trundle. However, it would be Trundle who would have the last laugh when he rifled home a Dennis Lawrence header.

DELIGHT FOR TAYLOR

CAMBRIDGE caretaker boss John Taylor received a standing ovation from more than 3,000 United fans at The Abbey following the shock 2-1 win against promotion-chasing BRENTFORD on Boxing Day.

Taylor stood alone on the pitch after the players had departed to say thank you to the fans, but received his own acclamation.

However, he stressed it was not a triumphal gesture, and skated around the subject of the manager's job, which is likely to be tackled by the club's directors after the next two or three matches.

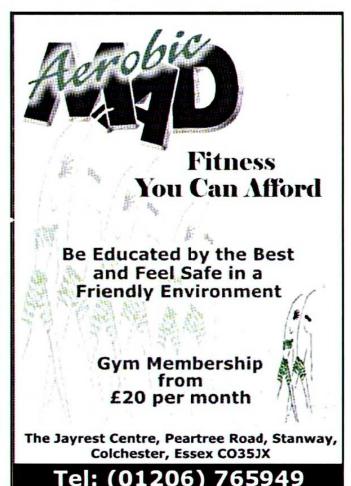
"I went out there to applaud the supporters," he said. "It was a thank you for staying with Dale Brooks and myself and the players when the results weren't coming. I said to the lads at half time, if they gave these fans something to follow they will get behind you all the way."

"We beat the

best team in the division, the leaders, and that has to give the club new hope going into the second half of the season, whoever is in charge. I don't know what is going to happen, but as I've said, Dale and I will do all we can to stay in charge, and I suppose beating the top team won't hurt our chances.

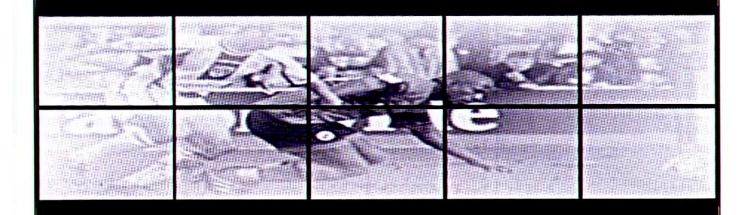
"It was a tremendous all-round performance against Brentford topped by a great winner from Chilly. He had power, pace and composure. Cometh the hour, cometh the man!

"Some people have had doubts that the lad would make it, but Brooksy and I never had, and neither has the boy himself."





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The Second String

Reserves' learning curve for U's youngsters

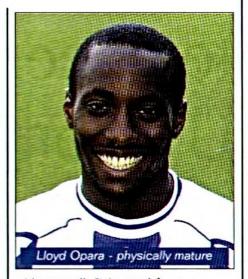
We've reached halfway through the season now, and the main positive points so far have been the amount of lads who have come through from youth team to the reserves and done well, and because of their form in the reserves have been given a chance with the first team lads - if only on the bench.

They've progressed to have a look and be involved in first team matches, which will have given them insight into how hard the players work in training and what is required if they want to get involved and stay involved with the first team.

Some of the lads have come into the squad and not been able to stay in, because Steve Whitton and I have told them that they have to earn that place each week. So if there is a place available, it is always going to go to the person who is in form that week. It is down to the individual to make sure that they are the person involved each time and push on and try harder.

I think the lads are a good bunch of young players and the main thing this year is that they are physically bigger and better, so they have been able to withstand the demands of senior football better. When you look at the likes of Ollie Blackwell, Lloyd Opara or Triston Chambers, they are more mature physically and perhaps players have been in the past.

The league has been very strong so far this year, and some of the teams that we have been playing have got bigger squads than us. It would be a pointless exercise for us if someone came down with several first team players and we put out an U17s squad. It is very good when someone comes down with a strong side and we put out a good



side as well. It is good for our young lads because they get pushed, and as long as they can compete, it is good. Everyone wants

to win games, but I don't feel that any result within the club - apart from the first team result - is the key.

For the youth team and the reserves, the result is almost a by-product of producing good players. We want to win games, but we need to teach people the right things, stretch them and see how they react. No-one likes losing and we don't want to lose every week because the players will be negative and worrying before they get out onto the pitch. But I would say that it is more beneficial for them to be stretched than to win every game 5-0.

It is very much a learning curve for them and a first step from boys' football into mens' football. Some of them have gone in and done well at first with the adrenaline rush the move up provides, but then if they've stayed there they've found it hard to keep up that level of achievement. It's been a good start from them and we've seen some good progress to take into the New Year.

GERAINT WILLIAMS

Reserve Fixtures 2001/2 Tue 14th Aug Queens Park Rangers L0-3 (A) Crystal Palace Wed 22nd Aug (H) (H) (A) Wed 5th Sep Brentford Reading Bristol City Wed 12th Sep Wed 3rd Oct (A) Wed 10th Oct Portsmouth (H) Swindon Town Wycombe Wanderers (A) Wed 17th Oct ed 7th Nov Wed 14th Nov **Brighton & Hove Albion** Wed 21st Nov Oxford United (H) Gillingham (League Cup) (H) Wed 28th Nov Norwich City Bristol Rovers Wed 5th Dec (A) (H) Wed 12th Dec (A) Wed 19th Dec **AFC Bournemouth** L1-2 Wed 2nd Jan Southend United (League Cup) (A) 2.00pm (H) **Cheltenham Town** 2.00pm Wed 16th Jan Wed 30th Jan Southend United Peterborough United Wed 6th Feb (H) 2.00pm Cambridge United Mon 11th Feb (A) 2.00pm (H) **Northampton Town** Wed 20th Feb 2.00pm **Luton Town** (A) ed 27th Feb Tues 12th Mar Millwall (A) 2.00pm Wed 20th Mar (H) Barnet 2.00pm **Leyton Orient** Wed 27th Mar (H) 2.00pm 2.00pm Wed 10th Apr Gillingham (A) Wed 17th Apr

