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Coca Cola League 1

**v Swindon Town**

Saturday October 2nd 2004

Kick-Off 3.00pm

Official Match Programme £2.50



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## Honourslist

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1991

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1931

**Cheshire Bowl Winners**  
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1957, 1959, 1961, 1963

**Cheshire Friendly Trophy  
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1966, 1967

**Cheshire Premier Cup  
Winners**  
1970, 1971

## ClubContacts

**General Enquiries** 0161 286 8888

**Box Office** 08712 220120

**Corporate Hospitality**

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**County Official Website**

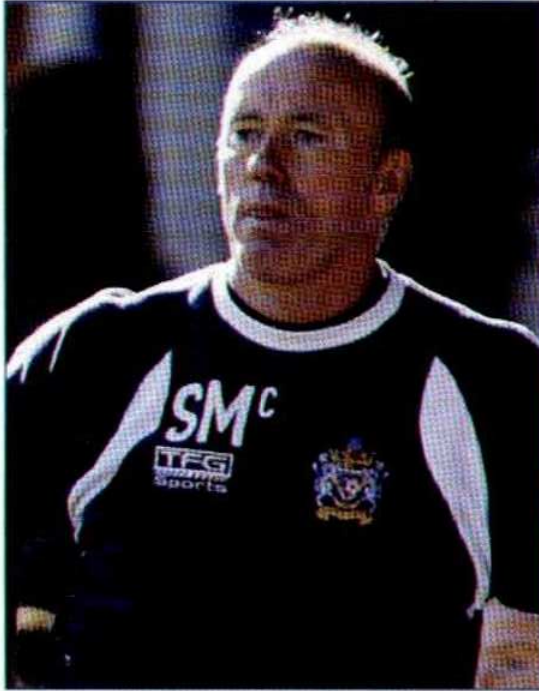
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**County ClubCall** 09068 121638



# Sammy McIlroy

I thought the performance at Hull was a great boost for us. We were solid at the back, we created a couple of good chances and their 'keeper pulled off two great saves.



After such a good display we were desperate to take that form into the Bury game on Tuesday, but injuries again forced us to change the side around. We're only ten games into the season and we've already used both goalkeepers and three central defensive combinations.

This, coupled to the fact that we added five new players to the squad during the summer, has made it very difficult to find consistent performances. We must give the new lads time to establish themselves but we're getting there. The performance at the KC Stadium suggests that the penny is beginning to drop and that's encouraging.

#### GREAT PROFESSIONAL

The return of Danny Griffin has helped. I threw him in before his time and, although he's been out of action for six months or so, he's a great professional and his experience has already helped the young lads alongside him.

Even though the Bury game was a struggle I was delighted to get a win here at Edgeley Park and, at the end of the day, we made it through to the second round. I can promise you that Sheffield Wednesday and Bradford City, who were both on the end of shock results 24-hours later, would swap places with us.

Let's hope this morning's draw has been favourable because there's no doubt that a run in the LDV Vans Trophy would benefit everyone. It would be great for the players, the fans and the bank manager, because there's big money to be won the further you go in the competition.

It was also pleasing to see little Le Fondre get a goal. He's a really bright player and, with a little luck, he might have marked his debut with a hat trick. He missed a decent chance after coming off the bench and then hit the bar late in the game.

#### SUSPENSION

Jim Goodwin will be missing today through suspension, which is a blow because he did really well last Saturday, but the lads who were unavailable on Tuesday should be okay and I'm fairly confident that I'll have a virtual full squad to pick from today.

We had a cracking game against Swindon last season. We found ourselves 3-0 down after 18 minutes or so when it could have easily been 3-3. We then pulled a couple back and looked like winning the game until they scored a late goal. It will be nice to get a little bit of revenge today because I didn't think we deserved to lose last season.

Finally, I'd like to welcome Joe Corrigan, our new goalkeeping coach, to Edgeley Park.

Big Joe is a personal friend of mine who I've known over the years and played against him. He's a fantastic lad and a great presence. He was with Liverpool for near enough ten years and I'm sure that wealth of experience and knowledge will rub off on my lads.

He will be with us twice a week and also on match days as well and, to be honest, I can see a difference already.

It's a great coup for us and I'm delighted he's on board.



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# AroundEP

Welcome back to Edgeley Park for this afternoon's game against a Swindon Town side again hovering around the play-off zone.

The Robins have certainly enjoyed their last two visits to Stockport, winning both and scoring no fewer than nine goals along the way.

Let's get right behind the lads to make sure they endure a miserable journey home to Wiltshire this evening!

