

U's Review

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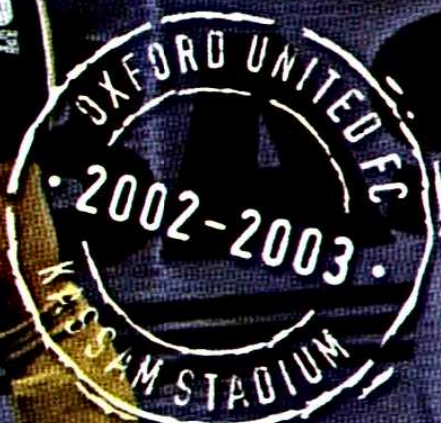
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Oxford United Official Matchday Magazine

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Designed & printed by

Regal Litho Ltd, 352 Selbourne Road

Luton Beds LU4 8NU

Tel: 01582 493332

The views expressed by individual contributors in this programme are not necessarily the views of Oxford United but of the writer concerned.

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Chairman's Notes



with Firoz Kassam

Welcome once again to the home of Oxford United for our game against Swindon Town. As well as my usual welcome to our visitors, I would also like to wish the BBC well for their first visit to the stadium with the Match of The Day cameras. I know this is a game our supporters have been looking forward to since the day the draw was made, and it gives us a great chance to show the whole country that Oxford United are on the way back.

Lincoln

Last Saturday's win was most welcome, of course, as it kept us just behind the pack in the Third Division. What was not welcome was the pitch 'invasion' at the end of the game by so called Lincoln fans. Although I think the

scale of this was exaggerated in the media, I do take very seriously any such problem within and outside the stadium.

The people who caused trouble will be taken to task. Their images were captured on the CCTV system, and have been passed on to the Lincolnshire police. Their response will be as stern as the law allows, and I hope the punishment handed out will serve as a deterrent to others. Our security cameras are as advanced as any in the country, and I am informed that we can capture an image of EVERY fan in the ground every three minutes, which means that we can deal with this incident in the manner it deserves.

Somewhat unfairly, we have come in for some criticism in some quarters for the way we dealt with things, but I would like to thank the stewards for their action, as they did well in difficult circumstances. I would also like to praise our

own fans for not responding to the provocation.

We do take safety issues very seriously and hopefully have learned any lessons that needed to be learned from this incident. As ever, your help and co-operation in making this a place where people want to come and watch football is much appreciated.

Rivalry

Almost the first thing people made me aware of when I became involved at the club was the local rivalry that exists between today's teams. Having sampled the atmosphere and passion of a derby game at The Manor, and at the County Ground, I am well aware of what today's game means to you all.

I can assure you that the players will be giving it their all on the pitch and I know there is no need to urge you to get behind the team this afternoon. Your support has been magnificent all season, and hopefully we can reward you with a win and get ourselves in to the draw for the next round...

Firoz Kassam
Chairman

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View from the **Dugout**

with Ian Atkins



Welcome to the Kassam Stadium for today's game with Swindon Town. It should hopefully be a wonderful occasion, with it being a local derby and live on TV. Hopefully it will be a great spectacle and the result will go our way.

I am just finding out how much it means to you, the supporters, and you can play your part today by producing an atmosphere that is worth a goal start to us with the noise you make. You have been fantastic all season, and today is the day to really give us everything and see if you can raise the roofs of all the stands from the first to the ninety fifth minute.

It's a game for us to savour. Swindon are a Second Division side, and as such they have to start as favourites. But favourites always start under pressure. We are the underdogs, even though we are at home, because we are the Third Division side. But we will go out to enjoy the encounter and play to win.

All the onus is on Swindon

Town and their players, and they know they are in for a real challenge today.

We come in to today's game after an important win over Lincoln. The game may not have been all that pretty to watch, but we showed a lot of character and got the win that I think we deserved overall. This team never gives up, and we battled away and showed a lot of determination which should stand us in good stead this afternoon.

The players have had a slight change of routine this week, with the game being played on a Sunday, and the atmosphere has been very good in training again. There is a great belief in this squad and the players have a very positive attitude.

We are starting to get people fit again after injury, such as Lee Steele, Steve Basham, Bobby Ford and Andy Scott, who should be able to come back next week, and even Jamie Brooks now joining us. The second half of the season is what people remember. It's no good being top after the first half and then failing. Hopefully we can stay with the pack and then come up on the blind side in the second part of the season.

While the League remains the focus, the Cup is a welcome diversion. This will be the second full house in four weeks, and it's terrific to see that. Days like this are what football is all about, what the stadium has been built for, and hopefully there are many more days like this ahead of us. Filling the stadium week in week out is our aim.

Today is a massive one for all of us, from players and staff to the fans. How much do YOU want to win it?

Ian Atkins
Manager



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Croz Words

with Andy Crosby



After weeks of waiting, we finally get to the game you've all been waiting for today, the big derby against Swindon. It will be the first time many of us will have played in this fixture, but you have all made us very much aware of what it means to you, and we will do our best to get you the result you want.

The local rivalry means that many of you will be going in to work tomorrow with fans of our visitors, and we'll do our best to give you something to shout about today AND tomorrow. The pressure is very much on Swindon, as they are the team from the Second Division, and their players will be desperate not to lose to a side that is their local rival and from a lower division. They will be even more keen not to go out in front of the TV cameras and in front of the whole nation. They start very much as favourites, but we will give it everything as usual.

Last weekend against Lincoln was a hard game to play in. It was very physical and definitely a one off: how many other teams have you seen who send their centre half forward for goal kicks?! The lad must have been knackered by the end, as they try and hit him with free kicks, throw ins and everything else.

It's not a style you meet every week, but we kept at it and got the right result, even if we left it late. Actually, to be honest, I didn't realise it was as late as it was when I took the penalty: I thought there was longer to go! Their keeper tried to put me off, but I wasn't going to get involved in that and thankfully we picked up three points which could be vital at the end of the season.

Since then we have been training even harder this week than usual. As it is a Sunday game we have changed our routine a little, and were in yesterday for training. We have been joined for the last two weeks by Lee Steele, who has had to be very patient this season but who has worked very hard to get back. A word here also for Neil Sullivan, who has done

a terrific job with Lee, as he always does. Neil is a top class physio, and all the players are very appreciative of his efforts: the club are lucky to have him.

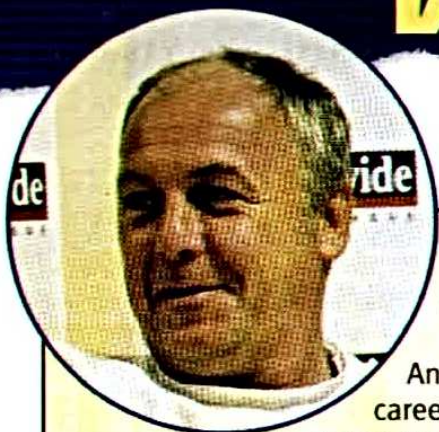
In fact, we might all chip in and get him a Christmas present: we heard that Woody, Jerzy Dudek and Peter Enckelmann are getting together to release a Christmas video!

Finally, I hope you give us your support in the right way this afternoon. It is a big game, and there should be a special atmosphere. We have players who have shown they can cope with it. Dave Oldfield scored twice in a Manchester derby once, Matt Bound has played in the Swansea v Cardiff games, and Jefferson played for Thame reserves against Aylesbury reserves once.

Derby games stay in the memory for fans, so let's hope we bring you some good ones today.

Enjoy the game,

Andy Crosby
Captain



The Gaffer:
Andy King

Andy's playing career started at Luton Town, signing professional in July 1974, and his midfield qualities and eye for a goal caught the attention of Everton, who paid £35,000 for his services in March 1976.

An attacking midfielder, King had four very successful years at Goodison, scoring a memorable derby goal against Liverpool among many others, before big money transfers to QPR and then West Brom. After an FA Cup semi final appearance for the Baggies King returned to Everton for a second spell before spells at Wolves, in Sweden, at Luton again, and then assisting Aldershot, Aylesbury, Waterford, Cobn Ramblers and Southport.

After a spell as commercial manager at Luton, Andy went back into management at Mansfield in November 1993, and held that post until September 96.

When Colin Todd took over at the County Ground, he made King his assistant, and he first took over the hot seat when the former Oxford defender moved on to Derby. Although replaced by Roy Evans just before the start on the 2000/1 season, the Evans' reign was short lived and King became manager again in December last year.

Swindon Town

Swindon Town football club was formed in 1894 by the Rev. Williams Pitt and was a founder member of the Southern League, although even in the early days the spectre of financial difficulties was never far away. Having earned Football League status in 1920 when they joined the old Third Division South, the club had to apply for re-election in 1933, 1936 and 1937 as they struggled to make their mark.

Confined to the lower leagues until 1962, when they won promotion for the first time, Swindon's greatest moment came in the League Cup when two goals from star striker Don Rodgers gave them a famous win over Arsenal at Wembley. However, the side struggled after the departure of manager Danny Williams, and it wasn't until Lou Macari took over at the County Ground that the club enjoyed happier times again, winning promotion into the old Second Division once more.

Town's next promotion ended in controversy when Ossie Ardiles's side won promotion to the top flight but was immediately demoted because of 'financial irregularities' It was three seasons more before Glenn Hoddle took Town into the top division, playing flowing football along the way, but this proved to be a false dawn as the club was unable to sustain this progress and lasted just one season in the fledgling Premier League.

More recently, Town have been beset with financial problems, and a whole host of rescue packages have been put forward to try and keep the club alive. Currently struggling towards the foot of the Second Division, Town will be looking at the FA Cup as a potential lifeline as they strive to set the club on a sound financial footing once again.



Bart Griemink



A giant keeper signed by Colin Todd on a free transfer in the summer of 2000. Griemink is a former Dutch Under-21 international who spent a successful loan spell with The Robins (as cover for Frank Talia) before eventually joining the club. He came to English football in 1995 with Birmingham and deputised competently for the injured Ian Bennett, playing in the 1995 League Cup semi-final. He then followed Barry Fry to Peterborough United but lost his place to Mark Tyler. Following Mildenhall's departure to Notts County, Bart played every game last season and was one of the most consistent performers.

Gareth Edds

A 21-year old Australian who, having joined on a month's loan from Nottingham Forest, has now signed for a year. He played nearly 40 games at Forest before joining Town and has been excellent in the right-back role. He was a consistent performer at the

start of the season but has since had to fight for his place with Andy Gurney. He played for Australia's under 23 side against Leverkusen.

Matthew Hewlett

An attacking central midfielder, Matt Hewlett 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 Town on a Bosman in the summer of 2000. He was a regular for Colin Todd until being hit by injury once again and went on to play just 26 league games. He has been the midfield general this time around and Town sorely miss his presence when he's injured.

Adam Willis

A 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. Fortunately Todd liked the tall defender and gave him a new contract. A trainee at Coventry, Willis never made the breakthrough to the Sky Blue's first team but has made the centre-back position his own in Andy King's back four.

Sam Parkin

A very young and promising forward who joined from Chelsea in August 2002. The transfer followed months of speculation, with Andy King, a huge fan of the

player, tracking him for several months. Whilst at Chelsea he joined several other clubs on loan and it was with them that he built up a reputation as a lethal striker.

Stefani Miglioranza

Miglioranza is the product of the American College football system in which the most promising players are drafted into Major League Soccer. Stefani helped St John's University win the 1996 NCAA Division I Championship and played for MLS team Chicago Fire before joining Everton on trial. They were keen to sign him but no deal came about. Portsmouth then outjumped Liverpool in inviting him for a trial and signed him soon thereafter. The 22-year-old is a Brazilian born American but holds an Italian passport. As a footballer the genes don't come much better. What's more, Miglioranza is versatile; he can play in defence or as a central midfielder and since joining the club in July, has impressed in the middle of Town's midfield.

David Duke

A left-sided midfielder who arrived on a free transfer from Sunderland in 2000. Unfortunately, Duke never managed a start for the Black Cat's first team. Duke appeared regularly in his first season with the Robins. He combined well with Sol Davis down the Robins' left and is a good crosser of the ball. Duke can also play at wing-back and will want to build on a decent start for Swindon. Consistency is the key for the Scotsman who has shown glimpses of what he is capable of, especially when running at defenders with the ball.

Our Visitors

Swindon Town Football Club

Juan Cobian

An 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. He made only three league appearances in his first season for the Robins, with Mark Robinson the normal right back.

Eric Sabin

Few had heard of the young Frenchman when he joined the club last summer, but with Andy King comparing him to Thierry Henry he brought a lot of flair and excitement to Town's front line. Sabin joined Town from French Second Division club Wasquehal who finished 18th in season 2000/01. Sabin contributed with seven goals in 58 starts in France and last season, he didn't get the goals he deserved scoring just five in total.

Danny Invincible



An Australian midfielder who endeared himself to the fans having been recommended to Colin Todd by Harry Redknapp at West Ham. Danny subsequently joined the Robins on a free

transfer when Todd watched him in a trial game. After a slow start, Danny showed the club what he was capable of with five goals in four games in October/November in season 2000/01. The former Marconi Stallion and Aussie Under-21 star would later become Town's top scorer with ten goals, arguably his most important coming in the last home game of that season against Peterborough in the ninetieth minute - a goal that some say kept the club up.

Matthew Heywood

Heywood failed to break through at Burnley's Turf Moor and, after being alerted as to his availability by former scout, Shaun Reid, Andy King snapped him up on a free transfer. What a signing he's proved to be, ever-present in the latter half of 2000/01 and missing just four games last year, it is no surprise that he swept the board in last year's Player of the Year Awards. Strong in the tackle and good in the air, Heywood could prove to be a great asset to the club - if they can hang on to him. It is no coincidence Town's defensive record improved dramatically following his arrival and he can also play up front if need be too (scoring four goals in total last season)!

Alan Reeves



An experienced centre back who is particularly strong in the air. Reeves always causes problems from set pieces and for a brief period in season 2000/01 he was the club's top goalscorer. At the beginning of the season 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 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. Reeves has also played for Gillingham, Chester and Rochdale where he was considered one of the best players in the club's history.

Alan Young

At 19 years of age, Young is one of Swindon's brightest hopes for the future. Scoring goals for fun with the youth side, 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 in 2000/01.

Craig Farr

A goalkeeper who was an unused substitute for the Robins in the 2000-01 season and will hope the departure of Steve Mildenhall gives him more of a chance. He has impressed greatly when given the chance in Town's second string. Andy King is a huge admirer of Farr and his display between the sticks against Wimbledon in pre-season is a testimony to the lad's ability.