lookingback

The Gazette looks back at a previous game between the U's and today's opponents

Swindon crash to second half U's comeback

From the Evening Gazette, Monday October 9, 1978

U's 3 Swindon Town 2

IN what would have provided ideal material for a "Roy of the Rovers" epic story, Colchester staged a remarkable second-half comeback on Friday night to record their fourth successive Third Division home victory.

With Swindon sitting pretty on a 2-0 interval lead, they could have had little idea of what the U's second half wondermen had in store for them.

Colchester hadn't managed to score a first-half goal in previous home games against fancied sides Chester, Shrewsbury and Blackpool, but they all finally lost out to second period revivals by the U's.

Swindon were to prove no exception to the rule as the U's swept to a dramatic, yet inspired victory.

In true comic strip tradition, raw Colchester youngster Tony Evans emerged as the hero. For the 18-year-old striker grabbed the U's equaliser and played a vital role in their last-gasp winner.

A leg injury forced back-four man Steve Dowman to miss his first game of the

season for Colchester. Mick Packer took his place in central defence, Paul Dyer was switched to full-back and ex-Swindon player Ray Bunkell was drafted into midfield.

After tireless stalwart Mickey Cook had gone close with a header and then unleashed a cracking 25-yarder at visiting keeper Chris Ogden, Swindon snatched a spectacular 14th minute lead.

Andy Rowland latched on to Ogden's long clearance and passed the ball to Paul Gilchrist.

Seeing that Mike Walker was off guard, Gilchrist then fired a tremendous, 25-yard dipping half-volley over the Colchester keeper's head and into goal.

This proved the ideal spur for Swindon and Walker was forced to make a flying save four minutes later to deny Chris Kamara a goal.

Although home skipper Bobby Gough proved to be as lively as ever, the Swindon defence remained solid as the visitors gained command.

So it came as no real surprise when the Wiltshire side extended their lead after 43 minutes.

Colchesie United



A neat move between Roy Carter and Chic Bates saw the latter player race through to tuck the ball past Walker.

After Evans had missed a good scoring chance, the U's did get their vital early second-half goal after 53 minutes.

Bunkell began the move by hitting a superb cross-field pass to Cook on the right flank.

The home full-back then sped past Swindon defender Andy Ford before whipping over an inviting cross which Eddie Rowles headed in at the far post.

Seeing that they could still save the game, Colchester surged forward in style.

Ogden had to race from his goal after 64 minutes to just boot the ball clear from the on-rushing Gough.

Although Walker did well to turn Ray McHale's fierce, near-post shot away for a corner, it was Colchester who now called the tune and they collected a deserved equaliser in the 77th minute.

Winger Ian Allinson made a penetrating run down the left to pass experienced Swindon right-back John Trollope before hitting over a deep centre which Evans headed home for his first league goal.

There was still no respite for the Swindon defence, as Colchester smelt the sweet scent of victory. Bobby Gough
— grabbed
late winner
with his fifth
goal in four
games for the
U's

They were in no mood to be denied that pleasure as they grabbed a sensational 89th minute winner.

After Swindon had failed to clear a corner, Evans' neat chip-pass beat the offside trap.

Allinson nipped through to square the ball to Gough, who made no mistake in collecting his fifth goal from the last four games.

Another encouraging fact for Colchester to digest was that Friday's game saw Layer Road attendances continue to improve and judging by the entertainment value that the Swindon match generated, this trend should continue for some time to come.

U'S: Walker, Cook, Packer, Hodge, Wignall, Bunkell, Evans, Gough, Dyer, Rowles, Allinson. Sub: Sharkey. SWINDON: Ogden, Trollope, Ford, McHale, Lewis, Stroud, Gilchrist, Carter, Rowland (Aizlewood, 80 mins), Gates, Kamara.

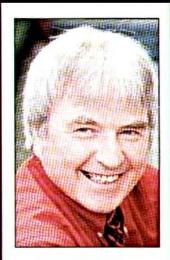
REFEREE: Clifford Maskell (Cambridge).

BOOKINGS: McHale (foul), Stroud

(dissent), Gilchrist (dissent). ATTENDANCE: 3,324.

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L.W. Development



Big year ahead for the U's lads

As I mentioned in the last matchday magazine against Huddersfield, our final game of the year was against Southend - and in many ways it typified the success we've had since August.

Southend are sitting bottom of the Youth Alliance, so it was a game in which I had warned the boys about complacency and we talked long and hard about it before we went out onto the pitch. As a result, the boys went out and applied themselves and it was a comfortable 5-1 victory. That takes us into the New Year unbeaten in the league, so a huge well done to the lads.

The first four months of the season have been one of success and also of promise. By the time that Ben Cranfield got his number 27 shirt for the match against Peterborough in the middle of December, it made nine boys that have progressed from the youth team to the senior side in the past twelve months, which is a tremendous achievement. That is what we are all about and so we are achieving our aims.