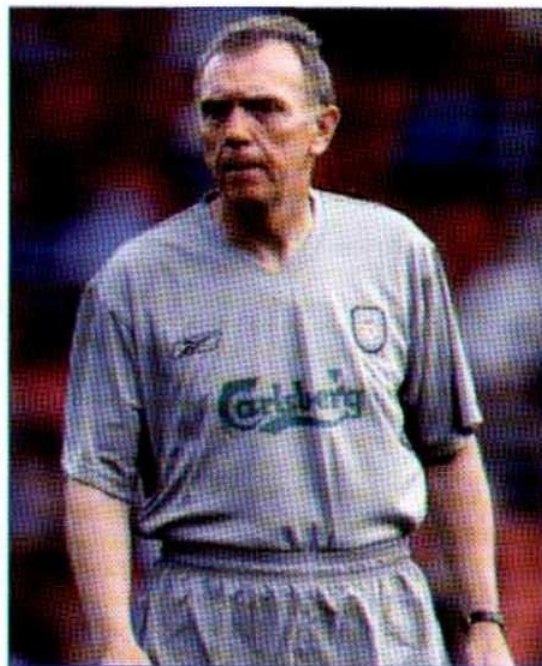
#### BIG JOE'S ON BOARD

Another warm Edgeley welcome goes to our new goalkeeping coach, Joe Corrigan. The former Manchester City and England shot-stopper – with more than 600 senior games under his belt – will work with Neil Cutler and James Spencer twice a week. He will also be on hand every match day to offer his considerable experience and expertise.

#### PROGRAMME FAIR

Programme collectors might be interested to learn of a Programme & Memorabilia Fair taking place on October 11th between 11am and 3.00pm. The venue is the Excel Leisure Centre located behind the college on Lower Bridgeman Street, Bolton. More than 20

Joe Corrigan is our new goalkeeping coach



dealers will be present offering thousands of items.

#### CONDOLANCES

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of Sue Connor, wife of Jack County's greatest-ever goalscorer. Several of our ex-players paid their respects at her funeral last Tuesday. Our thoughts are with Sue's sons, Joe and John, and the rest of her family at this sad time.

#### COUNTY RESERVES

Don't forget that our reserves are in action this Wednesday when Wrexham visit Woodley Sport's Lambeth Grove. Kick off time is 7.00pm.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Congratulations to Lisa Bowker who celebrated her 40th birthday yesterday. A County season ticket holder for 20 years, Lisa is currently studying at Huddersfield University.

The whole Bowker clan, from Buxton, will be cheering the Hatters on and the Birthday Girl will be hoping for her best possible present ... a winning goal from here favourite player, Luke Beckett.

#### COME AGAIN

Our next opponents at Edgeley Park are Peterborough United who come to town in a fortnight's time, Saturday October 16th. Tickets for the game against Barry Fry's Posh are currently on sale from the ticket office and normal admission prices apply.

Please do your best to come along, and try to encourage your friends and family as well – we all need to get behind Sammy and the boys to help them climb the League One table.

## 5050

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Saturday September 18

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# AroundEP

This afternoon sees Stockport County launch a special school's ticket initiative with the Vernon Building Society

The Vernon Building Society, Community Partners of Stockport County, are delighted to be sponsoring a new ticket initiative which will allow the schoolchildren of Stockport the chance to see some REAL LIVE FOOTBALL.

In conjunction with the Stockport County Football in the Community Department, the Vernon will be assisting the delivery of Educational Support in schools throughout Stockport. Each school will have a targeted game, and every child in YEAR 4 will get the opportunity to come along to Edgeley Park to see some REAL LIVE FOOTBALL at Stockport County, courtesy of the Vernon Building Society. Situated in the Vernon Building Society Family Stand, commencing with today's game against Swindon Town, schoolchildren will be able to experience the passion and excitement that you fans experience every week.

Please make them feel welcome and part of the fantastic Edgeley Park experience and, if you would like to thank the Vernon for making this opportunity available, why not pop down to one of their local branches throughout Stockport, or visit [www.thevernon.co.uk](http://www.thevernon.co.uk).

#### CASH BONANAZA

How would you like over 280 chances to win prize money totalling more than £3,000 for just £1 per week.

Well, that's what's on offer when you join the ever-increasing band of people signed up for County's Cash Bonanza.

Becoming a Cash Bonanza member doesn't just help your favourite football club, either ... part of your subscription is donated to Francis House and the Children's Hospice has now benefited by more than £10,000 thanks to the generosity of County supporters.

For information on how to become a County Cash Bonanza member please ring our Lotteries Department on 0161 286 8890.