Oxford United v Swindon Town

Location <http://www.soccer-stats.com/headtohead>



For/Against Goalscoring Home/Away Top Scorer Form Guide Discipline Attendances Swings/Margins Miscellaneous

Oxford United



Clubs Comparison

Goals Scored		
10	Shots	12
5	Headers	3
2	Volleys	4
3	Penalties	4
0	Free Kicks	1
0	Own Goals	0

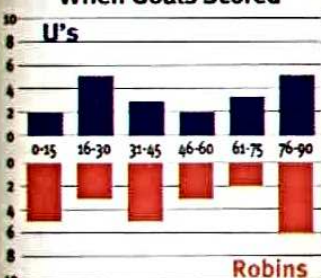
Where Goals Scored



Where Goals Conceded



When Goals Scored



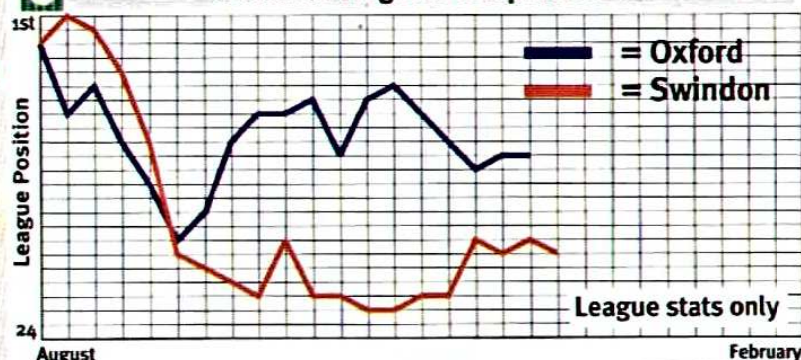
Form Guide - Last 6

2	Won	3
2	Drawn	3
7	Lost	0
6	For	11
8	Against	8
1	Goal Difference	3
DDLLWW	Sequence	WDWDWD

Yellow & Red Cards

26	Yellow	30
2	Red	1

Seasonal Progress Comparison



2002-2003 Attendances

U's	Aggregate	Robins
52,071		50,870
5,658	Highest	7,564
4,547	Lowest	4,136
5,207	Average	5,087
41	% of Capacity	35

10 Year Record

U's	Avg Pos.	Robins
55.6	among 92 clubs	45.1
6,877	Avg Att 1993	15,011
5,207	Avg Att 2002	5,087
-24	+ / - %	-66



Average Goals per game

	For	Robins
1.05		1.20
1.00	Home For	1.20
1.11	Away For	1.20
0.84	Against	1.50
0.80	Home Against	1.10
0.89	Away Against	1.90

2002-2003 Figures

21	Players Used	19
6	Clean Sheets	2
6	Failed to Score	8
	Goals scored from...	
1	Corners	1
0	Free Kicks	1
	Goals conceded from...	
1	Corners	1
2	Free Kicks	5

Top League Scorers

		
5	League Goals	12
15	Games Played	17
0.33	Lge Goals/Game	0.71
6	Points Gained	13
2	Scoring Run	6
0	Hat-Tricks	1
2	Close Range	3
3	Inside Area	9
0	Long Range	0
2	Shots	6
3	Headers	1
0	Volleys	2
0	Penalties	3
0	Direct FKs	0

Swings

OU	Games Won from:	ST
0	3 Goals Down	0
0	2 Goals Down	0
0	1 Goal Down	3
0	Lost from:	0
0	3 Goals Up	0
0	2 Goals Up	1
0	1 Goal Up	0
0	Drawn from:	1
1	3 Goals Down	1
0	2 Goals Down	0
1	1 Goal Down	0
0	3 Goals Up	2
0	2 Goals Up	1
0	1 Goal Up	0

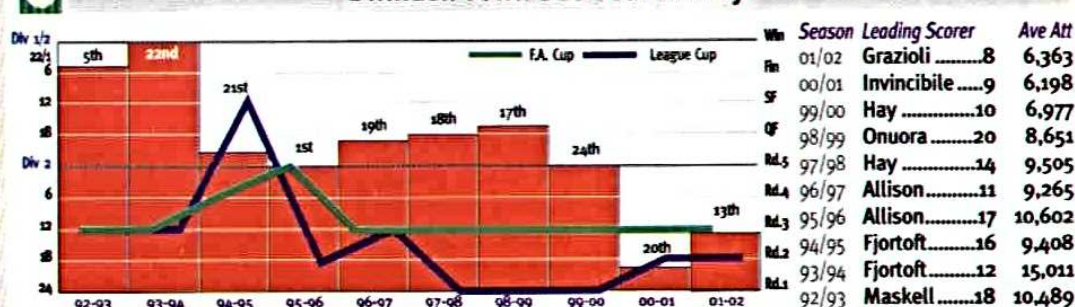
Margins

6	Won by 1 Gl	3
2	Won by 2 Gls	3
0	Won by 3 Gls	0
0	Won by 4 Gls	0
0	Won by 5+ Gls	0
6	Lost by 1 Gl	4
0	Lost by 2 Gls	4
0	Lost by 3 Gls	1
0	Lost by 4 Gls	0
0	Lost by 5+ Gls	0

Misc stats

3	Highest Pos.	1
17	Lowest Pos.	22
2	Winning Run	2
5	Unbeaten Run	6
2	Losing Run	6
4	No Win Run	7

Swindon Town's 10 Year History



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**CUP CLASH**

Although this is the first time that Oxford United have faced Swindon Town in the FA Cup, the two clubs have met once before in the League Cup. David Sloan's goal gave the following Oxford United team a 1-0 third round victory over Swindon in front of 18,193 at the Manor Ground on 24th September 1969: Jim Barron, Dick Lucas, John Shuker, Rod Smithson, Maurice Kyle, Colin Clarke, David Sloan, Graham Atkinson, Ken Skeen, Davy Jones, Ron Atkinson. United lost 2-0 to two goals by Steve Robinson on Swindon's last League visit in March 2001.

TWO SPELLS**Joey Beauchamp**

Former Swindon Town winger Joey Beauchamp had two spells at Oxford United. Signing professional at the Manor Ground in May 1989, he starred as Oxford won at Leeds United in the 1993-94 FA Cup fourth round replay and moved to West Ham for £1,000,000 in June 1994. He joined Swindon for £850,000 two months later and netted three goals in 39 League outings for today's visitors before returning to Oxford for £75,000 in October 1995. Scoring 63 times in 362

League games overall for United, he moved to Abingdon Town in August 2002.

EVER-PRESENT**Jim Barron**

One-time Swindon Town goalkeeper Jim Barron was ever-present for Oxford United in 1968-69. Moving to the Manor Ground from Chelsea for £5,000 in March 1966, he starred in Oxford United's 1967-68 Third Division title triumph and made 152 League appearances before being sold to Nottingham Forest for £35,000 in July 1970. He joined Swindon in August 1974 and played 79 Third Division games for today's opponents prior to joining Peterborough United in August 1977 after a spell with United States side Connecticut Bicentennials.

CUP HERO

Former Swindon Town midfielder Mark Jones was an influential figure as Oxford United reached the FA Cup fifth round in 1981-82. Signing professional at the Manor Ground in September 1979, he helped Oxford United to clinch the Third Division and Second Division titles in consecutive seasons and netted seven goals in 129 League

**Mark Jones**

games prior to joining Swindon in September 1986. He helped them to win promotion in 1986-87 and scored nine times in 40 Third Division outings for today's opponents before moving to Cardiff City in August 1990.

WING WIZARD

One-time Oxford United winger Jimmy Bain featured prominently as Swindon Town reached the FA Cup fifth round in 1951-52. Moving to the County Ground from Chelsea in May 1947, he also featured in Swindon's 1947-48 FA Cup run and netted 40 goals in 235 Third Division (South) games for today's visitors prior to joining Headington United (as Oxford were then called) in July 1954. He was a Southern League Cup semi-finalist in 1955-56 and scored six times in 71 Southern League outings while at the Manor Ground.

IN SAFE KEEPING

Former Swindon Town goalkeeper Owen Medlock was an important figure as Oxford United won the Southern League title in two consecutive seasons. Moving to the County Ground from Chelsea in February 1959, he made three



U's Review *with* **Leigh Edwards**



Third Division appearances for Swindon in place of Sam Burton prior to joining Oxford in December 1959. He starred in United's 1960-61 FA Cup run and played 117 Southern League/Fourth Division games before moving to Chelmsford City in July 1963. Fellow keeper Jimmy Glass also played for both clubs.

TITLE TRIUMPH

Former Swindon Town winger Ken Skeen starred in Oxford United's 1967-68 Third Division title triumph. Moving to the County Ground from Trowbridge Town in September 1964, he featured in Swindon's 1966-67 FA Cup run and netted four goals in 14 League games for today's opponents prior to joining Oxford United for £3,500 in July 1967. He



Ken Skeen

was ever-present and leading marksman in 1969-70, scoring 27 times in 234 League outings before moving to home-town Cheltenham in July 1974. Ex-Swindon reserve defender John Lloyd also featured in Oxford United's 1967-68 Third Division

title campaign.

MANAGING TO SUCCEED

Ex-Swindon Town winger David Moss had a spell as Oxford United's assistant-manager. Initially moving to the County Ground from Witney Town in July 1969, he was Swindon's leading marksman in two consecutive seasons and netted 60 goals in 230 League games prior to joining Luton Town for £110,000 in May 1978. He briefly rejoined Swindon in July 1985 and later assisted Brian Horton at Oxford United before following him to Manchester City in August 1993. The likes of Alan Gibbs, Dave Gibson, Gordon McDonald and Gordon Pembrey played for both clubs during the Fifties.

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Voluntary contributor Andy Howland, jointly with his brother Roger our club historian, looks at previous seasons.

December 6th 1997

United lost their Division One fixture at Swindon by four goals to one. Swindon's scorers were Brian Wilsterman (own goal), Mark Walters (penalty), Steve Finney and Ty Gooden, with Mike Ford replying. Swindon were fifth after the win but won only three League matches over the rest of the season which included a 2-1 reverse at the Manor, Francis, Gilchrist and George Ndah (penalty) being the scorers. Swindon finished eighteenth, six places below United and with only four points more than a relegated club.

December 6th 1992

United had no game, whilst fellow Division One club Swindon lost 4-2 at home to Derby, Mick Hazard and Craig Maskell netting for Town. Earlier in the season, United drew a live televised game at the County Ground, Penney's last ditch strike and Melville's goal replying to scores from Martin Ling and Shaun Taylor. Steve White scored the only goal in the return fixture. Town ended fifth and beat Leicester by four goals to three in the play off final.

December 5th 1987

Playing their third season in the top flight, United lost 3-1 at home to Newcastle, Saunders netting our goal. Jimmy Quinn, with a penalty, netted Swindon's goal in the

2-1 Division Two defeat at Villa Park. Swindon finished twelfth.

December 4th 1982

Goals from Lawrence, Foley (2), Vinter and Smithers gave us a 5-1 Division Three win at Brisbane Road. In Division

Four, a Paul Rideout penalty gave Swindon a 1-0 home victory over Peterborough. Swindon ended 8th and averaged 3,994 for home League games, just 2,408 attending Blackpool's visit.



Nicky Banger in action v Swindon in 1997



Andy Melville score the equaliser in 1992



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Written by voluntary contributor Andy Howland, jointly with his brother Roger our club historian.

JIM SMITH



Jim Smith was United's manager when the club made its most rapid strides forward. During Jim's time at the Manor, United gained the distinction of becoming the only club to reach the top flight via two consecutive Divisional Championships (this remains unique).

The signings of many players were inspired, among them being those of Langan, Aldridge, Hebberd, McDonald, Phillips and Hamilton. Jim had played Division Four football with Aldershot, Halifax and Lincoln before becoming player manager of Boston United at the tender age of twenty eight in 1969. Aged thirty two, he became one of the League's youngest managers when taking over at Colchester, for whom he played in eight League games. He led them to promotion and moved to Blackburn in 1975 and then Birmingham in 1978. Smith's sacking in February 1982 was United's gain and he arrived at the Manor on March 1st 1982. He inherited a squad which included Briggs, Shotton, Brock, Thomas, Wright, Jones, Seacole, Burton, Doyle, Cassells, Fogg, Foley, Jeffrey and Smithers. The team had just enjoyed a great FA Cup run and were fifth in Division Three. Despite Maxwell being in control, top scorer Cassells and Wright were soon sold and United took only seven points from Smith's first seven matches. The signings of Train and Lawrence (loan) began to pay off but Hebberd was no replacement for Cassells at centre forward. Nonetheless,

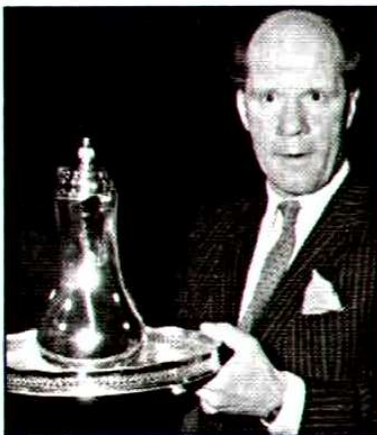
United took twenty points from eight games and with five games remaining looked likely to go up. After a home draw, the smoke bomb affected loss at Swindon and the succeeding three losses meant that United lost out on promotion. The signings of Biggins and Vinter allowed Hebberd to switch to midfield and, with none of his key players departing, Hardwick signing and both Lawrence and Whatmore returning on a permanent basis, Smith must have been a little disappointed with a repeat of the fifth placed finish. At the start of 1983-84, the team was further strengthened by the arrival of Hinshelwood but it was the signing of the inspirational McDonald which made the most difference. With the maturing Brock, Thomas, Shotton and Briggs all too strong for Division Three and the likes of Hinshelwood, Hardwick, Whatmore, Lawrence, Biggins and Vinter plus the outstanding McDonald and Hebberd, United looked set to do very well. Their superb championship was no major surprise. However, their Cup exploits must have been beyond the wildest dreams of any U's fan. Wins over Newcastle, Leeds and Manchester United as well as draws with Manchester United (twice), Everton, Leeds and Newcastle brought the club into the national spotlight as United became only the second ever club from the lower divisions to reach the Fifth Round of both major domestic cup competitions. The enormous amount of revenue from United's eighteen Cup ties enabled Smith to retain his better

players and to purchase the likes of Rhoades-Brown, Aldridge, Trewick and Charles. However, as with McDonald, the bargain signings of Langan and Phillips were superb. Playing much attacking football, particularly before Hamilton's injury, United became the first side ever to reach the top flight via two consecutive divisional titles (this is still unequalled). Sadly, Maxwell did not have the foresight to keep Smith and 'the Bald Eagle' left for Loftus Road. Less than a year later, his side was thrashed in the League Cup Final by a team who, apart from Houghton, had all been with Jim at the Manor.