Further down the production line, Dean Morgan signed a professional contract, as did Ollie Blackwell, so all in all it's been a very gratifying start to the season. As well as our unbeaten league record, we did well to reach Highbury, which despite the

Football	League	Youth	Alliance,	U19	Table	

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
111	7	4	0	25	10	25
11	6	1	4	28	17	19
10	6	1	3	20	11	19
10	4	3	3	12	13	15
12	4	3	5	18	23	15
11	4	2	5	20	18	14
9	4	2	3	17	18	14
11	3	2	6	14	18	11
11	0	2	9	9	35	2
	11 10 10 12 11 9	111 7 11 6 10 6 10 4 12 4 11 4 9 4 11 3	111 7 4 11 6 1 10 6 1 10 4 3 12 4 3 11 4 2 9 4 2 11 3 2	111 7 4 0 11 6 1 4 10 6 1 3 10 4 3 3 12 4 3 5 11 4 2 5 9 4 2 3 11 3 2 6	111 7 4 0 25 11 6 1 4 28 10 6 1 3 20 10 4 3 3 12 12 4 3 5 18 11 4 2 5 20 9 4 2 3 17 11 3 2 6 14	111 7 4 0 25 10 11 6 1 4 28 17 10 6 1 3 20 11 10 4 3 3 12 13 12 4 3 5 18 23 11 4 2 5 20 18 9 4 2 3 17 18 11 3 2 6 14 18

result was a tremendous learning experience for the boys. That form has been backed up by tremendous support from various quarters and that is very important. It is easy for the boys to feel that they are so far down the pile that they get overlooked, but the supporters have been excellent and we're just looking forward to the New Year.

Despite that success, we now have to focus on next year's challenge, which initially will mean pouring through the names to decide who starts on the Scholarship Scheme next year. With plenty of boys already in our Centre of Excellence and other boys beyond that, there is a lot of work to cover in that area, and we'll be working hard over the next few weeks to pick out the best of the bunch to take into 2002.

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On top of that, we obviously also to do the appraisals of the boys who are currently in the system, and each of those have been sitting down with me recently to discuss how well they've been doing and where they can improve in the coming months. We've set a good benchmark, and now we have to keep at it.

Undoubtedly, as we move into the New Year, it is a big time for the lads currently in their third and final year. They have been a big part of our good results this season, so it's clear we've got a good bunch coming through. With the number of young lads being given their chance, Steve Whitton has given all the right signals to those in their final year, so they've just got to keep their heads down and hope for the right result in 2002.

As for the team as a whole, there's no reason why the target shouldn't be the league title - the boys want it and I believe that if they continue to work hard in training it will show itself on matchdays. If it works on those days, they are putting it together in the right place and getting good results. That said it's not all about winning, but confidence is a volatile thing in youngsters and they are only going to be confident by getting results and winning.

Here's to a successful 2002 -Happy New Year from everyone in the Youth Development Department.

MICKY COOK

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

Sat Jan 12 - U17's v Northampton Town (H) Sat Jan 12 - U19's v Portsmouth (A)



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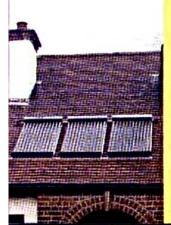
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Colchester United

'Eddie' takes tips from Tractor Boy

For every player starting off in a Youth Scholarship scheme, the ultimate aim is always the same - to earn a professional contract and fulfil the lifetime dream of making it as a footballer. It's never an easy task - hundreds fall by the wayside every year - but if you've got the advice of a current professional, then that can only be a help.

Dwayne Edwards - otherwise known as Eddie by everyone at Layer Road - has that good fortune. Having grown up in Ipswich, he is good friends with Ipswich Town's highly rated defender Titus Bramble, who of course had a loan spell with the U's before making it big at Portman Road. And 17-year-old Eddie admits that having the England U-21 international around is proving a benefit as he begins his path towards first team football.

"Titus lives round the corner from me, and I've known him since I was nine," Eddie told the matchday magazine. "We went to high school together and I now spend a lot of time with him when I'm back in Ipswich. We always used to say to each other that we would make it as professional footballer and when he got his pro at Ipswich, I have been taking note of what he does and how he manages his lifestyle now he is in the spotlight so much."

In a time where footballers are receiving a great deal of negative publicity - the Leeds' court case and the fall out from various Christmas parties a case in point - it is clear that the pitfalls are there for any young player who fails to behave when they are away from the club they represent. But

Edwards is keen to do things the right way and has taken on board a lot of advice given to him by the Tractor Boys' centre-back.

He continued: "He gives me some very useful advice when we're talking about football. He tells me not to go out late at night, get to bed early the night before a game and to make sure that I drink plenty of water. I've seen the rewards that he's received since making it, and it makes me realise what is there for me if I work hard enough for it. He keeps joking with me that I haven't got a professional contract yet, but he is also full of positive comments that help me believe in myself."

Not having got a professional contract yet is nothing to be ashamed of for a player who is only four months into his traineeship, and it has been a positive start for

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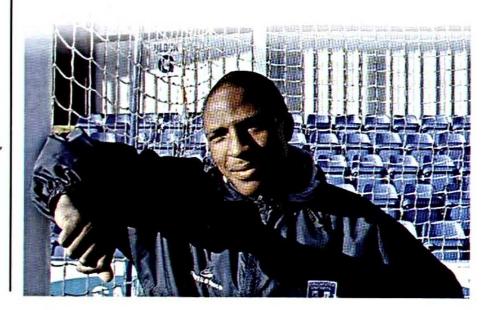
the right wing-back, who has already featured in the U's reserves. Not only that, but Edwards' performance against Arsenal in the FA Youth Cup Third Round had former Gunners' legend Liam Brady purring and asking "Who is that?!"