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As I mentioned in my commercial notes for Lincoln City the corporate response to today's game has been phenomenal with 10 new sponsors and clients, in addition to our existing partners. This has generated a total sell out of all available facilities, to which I thank you all for your support.

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family thought differently. Happy 40th Birthday Barrie, from 12,000 plus fans at the Kassam Stadium here today and untold millions across the country courtesy of BBC TV.

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The art of performance



U's REVIEW ▶ **United's Funniest Moments**



Funniest Moments compiled by Daniel Freeman

Roy Burton's Shorts



Roy Burton

Throughout his time at the Manor, Burton lost his shorts more times than anyone standing in the London Road End would care to remember. Those shorts are believed to have had no elastic in them meaning that when Burton would go to take a goal-kick his shorts would fall down prompting chants of- 'Burton show us your bum, Burton, Burton show us your bum.'

Billy Whitehurst v Mike Ford

Fordy had to replace the injured Ken Veysey in the Oxford goal against Hull City in the late 1980s. Former United forward Billy Whitehurst found himself completely clear, through on goal. Ford came to close the angle down and for no apparent reason Whitehurst fell over. A comedy moment if ever there was one.

Phil Whelan (twice!)

a) United face Bury at the Manor. The U's have a corner at the London Road End. The corner gets cleared as far as Whelan who attempts an over-head kick. Whelan, 25 yards from goal, doesn't make any connection with the ball and falls flat on his backside. Unforgettable

b) The mops had been out as well as the sponges. United faced Cambridge on a rain-sodden Abbey Stadium pitch. Under strict instruction before the game all the United players were told not to pass back to the keeper. The U's were already 1-0 down when Phil, a graduate, passes back to the keeper! The ball travels a yard to the feet of Trevor Benjamin, who calmly scores.

Kevin Francis at Bournemouth



Kevin Francis

The U's were already 4-0 down at Bournemouth when 'Super Kev' made his mark on the game. The ball was played out to the left hand side and as Kev went to control the ball, he became a tangled mess of flailing limbs as he tumbled over the advertising board! The big man's 'Bambi-on-Ice' collapse with the goal at his mercy against Chelsea (above) also makes the list!

Sean Reck v Watford

United's keeper at the time Peter Hucker has the ball ready to launch up field. Sean Reck is standing on the edge of the centre-circle in his own half but facing away from his goal. Hucker's powerful (for once!) drop-kick is smacked forward, perfectly on to the back of poor Sean's head. He was never the

same man after that.

Birmingham Fan

Birmingham are celebrating a 2-0 win at the Manor Ground at the end of the 1997/98 season. One rather drunk fan climbs a floodlight. Everyone in the London Road End can see him but the unfortunate City fans are still oblivious to what is happening. Once the fan gets halfway up the floodlight he unzips his trousers before promptly relieving himself over half the away end.

Who are ya!



Robert Maxwell

Robert Maxwell had the task of introducing the promotion winning team of 1983/84 to the fans. Mr Maxwell didn't appear to be all that familiar with his player though and everyone noticed that someone was whispering in his ear, to tell him who the players were. He still got them wrong!

Grazioli Own goal

Oxford need to beat Peterborough to go up. It's 0-0 and up pops Giuliano Grazioli to nod past his own keeper. United go on to win 4-0 and Grazioli goes on to play for Swindon...

See what we're voting for this week on the official message boards

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"Come on you Yellow!"



Achilles Tendon

The Achilles tendon runs from the calf muscles to the heel bone. It is a very strong structure, but does not have a very good blood supply. Therefore any damage to the tendon does not heal easily.

Achilles tendon injuries are often associated with intensive training and hard surfaces. In football the majority of such injuries occur during pre-season.

Total ruptures of the tendon are often associated with individuals who resume intense activity after a lengthy break from exercising. Partial ruptures are more common and can lead to chronic conditions.

Total and sometimes partial ruptures require surgery, or total

immobilisation. Chronic conditions generally require rest and modified activity

Treatment

P.R.I.C.E. Protection, Rest, Ice, Compression, Elevation.

Insert a 1cm heel raise into the shoes. This will decrease the tension in the tendon.

Early mobilising exercises should begin 48 hours after injury. A simple example of this would be to start moving your foot up and down in a non-weight bearing position. Make sure that these movements do not produce pain.

Muscle strengthening exercises should begin as soon as pain allows. The easiest way to do this is with a large rubber band. In a seated position, use the rubber band to provide some mild resistance as the toes are pointed away.

To make this exercise harder, stand up facing a wall. Rise up onto your toes, and then slowly

lower your heels to the floor. Repeat these exercises x 20. Once it is easy to perform these exercises with both feet, progress to just the injured side. Do not work through pain.

Stretch the calf muscles and Achilles tendon. To do this, stand with your hands against a wall, and the injured leg behind the other. Bend the knee of the back leg forwards taking your body weight over your injured side. Hold this stretch for 30 seconds, and repeat x 4.

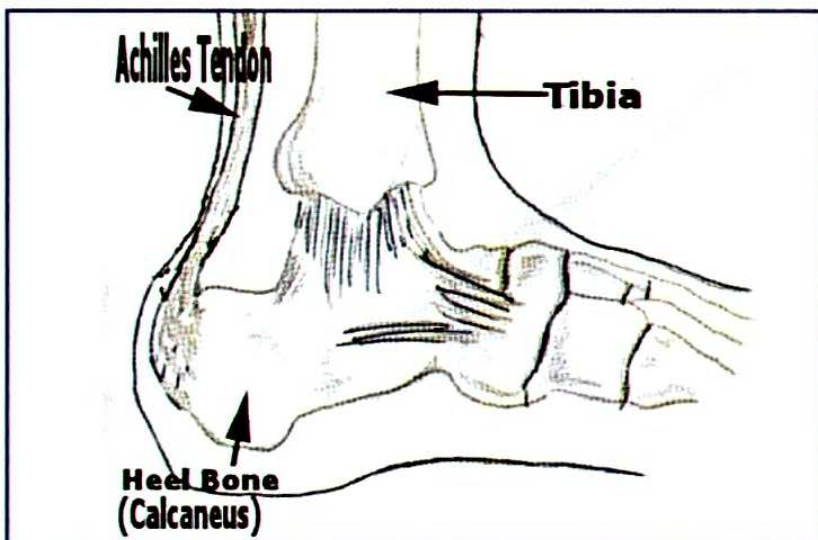
Functional exercises such as running jumping twisting and turning can begin once you are pain free, have full range of motion, full muscle strength and balance is at least as good as the non-injured side.

As a general guideline, if you can hop on the injured leg 50 times without any pain, then light jogging can commence.

Gradually increase the running speed and duration until a full sprint is possible.

Remember that progression is key to a successful rehab programme. Increase the amount you do gradually, and never work through pain.

Any information provided in this section is only a guideline, and not a substitute for treatment by a qualified therapist.



Neil Sullivan
Sports Therapist



olly the OX

Junior Fun Page

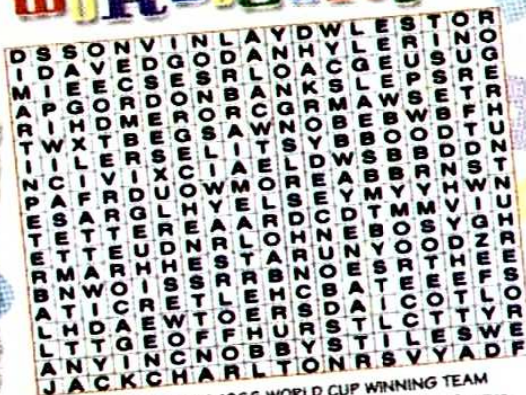
It's... TRIVIA TIME

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1. Which "Toon" fractured a cheekbone in Newcastle's 3rd round Worthington Cup tie with Everton?
2. Which Middlesbrough player has been sent off twice already this season?
3. Which Everton midfielder recently joined Blackpool after a loan spell at Bloomfield Road?
4. Which team surprised Leeds with two last gasp goals in the Worthington Cup 3rd Round?
5. What nationality is Fulham's Andrejs Stolcers?
6. Name the four current Premiership players with the surname Cole.
7. Which football team is known as "The Gulls"?
8. What do Lincoln, Halifax, Aldershot, Maidstone, Newport, Darlington, Scarborough, Hereford, Barnet, Colchester and Chester all have in common?
9. Which Arsenal legend scored all 7 goals against Aston Villa in 1935?
10. Name the 16 year old Everton striker who recently ended Arsenal's unbeaten run?
11. Which two teams did Stanley Matthews play for?
12. Why didn't Manchester City's Denis Law celebrate his goal against his old club Manchester United in their 1-0 win in 1974?

half time quiz?

WORDSEARCH



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Search forwards, backwards, up and down. Letters can be used more than once.

WHO AM I?



Born Romford - 1975,
scored for Arsenal in last
season's FA Cup Final.

SOCCER DINGBATS

Guess the football team from
the cartoon
of their
nickname and
the clue
provided.



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that this club's
mascot was inspired
by a carving of a
gargoyle in the local
Cathedral.



A goalkeeper standing in his own penalty area,
throws the ball out - with the aid of a strong wind
it goes straight into his opponents' goal without
any other player touching the ball. Is this a goal?

WHO ARE WE?

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CONFUSED GUNNAR

VIM CHAD BAKED

Can you identify the four footballers
from these jumbled anagrams?

did you know?

Sir Bobby Charlton was
once player manager of
Preston North End.

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...WATCH THIS SPACE

Answers

Half Time Quiz: Liverpool Robert,
2. Frank Lampard, 3. Kevin Phillips,
4. Sheffield United, 5. Alan Hansen, 6. Gary
Lineker, 7. (any), 8. (any), 9. (any),
10. (any), 11. (any), 12. (any).
Only way in which an attacking player
can score by the use of his hands.
If you were the referee, then he
would be looking for a foul.
Barnet, Bournemouth, Bristol
Rovers, Luton, Millwall, Reading,
Sheff Wed, Stoke, Walsley, Wigan,
Wolves, York.
Who Am I? Ray Parlane, who are we?
Preston North End.
Soccer Dingbats: Lincoln City,
Blackpool, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th,
17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd,
23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th,
29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th,
35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th,
41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th,
47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd,
53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th,
59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th,
65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th,
71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th,
77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd,
83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th,
89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th,
95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th.

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Player Profile



Player Interview - Jamie Brooks

One of the most welcome sights at the Kassam Stadium in the last couple of weeks has been Jamie Brooks back in the gym and treatment room, putting in the hard work as he fights to get back to fitness. Jamie, or course, spent most of the summer in a serious condition in hospital as he battled a debilitating virus which left him on a ventilator.

Having swept the board at last season's award ceremony, Jamie is now well on the road to recovery and looking to come back even better than before. He told us:

"I'm a long way forward from where I was even a month ago. I'm still doing the same sort of work, but I'm stepping everything up one level, doing things for slightly longer. I'm getting stronger and it's all moving fast at the moment.

"I'm at the club Monday, Tuesday and Friday, have some physio work at the hospital on Wednesday, and have a long swimming session on Thursday, so it's a busy schedule, and everyone is working hard to help me and I appreciate that."

The last time the fans saw him, Jamie was on the pitch waving at them on his return to the ground, and Jamie says that helped to give him a massive lift:

"It gave me a great lift. Actually, if you looked at me a month ago, I was far more frail. I'm a lot stronger now. But that gave me a massive lift, and just being about the place is good for me at the moment. I'd also like to say a big thank you to all the fans who took the time to send cards and good luck messages while I was in the hospital. That was great, to know there were so many people rooting for me, and I'll be looking to repay that on the pitch with a few goals as soon as possible. Their support was very important to me, and really helped"

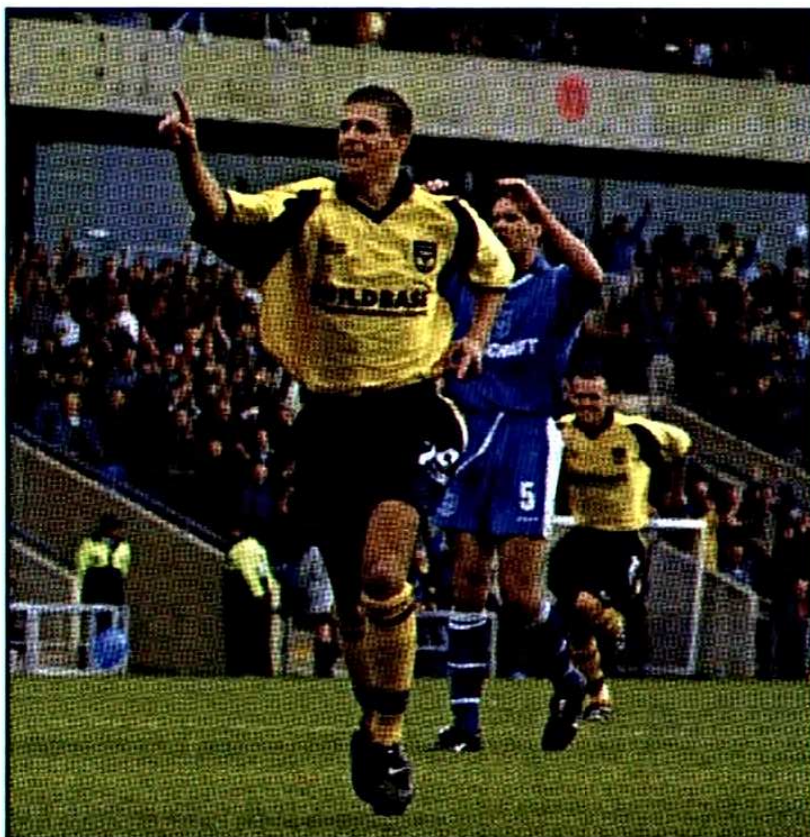
Jamie actually made his debut in a derby game like today's:

"I played in the last ten minutes

at Swindon two years ago when Fordy was caretaker manager, and that was a special day because I am a local lad and it meant a lot to me. I'll be at the game on Sunday, and I'm sure that will be a great occasion."

And finally, although we would all love to see him playing again, nobody is going to rush Jamie back, as he admits:

"I know my own body and I know when things are right and wrong. It's still going to be a while. I'm looking forward to coming back: it WILL happen. Hopefully it's just a matter of time and it's just a case of taking things a step at a time and making sure everything is right."



Match Report



Oxford Utd 1 Lincoln City 0

Crosby (P)

Att: 4,923

A late penalty from captain Andy Crosby gave United all three points last Saturday as they overcame and overtook Lincoln in the League.

Crosby, an inspiration this season, coolly converted with time running out after sub Adam Willis had handled a Paul Powell chip into the box with his first touch of the ball. It was a well deserved win, with United on top in difficult conditions.

Steve Basham had the first clear sight at goal as he got in behind the defence after a ball from McNiven on the right. Unusually, Bash failed to hit the target, lobbing well over the bar with the keeper off his line.

The game then settled down into a clash of styles, with United

looking to play the ball through the midfield in general, and Bobby Ford in particular, while Lincoln looked to hit the ball long and outmuscle their hosts. The result was a bruising encounter at times, with the United defence needing to stand up and be counted before the clever flicks of Basham and Oldfield could take United forward.

After an even first quarter, United started to get on top as we approached the half hour. Savage had a shot deflected narrowly wide, McNiven's splendid left footed curler was pushed round the post by keeper Marriott, and then a Hunt header was scrambled away after bouncing back off the far post.

A 'crude' challenge from Gain on Basham caused a commotion, with players squaring up to each other and Gain rightly becoming the first player in to the ref's book, and Basham then had a decent shout for a penalty turned down when he appeared to receive a shove in the back as

he homed in on a left wing cross.

The U's started the second half on top again, with a Bound free kick saved by Marriott and then Savage cutting inside after a sweet pass from Ford and drilling in a shot which Marriott pushed just beyond the outstretched foot of Oldfield as he followed in.

With rain pouring down and the pitch becoming increasingly treacherous it became more and more important to time challenges perfectly, and Savage and Fletcher both found their way into the book for fouls, with the visitors in fact ending up with seven players on yellow cards as their physical approach overstepped the mark at times.

With sixty five minutes gone it was time for the power of Jefferson Louis, and the big striker had a great chance to score immediately as he raced on to a deep McNiven cross, but headed up and over rather than directing the header down from six yards.

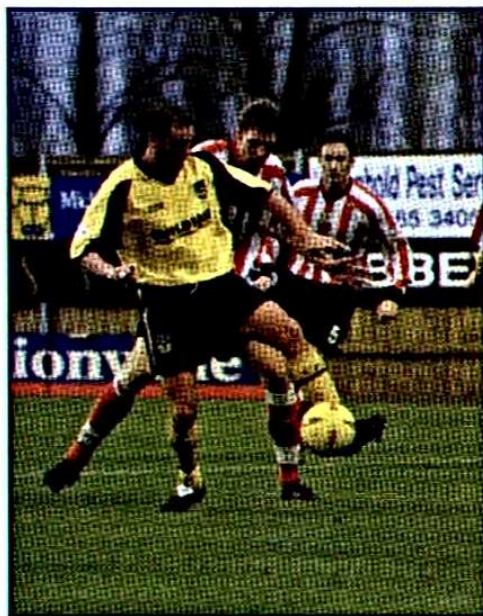
Lincoln were very much on the back foot, although Yeo did get the ball in the net with a flicked header, only to be ruled offside (his last action of the game before being subbed, much to his displeasure).

As time ran out, it was looking like another game of missed chances, until the skipper stepped up to set United back on the right road in the League, and set today's cup game up very nicely indeed.



U's in **Action**

Action from our win over Lincoln

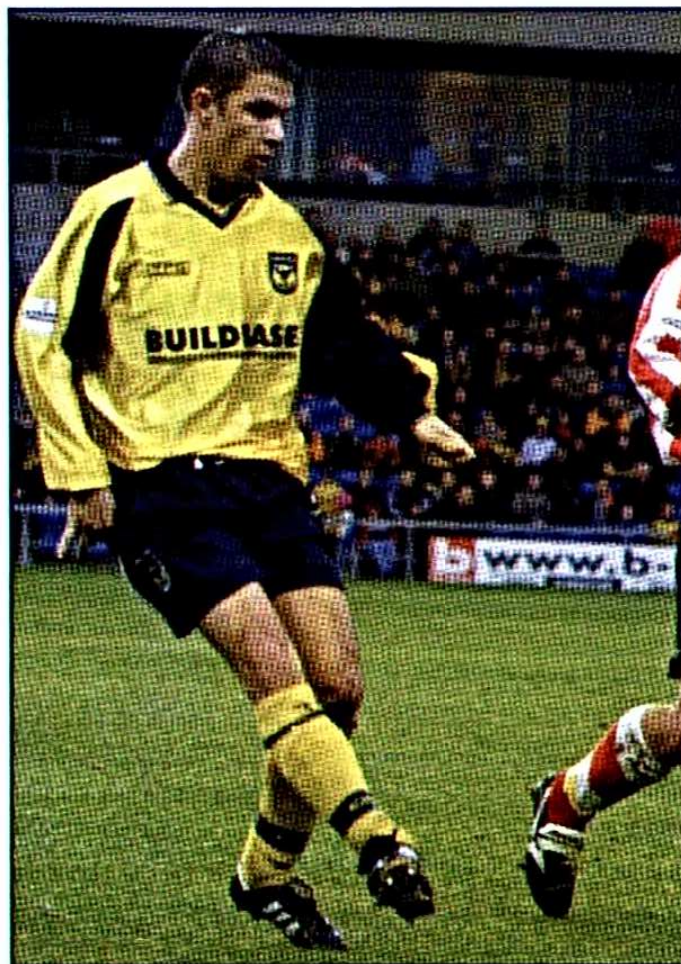
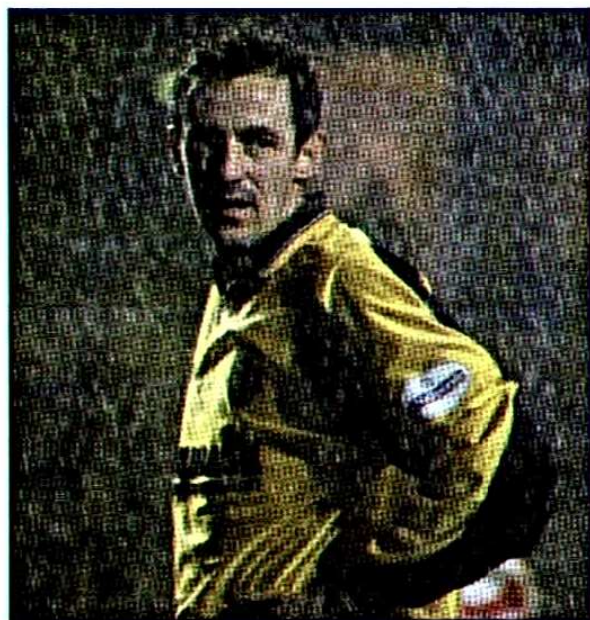


Top left: James Hunt takes control in the first half

Top right: Matt Bound tried to find a way through the massed Lincoln defence

Bottom left: Dave Savage enjoys the conditions!

Bottom right: Bobby Ford passes forward on his return from injury.





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Football in the Community



Pre-match and Half-time

Our under 13s Centre of Excellence boys will be entertaining you with a penalty shoot and relay, with half wearing yellow and the others wearing red. Please support the lads and cheer when your team scores. We also have Olly the Ox and Rockin Robin joining in too.

Birthday Girl

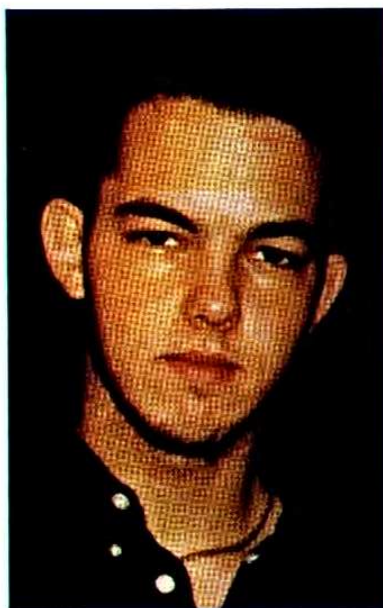
Happy 21st to Zoë Griffiths who is here today with her boyfriend Wesley Maull, both from Moreton-in-the-Marsh, Glos. Hope you both enjoy your day.

Semi-Finalists

The four teams who will entertain you before the Rushden & Diamonds game, our qualifiers for my under 11s Adidas/Railtrack Tournament, are West Kidlington, Kirtlington, Glory Farm (Bicester) and Cholsey.

Good Looking Fans

This is Russell Farrent from Abingdon, who loves himself



so much he has named himself Oxford's sexiest fan?!! In our office we reckon it's apt that he's in today's programme-for an FA Cup game. I hope nobody lifts him up too high above their heads when we score. Only joking Russell.

Charity Shoot Out

William Bray and other year 10s at the Marlborough School, Woodstock, organised a Shoot Out one lunchtime. I went over to give a hand and ended up in goal. Money raised goes towards the Senior Citizens' Christmas Dinner, Woodstock and surrounding areas.

Peter Rhoades-Brown is sponsored by Hyundai Motorworld, tel: 01235 774390

John and Clive

Welcome to my oppos at Swindon Town here with their Community Office. Our Christmas meeting is coming up for the South West Area Officers. Our night out after the meetings will be either a good one or not, depending on today's result.

Channel 6 on Fridays



I'm enjoying being on TV with Sarah Stirk on a Friday, talking about the goings on here at the Club. Treat me nice on the pitch and I may say something good about you.

Come on you Yellows.

Peter Rhoades-Brown



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SAFETY IS OUR GOAL



Scotty's Thoughts



with Andy Scott

Welcome to the game today in what should prove an exciting and I'm sure eventful day, as all derby games turn out to be. Not only are we the hosts for our opponents today but the television cameras will be here to capture and analyse every moment of the game, as well as the atmosphere and passion in the stands. With this in mind, please do not put the club's reputation at risk by entering into any idiotic behaviour, which could result in a fine for the club as well as a ban from Oxford United games for yourself. By all means get behind the team and be vocal, but also be sensible with it!

Vital Income

This game today, and the cup runs we've achieved this season have provided vital income to the club during a season in which numerous teams are finding it increasingly difficult to remain solvent. We've all heard the reasons that are given for the decline of lower league football i.e. ITV Digital collapse, Bosman transfers, increase in player's wages etc and it becomes apparent that the Premier League's view is "We've got the money, how can we keep hold of it?" whereas the Nationwide League's view is "We've got no money, how do

we get hold of any? "

Reason for decline?

In my view, one of the reasons for the decline of modern day football is the influx of foreign players a few years ago who were at the end of their careers and were looking for a big pay day to round things off nicely. I'm not talking about Ossie Ardiles or Arnold Muhren or players like that who were introduced to English football and, in my opinion, improved the standard of the game, but the older players particularly from Italy who fancied the idea of living and playing in England as a swan song.

Not only did their arrival spark the increase in player's wages. Understandably, English players wanted to bring their wages in line with the new faces and therefore it spiralled out of control until we reach a situation in which we now find ourselves. It also restricted the opportunities given to young home-grown players. We moan about the England team not having a left-sided player worthy of note, but this may have been avoided if younger players were given a chance at bigger clubs rather than sitting rotting in the reserves at the expense of an ageing foreigner earning 10 times more a week!

Impact

The impact this has had on the game is not only restricted to the Premier League but has filtered through into the lower leagues and influenced clubs

and players here also. I believe the number of players out of work at the end of the season would be dramatically lowered if there was a limit to foreign players at each club. This would also allow the home-grown talent to appear, leading to clubs having vital assets they can sell if needed, as well as teams having the foundation of good youth players regularly coming into the side to ensure that clubs can have continuity in their playing staff.

More Selfish

By no means am I of the opinion that foreign players should be banished into the wilderness but for the game in Britain to survive its current crisis, and to go from strength to strength, we must become a bit more selfish and worry about OUR players and OUR game! If you look at the Scottish leagues they must have a certain number of players under the age of 21 in the squad for each match, therefore ensuring the development of these players and giving them vital experience and incentives. They haven't reaped the rewards for this idea yet but I'm sure they will in the long run. I'm not saying this is the answer to all the problems but if we can address different issues separately and it means avoiding a repeat of the troubles we are now encountering, it'll all be worth while won't it? Here endeth the lesson!

Andy Scott





Divided Loyalties?

In the build up to today's game, various media and fans have asked me where my loyalties lie for this match, having played for both clubs.

Obviously my answer has to be with United but I must admit to having fond memories of Swindon. I was very grateful to them for offering me the chance of playing first team football under Lou Macari's leadership. Even though the fans were a little anti on my debut, in my first season, gaining promotion as well.

They soon made me very welcome and probably saw me playing the best football of my career scoring 10 goals. Unfortunately I suffered a serious knee injury in pre-season the year after, which prevented me from playing for them again. As with the United fans they have been brought

up on good football, and are very passionate about their club. Derbies are big fixtures for both sets of fans, but I hope that the game will be remembered for an exciting cup match between two great clubs which have a very big place in my memories.

Christmas Courses Monday 23rd December 10.00 am – 2.30 pm

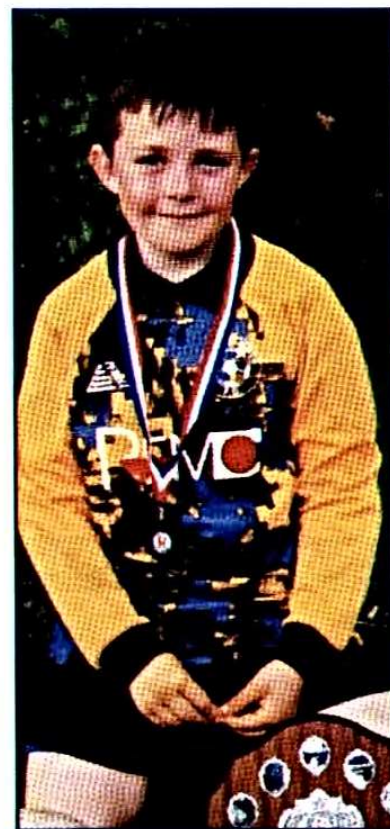
I have organised five one-day courses around the county for children aged 6-13 years.

The venues are at: -
John Mason School, Abingdon,
Temple Cowley Middle School, Oxford
Witney Artificial Pitch, Witney,
Bicester Community College, Bicester
St Birinus School, Didcot

I have called these my 'Drop and Shop' courses, so if you have any last minute shopping to do, drop your children with me.