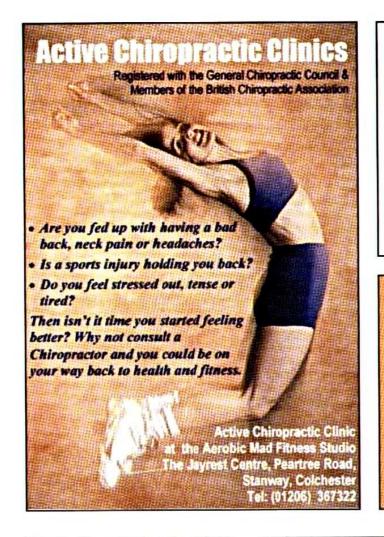
Eddie realises that there is a long way to go, but has the ideal player to learn off at Layer Road in the form of Karl Duguid, who has been in sensational form so far this season. Ultimately, of course, he would love to take over from the current U's wing-back, but is having to be patient for now.

"My style of play is very similar to Karl's, so I make sure that I watch him and see what I can learn. He loves running at people, and his directness is something that I've picked up on. It's a case of one step at a time for now, and I hope to maintain my standards and get a regular place in the reserves."

Dwayne Edwards Factfile

Born: 8th September 1984
From: Ipswich
Position: Wing Back
Joined: June 2001





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...Steve Foley

Rob Hadgraft takes a look back at the men who have managed Colchester United down the years. No.16 in the series is Steve Foley (caretaker for spells in 1987, 1988 and 1989).

Steve Foley is a Clacton lad who rose to prominence as a U's player in the seventies, but whose career as an attacking midfielder was cut short by injury.

He was an apprentice during the Dick Graham era and, after a sensational two-goal debut in November 1971, went on to make 314 first team appearances (notching 56 goals). These figures would have undoubtedly been much higher had he not struggled with injuries, particularly to his knee.

It was almost exactly ten years after his debut that he had to call it a day, his final appearance being at Sheffield United's Bramall Lane in September 1981 when he suffered another bad knock.

After a spell in local non-league circles, Foley returned to Layer Road as a coach in the mideighties. Manager Mike Walker said one of the main reasons he invited Foley back to the club was "to cheer the place up a bit".

Foley's acquaintances in the game will understand exactly what Walker meant, for he is renowned for his cheerful and approachable nature. Life was never dull with 'Zora' Foley around!

When Walker made his controversial departure in 1987, the Colchester directors asked Foley to become caretakermanager while they sought a replacement. He took charge of a team that was on a long unbeaten run in Division Four and his first

game saw the U's crush Rochdale 4-1 at Spotlands, with two goals from Richard Wilkins.

Record 8-0 defeat

Shortly afterwards, Roger Brown was installed as the new boss, but Foley continued in charge for the next game (a 2-1 win at Halifax) while the new man was given a chance to settle in.

Foley then took a back seat again, content with his 100 per cent record as a manager!

'...one of the main reasons he invited Foley back to the club was "to cheer the place up a bit".'

Eleven months later the miserable Roger Brown era came to an end and troubleshooter Foley was asked to take the helm as caretaker again.

This time he took over a side short of confidence and lurking near the bottom of the League. Brown had quit after the club's record 8-0 thrashing at Leyton Orient and clearly Foley needed to make immediate changes to the side.

Under Foley the team looked brighter and more determined, but still they couldn't produce the

goods in league matches. During this second era as caretaker, Foley failed to get a win in 12 league games and the U's sank to 92nd place.

However in the FA Cup it was a different story. Cavalier perfomances at Fulham, Swansea and Shrewsbury (all from higher divisions) saw three brilliant and unexpected victories. In addition to this, Foley delighted the fans by making several inspired signings, including Ian Allinson, Tony Kelly and Les Taylor.

Wallace illness

The experienced Jock Wallace was appointed manager in January 1989, allowing Foley to return to his normal duties again.

The best part of another year went by before Wallace, suffering from Parkinson's disease, stepped down as team manager — and the call went out for Mr Foley again!

Just before Christmas of 1989 he took over for a third time, again inheriting a dispirited team without a victory in 12 games.

That old Foley magic worked instantly, however, and the U's hammered Southend 2-0 at Roots Hall on Boxing Day to give the travelling fans a seasonal treat. A 2-0 defeat at Doncaster was then followed by a 3-1 win over Hartlepool on New Year's Day. Hopes were high that the U's could rally and escape demotion to the Conference.

In January 1990 Mick Mills and Sammy Chung moved in to become the new management team, but sadly they failed to save the club from the dreaded trapdoor.

Some time afterwards Foley left his spiritual home of Layer Road for a second time, following in Mike Walker's footsteps to Norwich City. He remains there today, working as part of Nigel Worthington's management team.