If interested, please ring as soon as possible on 01865 337525 for an application form.

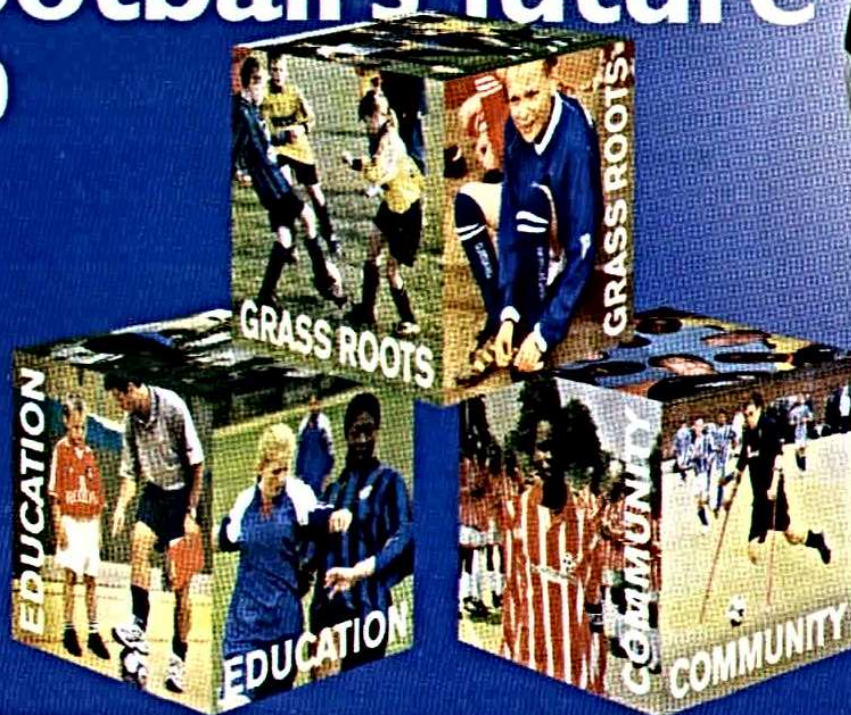
Mascot



Leading out the teams this afternoon is 9 years old Robert Fay who attends Rose Hill Primary School. As well as football, Robert is a keen golfer and his ambitions are to be number one keeper at Oxford United, play for England/Republic of Ireland and to play on the European golf tour.

Mark Jones

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Continuing our look at the Club's Youth Development policies, we sat down with Youth Development Officer Les Taylor to find out how it all works.

First we asked Les how and at what age Oxford United became involved with youngsters: -

"We become involved through our Soccer Courses with youngsters. These courses are open to boys and girls from the age of four years up to thirteen. Most of the youngsters come on a regular basis and they receive coaching from professional coaches who give them the basic skills to go along with their natural ability.

"In line with Premier Division clubs, we can't register boys until they are nine years old. There is a gap between the ages of seven and nine years old when they need a games' programme and we can't provide it. So we point them in the direction of local boys clubs and many go on to join those clubs. Further down the line we see those boys in the matches for their clubs and give them an opportunity to come back to us. So many of the boys in local football clubs started with us on our Soccer Courses."

We then asked how what input we could make to boys clubs.

"At the beginning of the season, Soccer Course Director Mark Jones

writes to all the boys clubs in the area asking if they would like to attend a match. This is a facility we offer to schools and it is widely taken up by them. But to date, clubs have not been keen to respond. However, I am always open to suggestions and I would welcome input from boys clubs. They only have to pick up the phone.

"We believe boys should be given an opportunity to have a career in professional football. If there are any suggestions from managers who might read this page I'd love to hear them. I can count on one hand the number of recommendations I get from them. I understand that managers are reluctant because they may eventually lose their best players. But most managers would see it as a feather in their cap if boys they had eventually made the grade.

Finally we asked Les about the thorny issue of compensation.

"If we are approached by another professional club for one of our registered players, there is the possibility of compensation. People imagine that

we get thousands and thousands of pounds but the compensation is directly related to the financial input from Oxford United into that player's development up to the time of their departure. In reality this is not a large amount of money. So you might have a player with the potential to play in our first team, going to a Premier League club for very little. For us the loss of player is massive but what is a small compensation payment to a Premier club? So the compensation issue has really been blown out of all proportion."

Les Taylor

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U's Review **On the Gantry**



Editor Chris Williams talks to Barry Davies

With the BBC cameras here today for Match of the Day, we had a distinguished guest in the press area last week when Barry Davies prepared for the game by watching the win over Lincoln. Barry, who will be commentating this afternoon, told us that doing the homework is an important part of a commentator's game:

"It's a required part of the job. It always surprised me when we did more regular games, that managers would often say 'what are you doing here?' when we went along to midweek games, and I would say 'like you, we have to do our homework.' Even so, it's a luxury for me to see a side in advance."

Over the years, Barry must surely be well ahead of the 92 club?

"I really can't guess how many grounds I've been to, but I've been to a great number of lower league games now. Remember that we used to cover five lower league games each season as

well. I started doing Match of The Day in 1969, and before that I was doing it for ITV, so I have been doing it for a few years!"

And has his approach to the game changed over the years?

"The approach is still basically the same. I'm lucky in that I have a bit of a photographic memory. If I see a player from a photo and then in the kick about before a game it usually stays with me. But on the other hand it has a curious effect on me at other times when I simply can't remember the name of a player I've known for years! I cover quite a few different sports and events, and there are a lot of names and faces to remember."

So has it ever gone spectacularly wrong?

"I haven't really frozen yet, thankfully. I'm not one of those people who gets terribly tense about things, I accept that I'm paid for a hobby and don't feel under big pressure, but my one

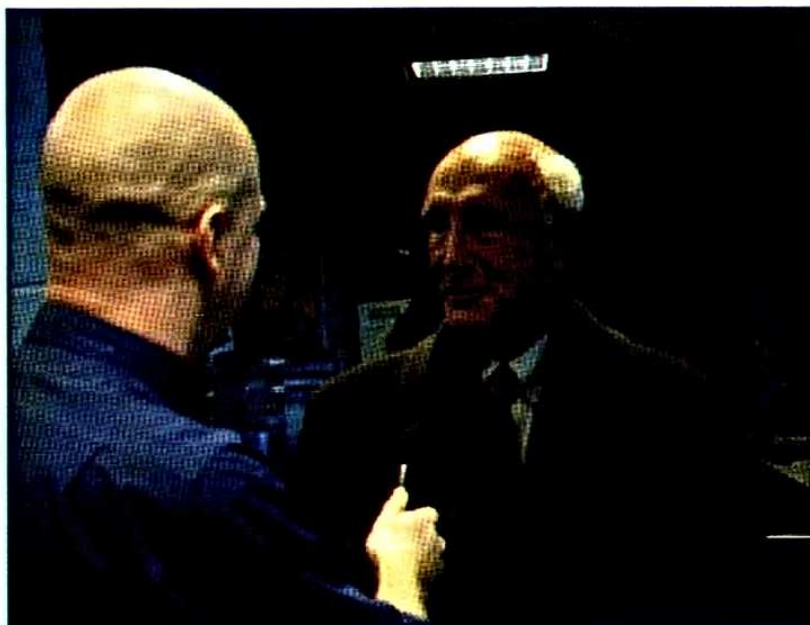
concern is that a surname will be given the wrong christian name, or that someone who has been playing on the centre court at Wimbledon is suddenly playing left back for whoever! I have only ever done that once, when I was talking about Chris Sutton and I confused him with the Derby goalkeeper of that time, Steve. Kenny Dalglish, being Kenny, reminds me of that all the time, and even managed to put it in his book!

We asked Barry what he was looking for at the Lincoln game:

"I've had a tour of the club, because it is totally new to me, and I shall go on the website in the week and find out more information, but I'm looking at formation, style of play, subs who come on and so on. Trevor Brooking will be co-commentating with me, and I'm sure he will be doing the same."

And finally, after all these years, does he still get excited about the games?

"It's never been just a job of work. I get excited and disappointed about things in the same way that a supporter does, with the main difference that it doesn't affect me if team A loses or team B wins. I do get involved, and if a team is not getting the rub of the green then people may think I'm leaning towards that team in my commentary, and that is one of the main criticisms: that I'm biased. I'm sure that as soon as I say one thing in support of Swindon today then Oxford fans will accuse me of bias, and vice versa!"





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Reserves & Youths



with Youth Team Coach Darren Patterson

Saturday 30th November 2002
 Football League Youth Alliance
 Walsall under 19s 1 Oxford United under 19s 4

United's under 19s had a fine 4-1 win at Walsall last Saturday in the Football League Youth Alliance. Two goals from captain Rob Lovegrove, plus strikes from Dexter Blackstock and Billy Beeches gave the youngsters their best win of the season, and coach Darren Patterson was delighted with the win:

"It was another good performance. Although the result didn't go for us last week, it certainly did this time. It was a fully deserved win and every one of them was playing to the best of their abilities.

"We went behind early on, after just two minutes, but the lads showed great character and came back with a penalty after good work from Dexter Blackstock. Rob Lovegrove stepped up and converted the penalty, and

then we went 2-1 up at half time when Dexter finished superbly.

"We then came out and dominated the second half. We hit the bar a couple of times, and had two more efforts disallowed, and scored two good goals. Rob Lovegrove scored his second goal with almost an overhead kick when he turned and swivelled and scored a great goal, and then Billy Beeches had a sidefooter from fifteen yards to end the scoring. Billy is only 16, and did well. We've been playing a few younger lads like Billy, and they've done well for us, but slowly the injuries are clearing up and the older lads are coming back.

"Things are going in the right direction and the results have been getting better. In the last three weeks the performances have been getting better as the lads have been getting fitter and stronger, and we are getting everyone back. The penny is starting to drop, with the lads understanding what I want from them, and the work ethic is improving, and as a team they played very well in this match."

Team: Cox, McKay, Tweed (J), Brandish, Lovegrove, Garner, Ciampoli, Alexis, Blackstock, Beeches (Harris 80), Carbon (O'Sullivan 80)
Subs: Curtis, Tweed (R), Dixon

First Team Total Appearances

		League			Cup			Total			OUFC career		
		Apps	Sub	Goals	Apps	Subs	Goals	Apps	Sub	Goals	Apps	Sub	Goals
1	Andy Woodman	19	0	0	5	0	0	24	0	0	39	0	0
2	Scott McNiven	19	0	0	4	0	0	23	0	0	23	0	0
3	Paul Powell	3	7	2	1	2	0	4	9	2	159	37	23
4	Dave Savage	19	0	0	5	0	0	24	0	0	69	0	1
5	Andy Crosby	19	0	3	5	0	1	24	0	4	46	1	5
6	Dave Waterman	7	1	0	2	0	1	9	1	1	13	2	1
7	Chris Hackett	1	7	0	1	1	0	2	8	0	18	29	2
8	James Hunt	19	0	1	4	0	1	23	0	2	23	0	2
9	Lee Steele	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Andy Scott	12	3	5	2	0	0	14	3	5	61	8	19
11	Matt Robinson	16	0	0	4	1	0	20	1	0	20	1	0
12	Dean Whitehead	6	3	0	2	1	0	8	4	0	58	21	1
13	Sam Ricketts	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	35	12	1
14	Manny Omoyinmi	4	6	2	0	3	0	4	9	2	36	30	8
16	Ian McCaldon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	0	0
17	Jefferson Louis	4	6	3	2	2	0	6	8	3	6	9	3
18	Matthew Bound	17	0	0	5	0	0	22	0	0	44	0	0
19	Simon King	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0
20	Jamie Brooks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	8	11
21	Bobby Ford	9	4	0	2	0	0	11	4	0	146	18	11
22	David Oldfield	15	3	0	3	1	1	18	4	1	18	4	1
23	Steve Basham	6	3	2	3	0	0	9	3	2	9	3	2
26	Simon Cox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	Roy Hunter	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
	Sam Stockley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	2	0
	Gavin Gordon	3	3	1	0	1	0	3	4	1	3	4	1
	Adi Viveash	11	0	0	4	0	0	15	0	0	15	0	0



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A fair few reporters at today's game have been covering Oxford-Swindon derby matches for many years. When the draw was made on November 17th and the two were paired, emotions will have been more mixed among journalists than supporters.

It is a great draw. And a great story. But we have all had our work cut out in the week leading up to today's game - and I dare say will have for the next couple of days too.

Pull out supplements have been planned in the Evening Advertiser and Oxford Mail. At BBC Radio Swindon they have been on air here at the Kassam Stadium since 9 o'clock this morning. The Radio

Press Gang

With Jerome Sale of BBC South

Oxford programme started at noon, but will go on long after the match has finished. United fans call Radio Oxford with your views on 08459 31111. For Town supporters call 08459 513366. BBC South Today will show the goals tonight at 5.10 pm on BBC1 and again tomorrow after the 6 O'clock news.

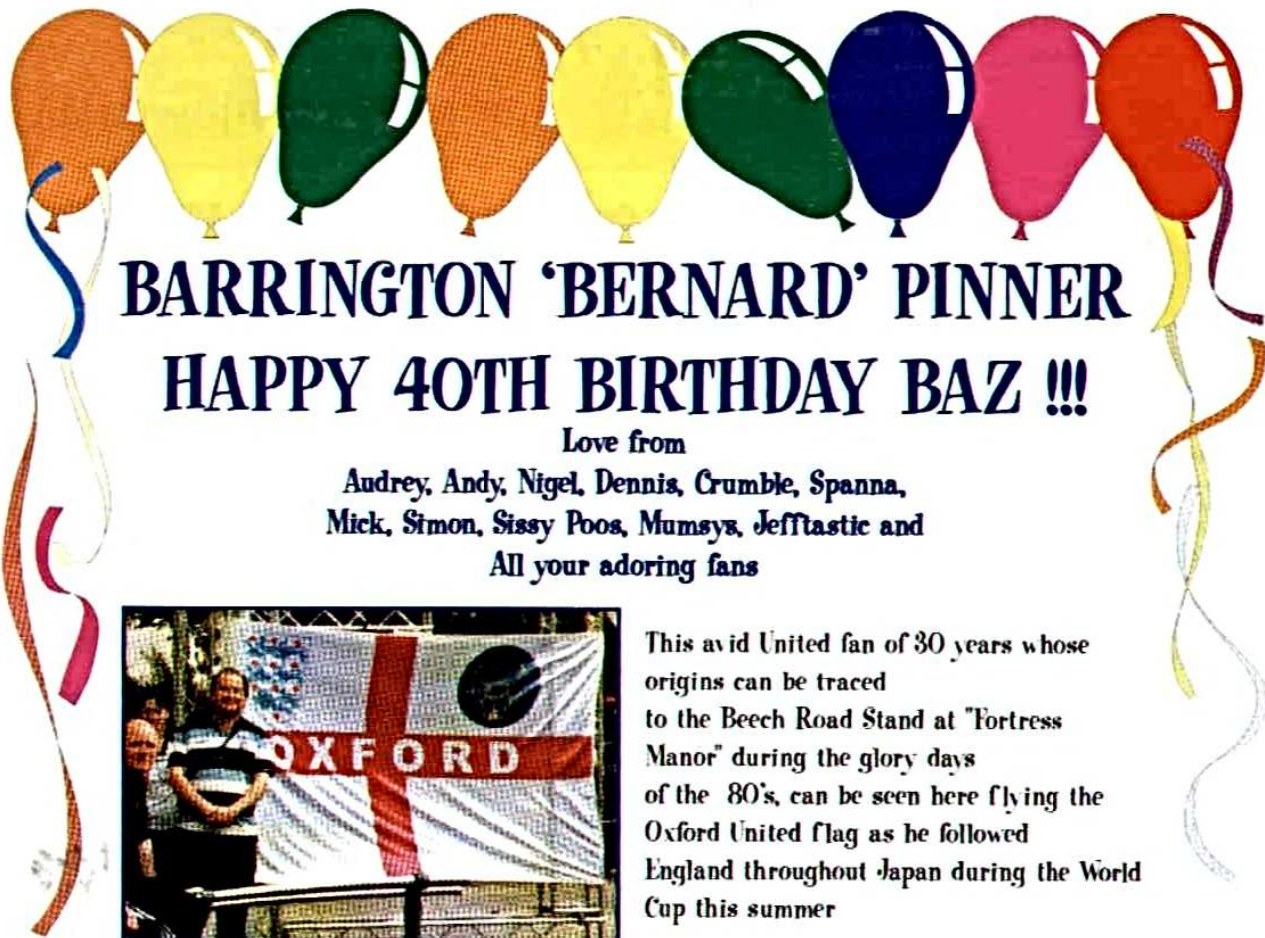
Of course the national media are here in force. Most obvious will be the cameras of BBC TV's Match of the Day. They have been doing their preparation with commentator Barry Davies visiting the Kassam Stadium last week to watch Oxford play Lincoln as part of his home work (see page 37). He was at training with Swindon in midweek.

I dare say the talk nationally will be about the big prize that could await today's winner

when the draw is made for the third round of the FA Cup later. Did you forget that? No-one I have heard in the past couple of weeks has mentioned the fact that this is a cup game. To most people inside the ground today this is first and foremost a derby game. The competition the match is in, and the prize at stake, is to most fans here almost irrelevant. So is the money that is there to be made by the clubs.

The national media will raise this match onto a stage which makes what happens off the field today as important as what happens on it, to the clubs. The local media will understand that to the supporters only the result counts.


Jerome Sale



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This avid United fan of 30 years whose origins can be traced to the Beech Road Stand at "Fortress Manor" during the glory days of the 80's, can be seen here flying the Oxford United flag as he followed England throughout Japan during the World Cup this summer

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U's Review **Around the Ground**

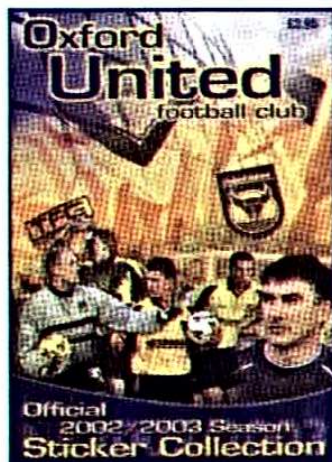
OXFORD UNITED F.C.



A round up of the news from the Kassam Stadium

Sticker collection

As you'll have spotted already, there are no stickers for your collection in this edition of the programme. These are only included in League match programmes, but if you are missing any back issues, or still haven't got your album, why not call in at the club shop to make sure you are up to date.



Online tickets

We set a new record for online ticket orders at www.oufc.co.uk for this game, with well over 500 tickets sold online. The service, which has been revamped and made easier to use, is the ideal way to make sure you get your tickets for every game, so why not log on and book for the Christmas games? The online betting service has also broken all records, so why not have a flutter with us at the official site? We offers the best odds around, and with a £20 free bet for new users, you win



even if you lose! Remember that every bet you have with us benefits the club directly, so check out the odds this week

Watch out

The club shop has now taken delivery of the first batch of Oxford United watches. The watches, priced at £29.99, have a blue face with the OUFC logo at the top and have proved very popular with fans already. With a full three year warranty, make sure you buy soon to avoid the Christmas rush.

The club shop will also be open for late night shopping on Thursday 19th December until 7pm.



Happy Birthday

If the voice on the PA sounds a bit croaky today, you'll know that our announcer, Nathan Cooper has overdone the birthday

celebrations last night. Everyone at the club wishes Nathan many happy returns. He's actually younger than he sounds!

Sing your hearts out...

All Oxford supporters are invited to attend our annual Christmas carol concert at The Priory, here at the Kassam Stadium, this Wednesday, 11th December at 7pm.

This is always a very enjoyable occasion and a traditional part of the festive season. Everyone is warmly invited, staff, players and fans, so please tell your friends and family and come along and join us.





Andy Woodman

Shaun & Veronica at Tatty Heads Hair Dressing Salon 01235 818391



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01865 794433



Jefferson Louis

Headington Finance
01865 767653





Today's game reminds me of all those big cup occasions from the past; the White Horse final at Wembley, the '66 World Cup final at Wembley, the '86 Milk Cup final at Wembley, and of course the Oxon Senior Cup final at the Manor. The atmosphere will be electric, the fans will be on the edge of their seats, the commentators will be glorying in every cliché they can come up with and, at the end of the day, we'll have set our stall out early doors and will be going home with the warm glow of victory in our cocoa. Who are we playing?

Of course the best thing about today's game is that when we win we will not only humiliate the opposition, but we'll be doing it live on the telly. It's almost worth rescheduling Eastenders for. Another acceptable option would be for us to let them draw here today, just toy with them, before beating them at their ground, which would be still as sweet, possibly even more fun, but wouldn't earn us the kudos we will get from disposing of them today in front of the watching millions.

The levels of interest in this fixture are such that not only is Auntie Beeb here, but so is my Mum for her first time at this ground. It's probably because they've rescheduled Eastenders. After the final whistle listen carefully - you'll

Raging On

Martin Brodetsky takes an Independent look at Oxford United

be able to hear the sound of a thousand video cassettes being shredded in Wiltshire...

Finally, in this abbreviated column, don't forget that after the game there's the opportunity to go to the Oxford football programme and memorabilia fair in Headington (see the ad below). We've extended the opening time until 5.30pm just so that you can get there (and also so that we can get there too) and give us lots of money as you fill in those gaps in your collection. See you...

Martin Brodetsky



in association with



are pleased to present:

**THE OXFORD PROGRAMME
AND MEMORABILIA FAIR**
THE FAIR IS STILL ON TODAY
from 12.00pm until 5.30pm
(plenty of time to visit after today's match)
at

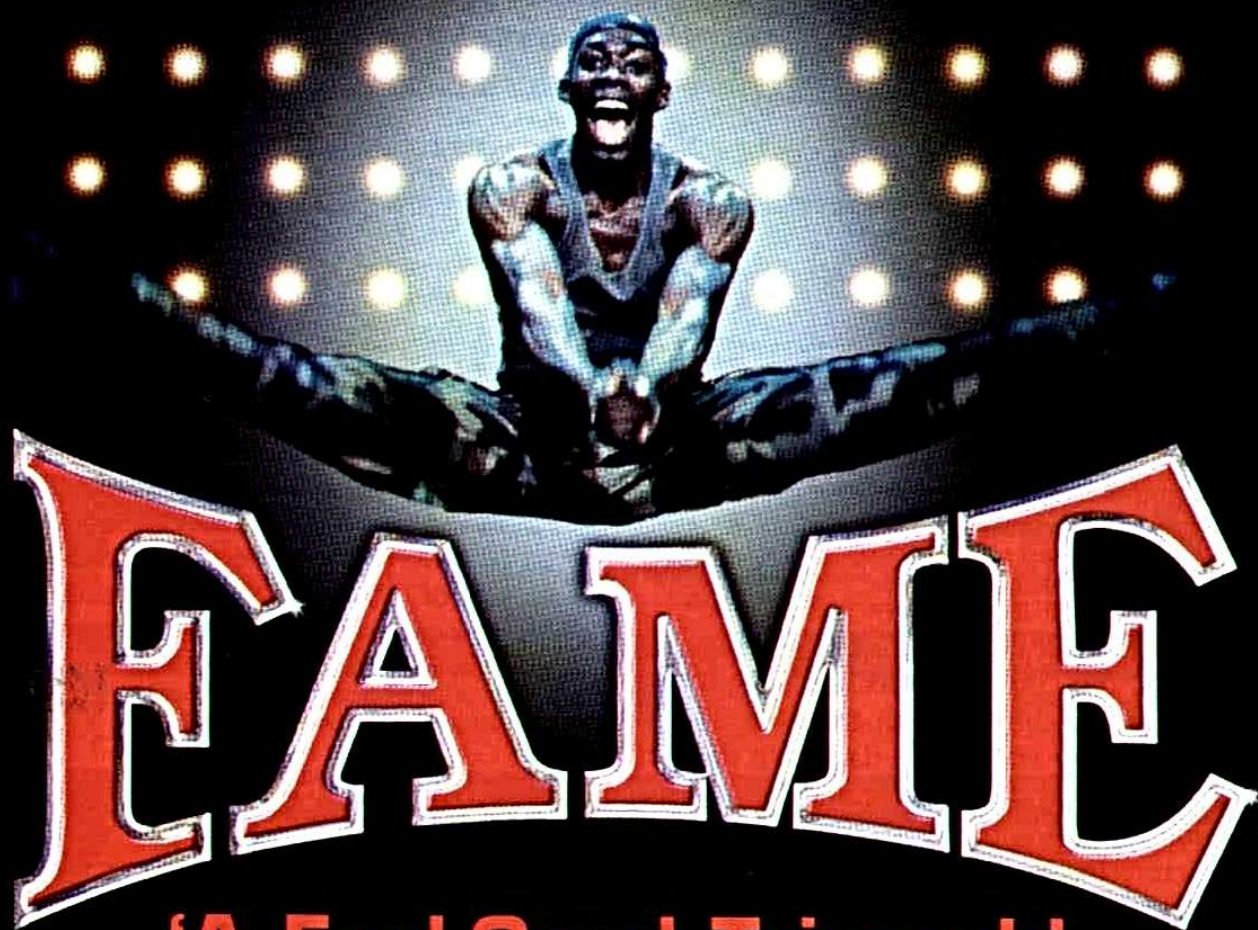
**All Saints Highfield Parish Hall, New High Street
(the road with the shark!), Headington, Oxford**

Major nationally acclaimed dealers: Sporting Memorabilia Ltd, John Dee Football Collectables, North South Programmes, Progarama, Nigel King and All Things Sport. MemorOx and Rage On will also have a stall specialising in Oxford United programmes and memorabilia including programmes from Oxford United's first season in the Football League.

For further details, please telephone 01483 426711,
MemorOx: <http://memorox.users.btopenworld.com>
Rage Online: www.rageonline.co.uk

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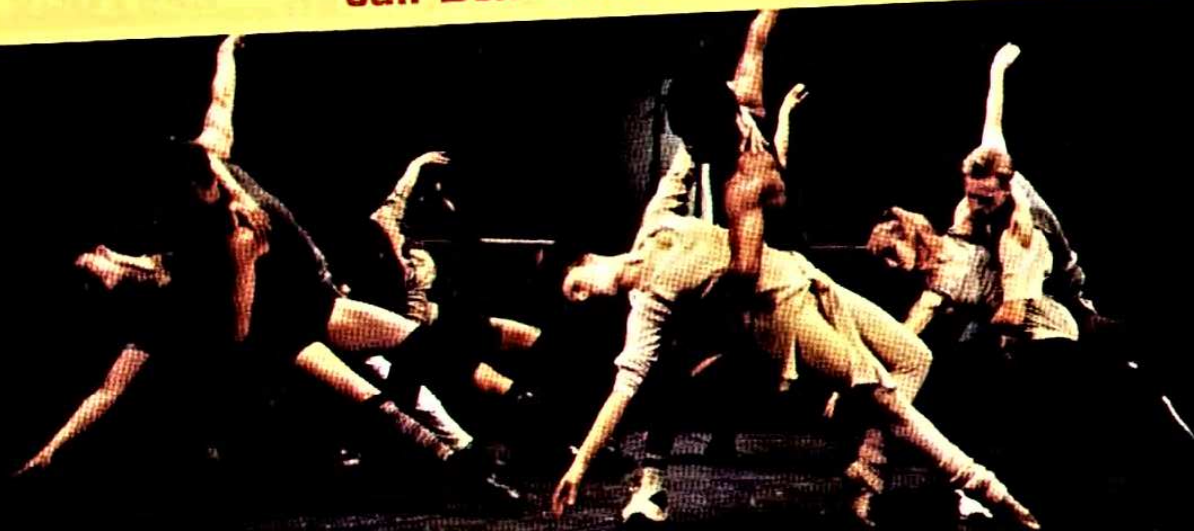
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Avon Insurance Combination
Bristol Rovers 3 Oxford United 1 (Garner)
Monday 2nd November 2002

United's reserve side lost 3-1 to Bristol Rovers last Monday night in the Avon Insurance Combination. Despite creating plenty of chances, United could not build on Adam Garner's equaliser, and two goals early in the second half killed them off.

Lee Steele came through 90 minutes, and if he suffers no reaction he will be in with a chance of playing some part of the game against Swindon on today.



Coack Mike Ford told us:

"We conceded an early goal from a corner, which disappointed me because we had spent an hour working on them before we left. We got on level terms though with a free kick from Chris Hackett which Adam Garner got a touch

to. That pleased me because we'd also worked on that.

"Then for the next twenty minutes until half time we were the better team, passing the ball around well and keeping it better than they did, and that should give the lads a bit of confidence. We played the whole of that spell in their half, and at half time we told them how well they'd done and to go out and reproduce what they'd just done, but within twenty minutes we were 3-1 down.