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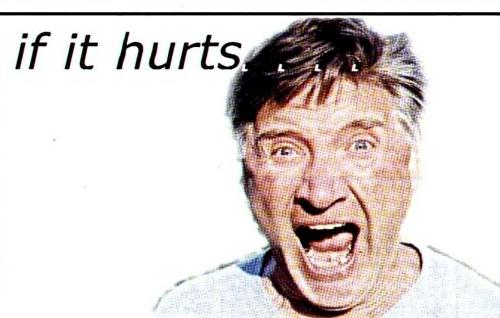
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Football in the Community with Steve Bradshaw





McDONALDS PRESENTATION Before todays game Cas Morehen from McDonalds Colchester will be presenting Football in the Community with a cheque for £5,500 to sponsor the schemes Health Awareness Programme.

NATIONWIDE

Nationwide Supporters of Tomorrow, which was launched nationally in early November by Nationwide Building Society and The Football League, will enable more than 100,000 youngsters across the country to visit their local Nationwide League team, many for the first time.

Colchester United FC is pledging its support to the Nationwide Supporters of Tomorrow scheme. The scheme rewards individuals within schools, youth clubs and community groups who have demonstrated good practice, outstanding personal achievement or undertaken community initiatives, by providing free tickets to attend Nationwide Football League games over the course of the season.

By fully supporting this scheme, Colchester United hope to move closer to their 'Target 6,000' effort. For further information on the Nationwide Supporters of Tomorrow, please call Liz at the Community Office on 01206 572378.

BLUE EAGLES' BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to Blue Eagles members Tim Grimes and Andrew Schofield.

SATURDAY MATCH DAY CLUBS

From Saturday 5th January 2002 Blue Eagles members will be able to attend their own 'Match Day Club' at King George V Playing Fields, Clairmont Road, Lexden, Colchester. Members can come along to play football, play on the Playstations or just hang out with your friends. The club will run every match day from 11.30am -1.30pm and will be staffed by FITC coaches.

The cost will be £3 per 'Blue Eagle' and everyone pre-booking their attendance by noon of the day before (Friday) will receive a free ticket to the first team game taking place that day and a voucher for £2 off an adult ticket for the same game.

Places are limited to 40 per game and, whilst booking is recommended, you are welcome to turn up on the day however, anyone doing so will not receive a free ticket or match voucher.

MASCOTS NEEDED

We are currently looking for mascots for the following games:-

Brentford 02/02/02 Blackpool 16/02/02 Bristol City 23/02/02

Anyone interested in purchasing a mascot package for any of these games or requiring information for further fixtures should contact Howard Campbell on 01206 572378.

Eddie the Eagle's New Page

The new look programme for 2002 will contain a brand new Eddie the Eagle page EVERY MATCHDAY! This will be a page especially for the clubs younger supporters

and members

of the Eddie the Eagle 'Blue Eagles' club so get writing and drawing to send Eddle your stories, poems, pictures and letters. The page will keep you updated on everything that Eddie and the Blue Eagles get up to as well as being packed with competitions, games and puzzles just for you.

Eddie's first page will be in the Wrexham programme on 5th January 2002 and to get it going Eddie wants you to send in your drawings of him. The senders of the best pictures will receive a prize and a selection will be displayed at the Clairmont Road Soccer Centre for everyone to

Send your entries and anything else for Eddie to 'Eddie the Eagle' c/o Community Soccer Centre, Colchester United FC, Layer Road Stadium, Colchester, Essex, CO2 733.

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Centre of Excellence

All the latest from Geoff Harrop

Happy New Year and best wishes in 2002 to all CUFC supporters. You definitely deserve much reward as I strongly believe your support has helped the players immensely so far this season.

Looking back to 2001, there have been many highs and a few lows. There have been horrendous injuries to U17 Liam Hopkins (broken arm), U15 Simon Mann (broken leg), U12 Nicky Jones (broken arm) and of course Liam Bailey have of course been the lows. 14-year-old Liam Bailey's injury needs no explanation, and suffice to say he is making an excellent recovery.

But there have also been so very many highs. Dean Morgan is



now a regular with the first team, and he has been joined at various times during the season by Marc Canham, David Hadrava, Lloyd Opara and Ben Cranfield. Management duo Steve Whitton and Geraint Williams have drafted in the youngsters at regular intervals and that is a fantastic selling point to any parent. At this club, unlike many others, youngsters do get the opportunity to perform on the centre stage and the pros at the club have responded and encouraged them to deliver the goods.

Director of Youth Micky Cook's hard work over the past four years is definitely paying dividends. The national side's hierarchy is not only visiting our centre, but like 14-year-old Matty Cross who is attending England's U14 development sessions, 15-year-old Angelo Harrop has had spells with the Welsh set-up.

Giant strides

Local lad Richard Harris is scoring goals with the U14s - 32 in 14 games - whilst Craig Hughes, Matt Paine, Jamie Wright, Paddy Brothers, Jimmy Pirie and Matt Redgrave have all made giant strides this season at our Centre of Excellence. Then there is Robbie King, our U15 lad who made the bench in the FA Youth Cup game against Arsenal at Highbury and 16-year-old Danny Irving, who has played the majority of this season with Micky Cook's U19s side.

So, it's been a hell of a year, and I assure you we will not be resting on our laurels. This gives



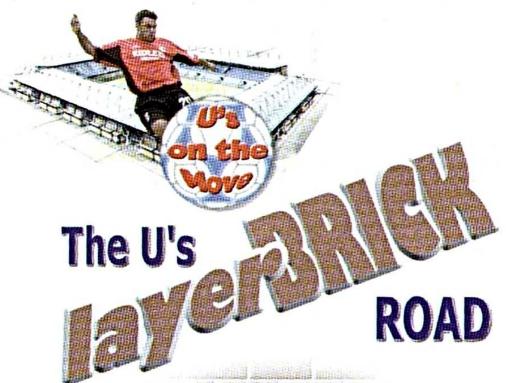
me the opportunity to thank our staff for all their hard work in what has been a team effort in 2001. Thanks to Theresa Lock (Administration Secretary), Ade Webster (U17 Manager & Recruitment Officer) and Simon Ward (Physio), not forgetting the superb Centre of Excellence staff and hospitality ladies.

Finally, we would not be able to do this work without the help of our Chairman and the Board of Directors. Many thanks to them, as well as our Centre of Excellence sponsors. Happy New Year to the following:

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Be part of the U's history

A message from the U's Chairman

As a long-standing supporter of Colchester United Football Club, I am delighted that the LayerBRICK campaign is well underway.

As we look forward to the new Community Stadium with relish and enthusiasm, the opportunity to record forever the names of supporters, players and club officials from the Layer Road era is one not to be missed!

Walkway of fame

For a modest investment, your name and message can be added to the Walkway of Fame, which will form a path around the history-filled stadium that is Layer Road. Upon the move to the new ground at Cuckoo Farm, your brick will be lifted and form part of the club's bright new future.

Your generosity is, as always much appreciated and I thank you in advance for your valued support of Colchester United Football Club

Peter Heard

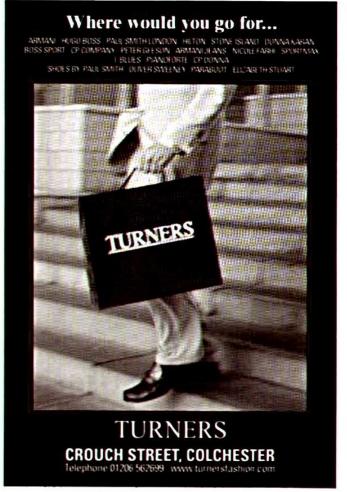
Chairman

Men in Black!

(Well, navy actually!)



Pictured with Colchester Directors and staff at the U's Christmas Dinner/Dance is Duncan Turner, all wearing the Hugo Boss suits supplied by Turners for use on official Colchester United duty. L-R Jerry Carter, John Worsp, Duncan Turner, Steve Whitton Peter Heard (Chairman) Peter Powell & John Schultz.



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Stoke City	23	8	3	1 2	2 7	5	3	3	15	14	16	4
Brighton & H.A	23	8	2	1 20	9 6	4	7	1	12	9	15	4
Bristol City	25	8	2	2 20	9	5	3	5	18	15	14	4
Reading	23	€	2	4 18	3 13	6	2	3	15	11	9	4
Cardiff City	24	5	6	1 2	114	4	5	3	16	13	10	3
Wycombe Wdrs	23	8	4	0 25	5 10	2	4	5	10	18	7	3
Huddersfield Town	23	7	3	2 2	2 13	3	4	4	15	14	10	3
QPR	24	5	5	2 18	3 10	5	2	5	16	17	7	3
Oldham Athletic	24	7	3	2 2	3 9	2	6	4	17	20	11	3
Tranmere Rovers	23	6	4	2 30	13	4	2	5	14	21	10	3
COLCHESTER UNITED	24	7	2	3 2	2 14	3	3	6	19	25	2	3
Blackpool	24	4	6	2 1	5 14	3	3	6	15	23	.7	3
Wigan Athletic	24	3	4	5 18	3 16	4	4	4	16	15	3	2
SWINDON TOWN	23	4	4	3 1	1 12	3	3	6	12	19	-8	2
Peterborough Utd	22	6	1	3 2	3 11	2	2	8	8	21	-1	2
Port Vale	24	5	3	4 18	3 13	2	3	7	9	20	-6	2
Bournemouth	24	6	2	41	7 13	1	4	7	9	21	-8	2
Bury	24	4	3	5 14	4 16	3	2	7	11	23	14	2
Chesterfield	23	4	1	6 18	3 19	2	6	4	10	13	-4	2
Notts County	24	3	5	4 13	5 16	2	3	7	16	25	-10	2
Wrexham	25	4	3	6 16	3 21	2	1	9	13	34	-26	2
Cambridge Utd	24	4	5	31	7 19	0	1	11	6	29	-25	1
Northampton Town	24	3	1	81	1 22	2	1	9	12	26	-25	1

		Lge		FA	C	up.	Lo	e C	up	Ot	r C	ups	T
	A	s	G	A	5	G	A	5	G	A	5	GA	G
1 Simon Brown						*	*			2		1 2	
29 Andy Woodman	24	2	2	2		1	2					- 28	:
18 Anthony Allman					-								
11 Graham Barrett	2	1	2	-	*		٠	٠			•	2 1	1
24 Ollie Blackwell								•					
17 Bobby Bowry	13	7		1				2	*	2		- 25	,
22 Triston Chambers				-									
6 Simon Clark	16	2	+				2			2		- 22	
28 Adrian Coote		2		-	9)			*		-		. 2	
7 Karl Duguid	20	2	2	2	*	1	1			1		- 26	,
2 Joe Dunne	6	2	2	-	1		1					- 10)
12 Scott Fitzgerald	16	•		2		-	2	•		1		- 21	
8 David Gregory	12						2			1		- 15	,
26 David Hadrava				~					-		1	- 1	
4 Gavin Johnson	15		1	2	*					2		- 19	1
5 Ross Johnson	10	1	1	2						1		- 14	
14 Chris Keeble			+						*				
3 Joe Keith	14	7	2	2			2		1	1	1	- 27	1
10 Kemal Izzet	17	2	3	1			2		1	2		1 24	
9 Scott McGleish	24		11	2	٠	1	2		*	2		- 30	1
16 Dean Morgan		20			2					1	1	- 24	
23 Lloyd Opara		1			1		*				1	- 3	
15 Thomas Pinault	21	2		2			2		-	2		- 29	1
21 Kevin Rapley	20	3	7	2			2			1		- 28	1
20 Micky Stockwell	23	1	6	2	*		2		1	1	1	1 30) !
19 Alan White	11	3	_1		1			1				- 16	,
own goals			3			-							