"The third goal deflated us a little bit and we stopped doing what we had been doing; keeping the ball, closing them down high up the pitch, crossing the ball. Again you end up reiterating to them that it's a game we should have got something out of because I felt there were always goals in us. We created numerous chances, but ultimately when the game became stretched we didn't defend properly.

"The game was won and lost in both penalty boxes: we didn't score enough goals from the chances created in their box, and didn't defend well enough in our own box"

Team: Cox, Garner, Powell, Sall, Hunter, King, Hackett (Carbon 80), Brandish (Ciampoli 89) Steele, Louis (Blackstock 65), Omoyinmi

Subs not used: Volocy, Mackay

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It's your voice.



I thought this week, by way of a change, I'd have a talk with someone who is familiar to all of you, but rarely gets a mention. Jon Edmunds, known universally as Woosie, is a familiar figure on the touchline and in the dugouts at United matches, and, as he explains, his involvement is part of a long family tradition:

"My granddad, Maurice, has been involved with the club for over forty years in one role or another, he's here on a matchday, and still helps at the reserve games. He used to have players as lodgers, so when I was just a lad I'd get to meet players like George Lawrence. And my dad is a season ticket holder still. He was actually one of the first four ball boys at the Manor: they had to patrol one side of the pitch each!

"I'd always been a fan, and came along on work experience six years ago, and am still here! I originally came to help John Clinkard, then Neil Reynolds, and now Neil Sullivan, but I have also been helping Ken Ridley with the kit, done a bit of coaching with the soccer courses, been physio for the centre of excellence teams, cooked the meals on the first team bus,

Off the Ball

with Chris Williams

and even done a bit of maintenance too."

So why 'Woosie'?

"It came from Phil Whitehead on my very first day of work experience. He seemed to think I looked like the golfer Ian Woosnam, and the name just stuck"

Woosie's involvement on the bench takes many forms as well, with one or two memorable moments:

"There was the game last season at Lincoln when we had two red cards and Wayne Hatswell needed a 'minder' down the tunnel and I got volunteered! I think it's safe to say Wayne was slightly angry, so that was a nice job!

"But those moments are very rare. Usually it's a great experience to travel with the team everywhere, and to work with the players every day."



Woosie has also had a new role at the club in the last couple of weeks:

"With the gaffer being banned from the touchline, I've been the runner from the stand to the dug out. Last week we had a radio link and I was passing messages to Fordy from the manager. Today I believe Ian is going to be closer to the dug out and I'll be running back and forward with messages, so that will keep me involved."

Popular with everyone at the club (he says), Woosie says that he watches the matchday programme with interest every week:

"I have to check whether Crozzer is going to drop me in it, or whether I'm going to get stitched up on any other page. I get the blame for most things, although I deny strongly that I was responsible for getting the team lost on the way to Orient: that was Ken! I've been here for six years now, and loved every minute, although working with Shrek is a strain at times."

Can't think who he means...

Chris Williams
Programme Editor

The FA Cup



BBC Sport's Ray Stubbs and Mark Lawrenson have both played in the FA Cup, albeit at slightly different levels.

Ray scored for Oswestry Town in a qualifying round against Northwich Victoria, while Mark won the trophy as a Liverpool player in 1986.

But despite their very different careers (Runcorn offered £900 for Stubbs' services on the day Lawrenson joined Liverpool for £900,000) both agree that the tournament retains a special place in the football calendar.

"The FA Cup has a life of its own every season," said Ray.

"Even though you know there will shocks, giant killers and butchers, bakers and candlestick makers who

Match of the Day on BBC will once again bring you all the magic and action from the FA Cup - from the first kick involving the non-League minnows to the giants of the Premiership.

become instant heroes, it's a story you never get bored of."

Mark was on the wrong side of a cup shock in December 1975 when his team Preston North End were knocked out 3-2 by non-league Scarborough - and it's a memory that still hurts today.

"Credit to Scarborough because they deserved to win, but the match should never have gone ahead, it had snowed heavily the day before and the pitch had frozen," said Mark.

Happier memories - for both Mark and Ray - come in the form of the 1986 final between Liverpool and Everton.

"Every kid has scored the FA Cup winner as youngster in his back garden," said Mark.

"To actually win the competition

and walk up the steps at Wembley is one of the memories I'll always have. At the time you never really take it all in and it doesn't sink in until much later."

Ray was in the tunnel before the match as the players walked out in his capacity as a reporter for local radio in Liverpool.

"I covered a lot of finals in the 1980s but the 1986 final was special. Looking at the teams, in the red and blue, lining up before the game bordered on the emotional," he said.

Mark, of course was manager here at Oxford before he embarked on his broadcasting career, famously arriving on the Manor Ground pitch via helicopter with chairman Robert Maxwell. Mark took over the reins of a struggling United side from Maurice Evans in March 1988, but was unable to prevent the U's from slipping out of the top division. Lawrenson was responsible for signing current United assistant manager Mike Ford, but after a solid start to the 1988-9 season the transfer of Dean Saunders to Derby proved too much for the former Eire international, and a parting of the ways became inevitable.

After a spell locally at Thame United Mark had a further spell in management at Peterborough before establishing himself on TV and radio. We hope he enjoys his first visit to the Kassam Stadium today.



Follow the FA Cup on BBC1, Radio Five Live and on the BBC Sport website at www.bbc.co.uk/facup <<http://www.bbc.co.uk/facup>>

Upsets



Colchester U. 0
Chester City 1



Morecambe 2



Rochdale 3
Peterboro U. 2



Southport 4
Notts County 2



Margate 1
Leyton Orient 0



QPR 1
Vauxhall Motors 1 (3-4 on penalties)



Slough 1
Harrogate Railway 2

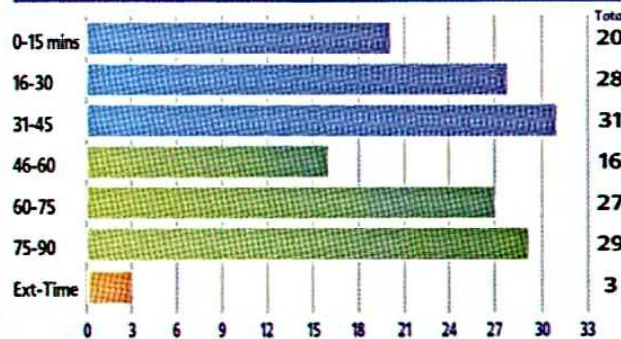
The First Round Story - So Far

Home Team	(HT) FT/XT	Away Team	(HT) FT/XT	Att.
Barnsley	(1) 1	Blackpool	(1) 4	6,857
Barrow	(1) 2	Moor Green	(0) 0	2,650
Bournemouth	(1) 2	Doncaster Rovers	(0) 1	5,371
Bristol Rovers	(0) 0	Runcorn	(0) 0	4,135
Bury	(0) 0	Plymouth Argyle	(2) 3	2,987
Carlisle United	(0) 2	Lincoln City	(0) 1	4,388
Chesterfield	(0) 1	Morecambe	(1) 2	3,703
Colchester Utd	(0) 0	Chester City	(0) 1	2,901
Dagenham & Red	(3) 3	Havant & W'looville	(2) 2	1,546
Dover	(0) 0	Oxford United	(1) 1	4,186
Farnborough Town	(5) 5	Harrogate Town	(1) 1	1,090
Forest Green Rovers	(0) 0	Exeter City	(0) 0	2,147
Hereford United	(0) 0	Wigan Athletic	(0) 1	4,005
Heybridge Swifts	(0) 0	Bristol City	(4) 7	2,046
Hull City	(0) 0	Macclesfield Town	(2) 3	7,803
Kidderminster	(0) 2	Rushden & Diam's	(1) 2	3,079
Leyton Orient	(1) 1	Margate	(1) 1	3,605
Luton Town	(3) 4	Guiseley	(0) 0	5,248
Northampton Town	(2) 3	Boston United	(0) 2	4,373
Northwich Victoria	(0) 0	Scunthorpe United	(1) 3	1,724
Oldham Ath	(1) 2	Burton Albion	(1) 2	5,802
Port Vale	(0) 0	Crewe Alexandra	(0) 1	5,507
Rochdale	(2) 3	Peterborough Utd	(0) 2	2,566
Scarborough	(0) 0	Cambridge Utd	(0) 0	2,084
Shrewsbury Town	(2) 4	Stafford Rangers	(0) 0	5,114
Slough	(1) 1	Harrogate Railway	(0) 2	1,687
Southend United	(1) 1	Hartlepool United	(1) 1	4,984
Stevenage Town	(1) 1	Hastings United	(0) 0	1,821
Stockport County	(2) 4	St. Albans	(0) 1	3,303
Southport	(1) 4	Notts County	(2) 2	3,519
Swindon Town	(0) 1	Huddersfield Town	(0) 0	4,210
Team Bath	(0) 2	Mansfield Town	(3) 4	5,469
Tiverton Town	(1) 1	Crawley Town	(1) 1	1,840
Torquay United	(2) 5	Boreham Wood	(0) 0	2,739
Tranmere Rovers	(1) 2	Cardiff City	(2) 2	5,592
Vauxhall Motors	(0) 0	Queens Park Rgrs	(0) 0	3,507
Wrexham	(0) 0	Darlington	(0) 2	3,442
Wymcombe W	(2) 2	Brentford	(3) 4	5,673
Yeovil Town	(0) 0	Cheltenham Town	(1) 2	6,455
York City	(1) 2	Swansea City	(0) 1	2,948

Replays	(HT) FT/XT	Oldham Athletic*	(HT) FT/XT	Att.
Burton Albion	(0) 1/2	Scarborough	(0) 1/1	3,373
Cambridge United	(1) 1/2	Tranmere Rovers	(1) 1	6,853
Cardiff City	(0) 2	Tiverton Town	(1) 2	3,907
Crawley Town	(0) 3	Forest Green	(1) 1	2,951
Exeter City	(1) 2	Southend United	(0) 2	4,080
Hartlepool United	(0) 1	Leyton Orient	(0) 0	2,048
Margate	(0) 1	Vauxhall Motors†	(1) 1/1	5,336
Queens Park Rgrs	(1) 1/1	Bristol Rovers	(1) 1/3	2,444
Runcorn	(1) 1/1	Kidderminster Harr.	(0) 1	3,391
Rushden & Diam's	(1) 2			

* Oldham Athletic beat Burton Albion 5-4 in a penalty shoot-out.
† Vauxhall Motors beat QPR 4-3 in a penalty shoot-out.

When this season's FA Cup goals have been scored



FA Cup Goals 02-03 - Where & How



Hotshots



2002-03 Biggest FA Cup Attendances

Match	Attendance
Hull City vs Macclesfield Town	7,803
Barnsley vs Blackpool	6,857
Cardiff City vs Tranmere Rovers	6,853
Yeovil Town vs Cheltenham Town	6,455
Oldham Athletic vs Burton Albion	5,802

Highest Attendance: See Top 5 table above
Lowest Attendance: 1,090 (Farnborough Town vs Harrogate Town)
Total Attendance: 189,905
Average Attendance: 3,798
Total Matches: 50

2002-2003 F.A. Cup Numbers

Total Results so far:	Goals:
Total Games: 50	Home Goals Scored: 78
Home Wins (inc. extra time & penalties): 21	Away Goals Scored: 76
Away Wins (inc. extra time & penalties): 19	Total Goals Scored: 154
Drawn games @ 90 mins: 14	not incl. penalty shoot-outs: 154
Drawn games a.e.t.: 2	Ave. Goals per game: 3.08
Highest Winning Margin: 7 Goals	(Heybridge Swifts 0-7 Bristol City)
Closest Winning Margin: Penalties, a.e.t.	(2 ties in total - closest shoot-out: Burton Albion 4-5 Oldham Athletic)
Biggest Home Win: 5 Goal Margin	(Torquay United 5-0 Boreham Wood)
Biggest Away Win: 7 Goal Margin	(Heybridge Swifts 0-7 Bristol City)
Highest Scoring Match: 7 Goals	(Heybridge Swifts 0-7 Bristol City)
No-Score Draws: 4 Ties	
Total Penalties (Scored): 7	(23 including penalty shoot-outs)
Total Red Cards: 14	(Hastings United 2)
Total Yellow Cards: 178	(Average: 3.56 Yellow Cards per game)
Most Colourful Fixture: 8 Yellow, 1 Red	(Runcorn v Bristol Rovers, Rd. 1 Rep)

Own Goals

Barratt A. _____ Bristol R
Hotte M. _____ Scarborough
Lee G. _____ Hartlepool Utd
Nelson _____ Bury
Setchell _____ Rushden & D
Tisdale _____ Team Bath

First Round Red Cards

Achterberg _____ Tranmere	Gould _____ St Albans
Anthony _____ Moor Green	Honeyball _____ Boreham Wood
Bedeau _____ Torquay Utd	Hoyle _____ Burton Albion
Caskey _____ Notts County	Jackson _____ Doncaster Rovers
Davies _____ Chesterfield	Kelly _____ Carlisle United
Flanagan _____ Hastings U	Parle _____ Runcorn
Fleming _____ Cambridge Utd	Zahana-ori _____ Hastings U

Scored to win in last 15

Southport (Drawing 2-2) _____ 75 & 90 mins
Crawley (Losing 1-2) _____ 80 & 87 mins
Chester (Drawing 0-0) _____ 83 mins
Swindon / Crewe (Drawing 0-0) _____ 85 mins
Exeter / York (Drawing 1-1) _____ 85 & 88 mins
Southend (Losing 0-1) _____ 88 & 89 mins
Morecambe (Drawing 1-1) _____ 90 mins
Wigan (Drawing 0-0) _____ 90 mins

F.A. Cup Ref's Records

Ref	YC	RC	Pts
Cooper M	2	14	1
Fletcher M	2	9	1
Kettle T	1	5	2
Probert L	2	12	0
Jones M	2	8	1
Warren M	1	4	2
Atkinson M	1	7	1
Mason L	1	7	1
Crossley P	1	5	1

Ticket Information

**PLEASE NOTE
THAT THE TICKET OFFICE WILL NOT BE OPEN AFTER TODAY'S MATCH**

**Exeter City Nationwide Division Three Saturday 21st December
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.**



The Grecians visit the Kassam Stadium for the second time having grabbed a 2-1 victory here in February last term. Joey Beauchamp returning from injury, equalised Roscoe's first goal but the Exeter midfielder grabbed a second to inflict only our second home defeat since Ian Atkins took control.