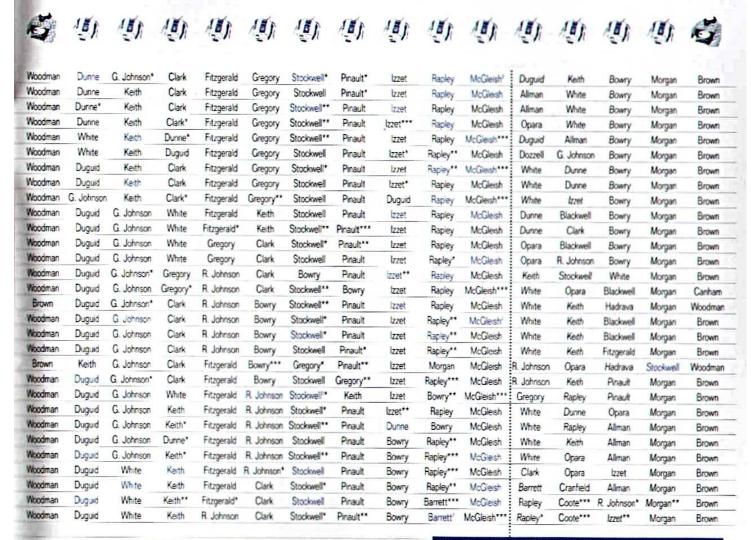
Goalkeeper figures actually shows clean sheets in goals scored

Colchester United Roll Call 01/02

Date		Opposition	Venue	Result	Att	Away fans	Pos
Sat	Aug 11	Chesterfield	А	W6-3	3.919	215	1st
Sat	Aug 18	Tranmere Rovers	н	W2-1	3,618	340	2nd
Tue	Aug 21	Portsmouth (WC 1)	A	W2-1	7.078	237	*
Sat	Aug 25	Wrexham	Α	D1-1	2,952	126	2nd
Mon	Aug 27	Port Vale	н	W2 0	3,611	253	1st
Sat	Sep 1	Swindon Town	A	L0-1	4,889	245	3rd
Sat	Sep 8	Northampton Town	н	∞W3-1	3,705	349	2nd
Tue	Sep 11	Barnsley (WC2)	н	L1-3	3,442	123	
Sat	Sep 15	Bristol City	A	L1-3	9,992	243	5th
Tue	Sep 18	Oldham Athletic	н	W2-1	2,991	204	2nd
Sat	Sep 22	Notts County	н	L0-1	3,706	203	4th
Wed	Sep 26	Stoke City	A	1.0-3	9.515	138	8th
Sat	Sep 29	Brentford	A	L1-4	5,179	507	11th
Sat	Oct 6	Reading	н	W2-0	3,691	409	7th
Sat	Oct 13	Blackpool	A	L2-1	5,546	335	11th
Tue	Oct 16	Swindon Town (LD)		W1-0	1,521	100	11(1)
Sat	Oct 20	Cambridge United	н	W3-1	4.684	581	8th
Tue	Oct 23		1	D2-2	5,186	350	7th
Sat	Oct 27	Wycombe Wanderer	s n	L0-1		453	9th
Tue	Oct 27	Brighton and HA			6,531		
		Reading (LDV2)	A	L1-2	2,725	125	. nut
Sat	Nov 9	AFC Bournemouth	Н	L1-2		256	12th
Fri		Wigan Athletic	Α	W3-2	5,735	151	11th
Sat	Nov 17	York City (FAC1)	Н	D0-0	3,350	260	
Tue	Nov 20	Cardiff City	Α	D1-1	8,013	57	9th
Sat	Nov 24	Bury	н	L0-1	3,534	109	13th
Tue	Nov 27	York City (FAC1R)	A	D2-2*	2,014		
Sat	Dec 1	Queens Park Rangers	A		11,158	612	12th
Sat	Dec 15	Peterborough Utd.	н	W2-1	3,480	280	11th
Sat	Dec 22	Huddersfield Town	н	D3-3	3,543	470	12th
Wed	Dec 26	Northampton Town	Α.	∞W3-2	4,740	472	12th
Sat	Dec 29	Port Vale	Α				
Tue	Jan 1	Swindon Town	н				
Sat	Jan 5	Wrexham	н				
Sat	Jan 12	Tranmere Rovers	Α				
Sat	Jan 19	Chesterfield	н				
Tue	Jan 22	Huddersfield Town	A				
Sat	Jan 26	Reading	A				
Sat	Feb 2	Brentford	Н				
Sat	Feb 9	Cambridge Utd	Α				
Sat	Feb 16	Blackpool	Н				
Sat	Feb 23	Bristol City	Н				
Tue	Feb 26	Notts County	A				
Sat	Mar 2	Oldham Athletic	A				
Tue	Mar 5	Stoke City	Н				
Sat	Mar 9	Peterborough Utd.	Α				
Sat	Mar 16	Queens Park Rangers					
Sat	Mar 23	Wycombe Wanderers	А				
Sat	Mar 30	Brighton and HA	H				
Tue	Apr 2	AFC Bournemouth	Α				
Sat	Apr 6	Cardiff City	Н				
Sat	Apr 13	Bury	Α				
Sat	Apr 20	Wigan Athletic	Н				

column

THE RESIDENCE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY



HALF SEASON TICKETS

PRICES COMMENCING 1ST JANUARY 2002.

Adults Concession SEATING £128.79 £74.25 **TERRACE 3, 4 & 7** \$109.08 £54.54 RAILTRACK FAMILY ENCLOSURE £44.45 2109.08 MCDONALDS FAMILY STANDING £128.79* £22.91 **VICE PRESIDENTS CLUB** £235.00

*Family Ticket includes one adult and one child. To qualify for "Golden Egg" Family Ticket, children must be aged 12 or under and children must be accompanied by at least one adult.

Concession prices apply to those under 16 at the date of application and those in full-time education on the production of a student card. Senior Citizen and Student concession prices do not apply in the family

Call the Ticket Office on 01206 508800/508801 for more details

TODAY WE HAVE THREE MASCOTS, TWO FROM THE U'S AND ONE FROM OUR VISITORS...

NAME: Charlie Wilson
AGE: 8
FROM: Braintree
ATTENDS: John Ray Junior School
HOBBIES: Football & Superbikes
FAV. TEAMS: Arsenal & Col. U

NAME: Leanne Mills
AGE: 8
FROM: Colchester
ATTENDS: Layer de la Haye Primary School
HOBBIES: Football
FAV. TEAMS: Arsenal & Col. U
FAV. U'S PLAYER: Micky Stockwell

NAME: Sean Harrison

ATTENDS: Sacred Heart Primary, Southend FAV. PLAYERS: Banny Invincible and Eric Sabin BEST GDAL: Invincible's winner against the Posh BEST MATCH: Winning 3-1 away at Reading









Colchester United

Manager: Steve Whitton Colours: Blue & White

	Pld GI
1 Simon BROWN	0
2 Joe DUNNE	0
3 Joseph KEITH	
4 Gavin JOHNSON	0 □
5 Ross JOHNSON	
6 Simon CLARK	
7 Karl DUGUID	
8 David GREGORY	0
9 Scott McGLEISH	0
10 Kem IZZET	0
11 Graham BARRETT	
12 Scott FITZGERALD	0 🗆
14 Chris KEEBLE	
15 Thomas PINAULT	ОП
16 Dean MORGAN	0 □
17 Bobby BOWRY	
18 Anthony ALLMAN	0 □
19 Alan WHITE	
20 Micky STOCKWELL	
21 Kevin RAPLEY	
22 Triston CHAMBERS	
23 Lloyd OPARA	
24 Oliver BLACKWELL	
25 Marc CANHAM	
26 David HADRAVA	
27 Ben CRANFIELD	
28 Adrian COOTE	
29 Andy WOODMAN	0

Swindon Town

Manager: Andy King Colours: All Red

	Plo GI
1 Bart GRIEMINK	.O 0.
2 Mark ROBINSON	DO.
3 Sol DAVIS	.O.D
4 Matthew HEWLETT	
5 Adam WILLIS	.OD
6 Andy GURNEY	
7 Keith O'HALLORAN	.00
8 Bobby HOWE	.00
10 Giuliano GRAZIOLI	
11 David DUKE	.00
12 Juan COBIAN	.00
14 Eric SABIN	
15 Richard McKINNEY	
16 Neil RUDDOCK	
17 Daniel INVINCIBLE	
18 Berti BRAYLEY	.00
19 Matthew HAYWOOD	
20 Paul EDWARDS	
21 Gareth DAVIES	.00
22 Alan REEVES	.00
23 Wayne CARLISLE	
26 Alan YOUNG	
28 Nathan EDWARDS	.00
29 James WILLIAMS	
30 Chris COLLINS	.00
31 Kevin HALLIDAY	0.0

last line-ups:

COLCHESTER UNITED

(won 3-2 at Northampton Town) Woodman , White, R. Johnson, Clark. Duguid, Pinault (Izzet), Bowry, Stockwell (Rapley), Keith, McGleish (Coote), Barrett Subs not used: Brown, Morgan

SWINDON TOWN

(drew 0-0 against Bournemouth) Griemink, Gurney, Reeves, Heywood, Invincible, Steve Robinson, Howe, Carlisle (Mark Robinson, 73), Duke (Davis, 80), Grazioli, Sabin Subs not used: McKinney, Willis, McAreavey,

Today's Match Officials

REFEREE:

Mr. W.M. JORDAN (Herts) ASSISTANT REFEREE:

R. LEE (Essex)

ASSISTANT REFEREE: I.J. WOODWARD (Kent) FOURTH OFFICIAL:

Mr. R.G. SMITH (Essex)

Next at home v WREXHAM

Nationwide League Division Two Saturday January 5th 2002 kick off 3.00pm