Exeter are currently languishing towards the bottom of the Division but we know to our cost how dangerous big striker Steve Flack and midfielder Roscoe can be.

Season Ticket holders can bring one or two friends to this match for half the normal price. The actual season ticket holder must purchase the ticket(s) and this offer will not be available on-line or on the day of the match. Tickets are on sale now.

The Restaurant will be open; book early to reserve your place. Players will be signing autographs and maybe Father Christmas will be in attendance!



**AFC Bournemouth Nationwide Division Three Thursday
26th December, Kick-off 3.00 p.m.**

Tickets are on sale from the ticket office or on-line for this match against the high-flying Cherries for the ever-popular Boxing Day fixture and supporters are advised to purchase early.

**Christmas Special – The ideal Xmas Present
Season ticket prices to start with the Boxing Day match versus Bournemouth**

THE OXFORD MAIL (EAST) STAND			
		Under 11	£ 15
Adult	£110	11 – Under 16	£ 35
Student with NUS card	£ 83	Over 65	£ 67
Under 16/Over 65	£ 54		
NORTH STAND/SOUTH STAND LOWER		SOUTH STAND UPPER	
Adult	£128	Adult	£154
Student with NUS card	£ 97	Student with NUS card	£116
Under 16/Over 65	£ 67	Under 16/Over 65	£ 82
SOUTH STAND LOWER FAMILY AREA		MAURICE EVANS LOUNGE	
Adult	£128	Adult	£250
Student with NUS card	£ 97	Student with NUS card	£188
		Under 16/Over 65	£175

Travel Information**Possible FA Cup Second Round Replay**

If this afternoon's match is a draw, the replay will take place at the County Ground, Swindon on Wednesday 18 December, kick-off 7.45 p.m.

We will have an allocation of approximately 4,000 tickets and these will go on sale to season ticket holders only - one ticket per season ticket holder - on Monday from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. and on Tuesday from 9.00 a.m. until 7.00 p.m. Tickets will go on open sale from 9.00 a.m. on Wednesday. Tickets will cost £13 (£7 Over 65s/Under 16s) for the Stratton Bank (uncovered) and £15 (£7 Over 65s/Under 16s) for covered seating in the Stratton Bank end of the main stand.

In this eventuality the Ticket Office would also open on Saturday from 9.00 a.m. until 12 noon for the sale of replay tickets to personal callers only.

The London Road Club would run coaches and members would need to purchase a coach ticket by Saturday to guarantee a place. They would also need to state if they would be getting on at St Giles or the Kassam Stadium when booking since each coach would depart only from one location and not pick up at the other. See below for full details.

**Bristol Rovers**

Nationwide League, Division Three

Date: Saturday 14th December, kick off 3pm

The Memorial Stadium

Travel details

Full travel information appeared in the Lincoln City programme on Saturday 30th November.

Entry prices, payable at the turnstiles: -

Adults, £12, Under 16/over 65 £6.

**FORTHCOMING 'ALL TICKET' AWAY MATCH**

Rushden & Diamonds

Nationwide League Division Three

Saturday 28th December

Tickets go on opne sale at 9.00 am tommorow.

**London Road Travel****BRISTOL ROVERS**

Saturday 14 December

Fares: Adults £8, Juniors £7

Departs:

St Giles 11.45 am

Kassam Stadium 12.00 noon

SWINDON TOWN

Wednesday 18 December

Fares: Adult £7, Junior £6

Departs:

St Giles 5.15 pm

Kassam Stadium 5.15 pm

RUSHDEN & DIAMONDS

Saturday 28th December

Fares: Adults £7, Juniors £6

Departs:

St Giles 12.00 noon

Kassam Stadium 12.15 pm

	Date	Opposition	Kick-off		Away							
			Result	Attd.	Support	Team						
August	Sat 10	Bury	H	2-1	5,325	327	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	CROSBY (P)	Bound	Whitehead Savage
	Tue 13	Wrexham	A	0-1	3,591	218	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Whitehead Savage
	Sat 17	Darlington	A	1-0	3,533	212	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Oldfield Savage
	Sat 25	Southend United	H	0-1	5,179	434	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Oldfield Savage
	Tue 27	Bournemouth	A	1-1	4,842	895	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Whitehead Savage
September	Sat 31	Hartlepool United	H	0-1	4,768	492	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Oldfield Savage
	Sat 7	Torquay United	H	2-2	5,260	492	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Viveash	Whitehead Savage
	Tue 10	Bristol City (WC1)	A	1-0	4,065	354	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Viveash Savage
	Sat 14	Boston United	A	3-1	2,685	525	Woodman	McNiven	POWELL	Crosby	Bound	Viveash Savage
	Tue 17	Leyton Orient	A	2-1	3,758	535	Woodman	McNiven	Powell	CROSBY (P)	Bound	Viveash Savage
October	Sat 21	Hull City	H	0-0	5,445	733	Woodman	McNiven	Powell	Crosby	Bound	Viveash Savage
	Sat 28	York City	A	1-0	3,962	428	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Viveash Savage
	Tue 1	Charlton Athletic WC2	A	0-0 (6-5P)	9,494	1,564	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Viveash Savage
	Sat 5	Scunthorpe United	H	0-1	5,658	253	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Viveash Savage
	Sat 12	Swansea City	H	1-0	5,443	532	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Whitehead Savage
November	Sat 19	Cambridge United	A	1-1	4,621	793	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Viveash Savage
	Tue 22	Bournemouth LDV1	H	2-3	4,663	350	Woodman	Hackett	Powell	CROSBY(P)	Bound	Viveash Savage
	Sat 26	Shrewsbury Town	H	2-2	5,559	357	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Viveash Savage
	Tue 29	Macclesfield Town	A	1-2	1,583	239	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Viveash Savage
	Sat 2	Carlisle United	A	0-1	4,039	230	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Waterman	Viveash Savage
December	Wed 6	Aston Villa WC 3	H	0-3	12,177	3,132	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Viveash Savage
	Sat 9	Rochdale	H	2-0	4,547	230	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Viveash Savage
	Sat 16	Dover Athletic FA Cup 1	A	1-0	4,302	526	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	Crosby	Bound	Waterman Savage
	Sat 30	Lincoln City	H	1-0	4,923	365	Woodman	McNiven	Robinson	CROSBY (P)	Bound	Waterman Savage
	Sun 8	Swindon Town FA Cup 2	H	1pm								
January	Sat 14	Bristol Rovers	A	3pm								
	Sat 21	Exeter City	H	3pm								
	Thur 26	Bournemouth	H	3pm								
	Sat 28	Rushden & Diamonds *	A	3pm								
	Wed 1	Southend United	A	3pm								
February	Sat 4	Wrexham (FA Cup 3)	H	3pm								
	Sat 11	Darlington	H	3pm								
	Sat 18	Hartlepool United	A	3pm								
	Sat 25	Rushden & Diamonds	H	3pm								
	Sat 1	Bury	A	3pm								
March	Sat 8	Rochdale	A	3pm								
	Sat 15	Carlisle United	H	3pm								
	Sat 22	Torquay United	A	3pm								
	Sat 1	Boston United	H	3pm								
	Tue 4	Leyton Orient	H	7.45pm								
April	Sat 8	Hull City	A	3pm								
	Sat 15	Shrewsbury Town	A	3pm								
	Tue 18	Cambridge United	H	7.45pm								
	Sat 22	Macclesfield Town	H	3pm								
	Fri 28	Swansea City	A	7.45pm								
	Sat 5	Lincoln City	A	3pm								
	Sat 12	Kidderminster Harriers	H	3pm								
	Sat 19	Exeter City	A	3pm								
	Mon 21	Bristol Rovers	H	3pm								
	Sat 26	Scunthorpe United	A	3pm								
	Sat 5	York City	H	3pm								
		Kidderminster Harriers	A	TBA								

Ticket Prices

Kassam stadium	Advance Match Ticket	On the Day Match Ticket
The Oxford Mail (East) Stand		
Adult	£12.00	£15.00
Student with NUS Card	£9.00	£12.00
Under 16 or Over 65	£6.00	£9.00
North Stand/South Stand Lower		
Adult	£14.00	£17.00
Student with NUS Card	£10.50	£13.00
Under 16 or Over 65	£8.50	£11.00
South Stand Lower Family Area		
Adult	£14.00	£17.00
Student with NUS Card	£10.50	£13.00
Under 11	£4.00	£7.00
11-16 year old	£4.00	£7.00
Over 65	£8.50	£11.00
South Stand Upper		
Adult	£16.00	£20.00
Adult with Meal Deal Package	£26.00	na
Student with NUS Card	£12.00	£15.00
Under 16 or Over 65	£11.50	£14.00
Manor Lounge/Maurice Evans Lounge		
Adult	£30.00	£40.00
Adult with Meal Deal Package	£40.00	na
Student with NUS Card	£22.50	£30.00
Under 16/Over 65	£20.00	£30.00

KEY- Scorer in caps.() - Goals * All Ticket **Kid-a-Quid

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Substitutes

Waterman	Hunt	OMOYINMI	Oldfield	Ford for Savage (49), Scott for Oldfield (85), Basham for Omoyinmi (90) Not used:- Ricketts, Hackett
Waterman	Hunt	Omoyinmi	Oldfield	Scott for Omoyinmi (40), Basham for Oldfield (72), Ford for Waterman (90) Not used:- Ricketts, Powell
Waterman	Hunt	BASHAM	Scott	Whitehead for Savage (57), Hackett for Basham (79), Ricketts for Oldfield (88) Not used:- Steele, Ford
Waterman	Hunt	Basham	Scott	Ford for Waterman (56), Omoyinmi for Basham (68), Hackett for Savage (79). Not used:- Ricketts, Whitehead
Waterman	Hunt	BASHAM	Oldfield	Scott for Basham (82), Ford for Whitehead (89). Not used:- Ricketts, Omoyinmi, Powell
Ford	Hunt	Basham	Scott	Omoyinmi for Basham (7), Hackett for Oldfield (82). Subs not used: Ricketts, Whitehead, Waterman.
Ford	Hunt	Oldfield	Scott	POWELL for Whitehead (46), OMOYINMI for Savage (62), Louis for Scott (80). Subs not used: Bound, Waterman.
Ford	HUNT	Oldfield	Scott	Powell for Robinson (28). Subs not used: Whitehead, Ricketts, Omoyinmi, Louis.
Ford	Hunt	Oldfield	SCOTT 2	Omoyinmi for Scott (51), Louis for Omoyinmi (90). Subs not used: King, Whitehead, Ricketts.
Ford	Hunt	Oldfield	SCOTT	Whitehead, Ricketts, Omoyinmi, Louis, King.
Ford	Hunt	Oldfield	Scott	Omoyinmi for Oldfield (72), Louis for Savage (85). Subs not used: Whitehead, Robinson, Waterman.
Ford	Hunt	Oldfield	Omoyinmi	GORDON for Oldfield (54), Powell for Omoyinmi (87). Subs not used: Steele, Waterman, Whitehead.
Ford	Hunt	Oldfield	Scott	Omoyinmi for Scott (40), Louis for Oldfield (74), Powell for Omoyinmi (119). Subs not used: Whitehead, Waterman.
Ford	Hunt	Gordon	Scott	Omoyinmi for Savage (60), Powell for Bound (74) Oldfield for Robinson (90). Subs not used- Waterman, Whitehead
Ford	Hunt	Gordon	Omoyinmi	Oldfield for Gordon (17), LOUIS for Whitehead (59), Hackett for Omoyinmi (68). Subs not used : Powell, Waterman.
Oldfield	Hunt	Louis	SCOTT	Hackett for Oldfield (51), Powell for Bound (78). Subs not used: Hunter, Waterman, Whitehead.
Hunter	WATERMAN	Louis	Basham	Oldfield for Basham (46), Robinson for Bound (46), Whitehead for Savage (75). Subs not used: McNiven, Omoyinmi.
Hackett	Hunt	LOUIS	SCOTT	Oldfield for Bound (58), Gordon for Scott (80), Whitehead for Louis (90). Subs not used: Hunter, Waterman.
Oldfield	Hunt	LOUIS	Scott	Hunter for Oldfield (44), Gordon for Scott (46), Hackett for Bound (71). Subs not used: Powell, Waterman.
Scott	Hunt	Louis	Gordon	Basham for Gordon (46), Hackett for Louis (61), Powell for Savage (74). Subs not used: Bound, Hunter.
Whitehead	Hunt	Louis	Basham	Gordon for Louis (52), Hackett for Bound (78), Omoyinmi for Basham (80). Subs not used: Powell, Waterman.
Whitehead	HUNT	Oldfield	BASHAM	Waterman for Savage, Powell for Whitehead (74), Louis for Basham (85). Subs not used: Hunter, Omoyinmi.
Whitehead	Hunt	OLDFIELD	Basham	Louis for Oldfield (63), Omoyinmi for Basham (88). Subs not used: Powell, Hackett, Hunter.
Ford	Hunt	Oldfield	Basham	Louis for Oldfield (65), Powell for Waterman (75), Whitehead for Ford (85). Subs not used: Steele, Hunter.

CLUB SHOP & TICKET OFFICE DECEMBER OPENING HOURS

(The ticket office hours are liable to be extended if we win or draw today)

	Club Shop	Ticket Office		Club Shop	Ticket Office
Monday 9	10 am – 5 pm	9 am – 5.30 pm	Friday 20	10 am – 5 pm	9 am – 6 pm
Tuesday 10	10 am – 5 pm	9 am – 5.30 pm	Saturday 21	10 am – 2.45 pm*9 am – 3pm*	
Weds 11	10 am – 5 pm	9 am – 5.30 pm	*& 15 minutes after the final whistle		
Thursday 12	10 am – 5 pm	9 am – 5.30 pm	Sunday 22	CLOSED	CLOSED
Friday 13	10 am – 5 pm	9 am – 5.30 pm	Monday 23	10 am – 5 pm	9 am – 5.30 pm
Saturday 14	CLOSED	CLOSED	Tuesday 24	10 am – 1 pm	9 am – 1 pm
Sunday 15	CLOSED	CLOSED	Weds 25	CLOSED	CLOSED
Monday 16	10 am – 5 pm	9 am – 5.30 pm	Thursday 26	10 am – 2.45 pm*10 am – 3pm*	
Tuesday 17	10 am – 5 pm	9 am – 5.30 pm	*& 15 minutes after the final whistle		
Weds 18	10 am – 5 pm	9 am – 5.30 pm			
Thursday 19	10 am – 7 pm	9 am – 7 pm			



tick if playing ☐
tick if substitute ☐