#### GOOD BOYS

Although Jim Goodwin is missing through suspension today after collecting his fifth yellow card of the season at the KC Stadium last Saturday did you know that County are one of just seven League One clubs yet to have a player red-carded. Worst offenders are Chesterfield who have already seen four players receive early baths ... perhaps they've seen quite a lot of Mr Cowburn

The Vernon Building Society are giving Stockport youngsters the opportunity to enjoy real live football at Edgeley Park



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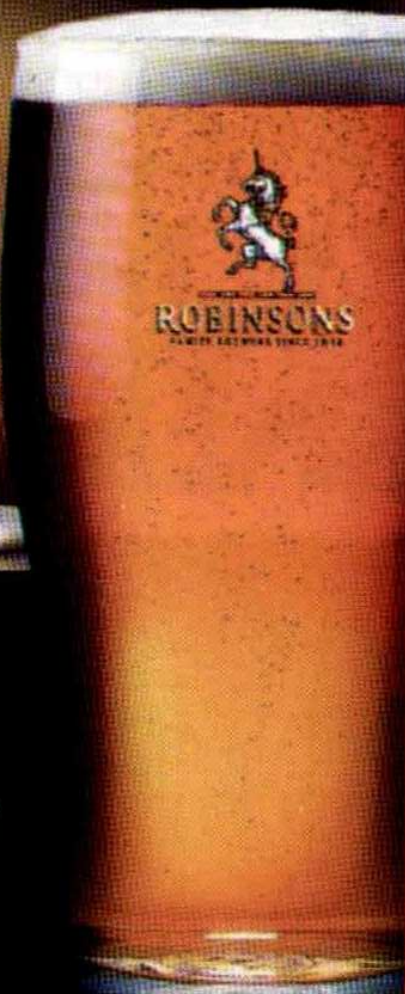
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# Beckett's Bets

Luke did quite well with his League One predictions in our last programme, correctly telling us that his former club Chesterfield would beat Walsall 1-0 at Saltergate.

The Hitman was also spot on in telling us that Brentford would beat Port Vale, Doncaster and Oldham would end all-square, Hartlepool make home advantage count against Torquay and Hull City would pick up all three points on the road at Peterborough.

Unfortunately, his top five tips didn't come in. He did manage two right answers, though, as Wigan won at home to Sheffield United and Mansfield beat Rochdale.

Today the hitman goes head-to-head with Supporters' Club member Graham Atkinson to predict the outcome of this afternoon's League One fixtures.

Yes!... Chesterfield 1  
Walsall 0



## LUKE'S TOP-TIPS

Every week we'll be placing a fiver on Luke's bankers with all our profits at the end of the season donated to charity; he will win, won't he! Anyway, a bit of fun for a good cause can't be bad, so here we go.

### Blackburn Rovers v Aston Villa

Away win - CountyBet 15/8

### Cardiff City v Leeds United

Away win - CountyBet 7/4

### Doncaster Rovers v Wrexham

Home win - CountyBet Evens

### Tranmere Rovers v Luton Town

Home win - CountyBet 6/5

### Mansfield Town v Lincoln City

Home win - CountyBet 8/11

### £5 wins £295.44

Can you do better than Ian to Graham? If you would like to go head-to-head with Luke in a future programme then drop us a line marked Beckett's Bets giving your name, age and telephone number.

CountyBet can be accessed via our official website [www.stockportcounty.com](http://www.stockportcounty.com) and, remember, all bets placed directly benefits the Halters

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#### Blackpool v Bournemouth

Luke's Prediction: 1-0 - The Seaside to just shade it against the Cherries.

CountyBet: 7/1

Graham's Prediction: 1-1 - Blackpool are pulling it back together after a poor start and will pick up a point.

CountyBet: 11/2

#### Bradford City v Barnsley

Luke's Prediction: 2-1 - The home team will just shade this Yorkshire derby at Valley Parade.

CountyBet: 15/2

Graham's Prediction: 0-1 - The Tykes could nick all three points with a late goal.

CountyBet: 7/1

#### Brentford v Oldham Athletic

Luke's Prediction: 1-1 - These two mid-table teams will play out a draw at Griffin Park.

CountyBet: 6/1

Graham's Prediction: 2-1 - Brentford are too strong at home and will beat the Latics.

CountyBet: 7/1

#### Chesterfield v Bristol City

Luke's Prediction: 1-1 - A point each for these Play-Off hopefuls at Saltergate.

CountyBet: 11/2

Graham's Prediction: 3-1 - A comfortable home win for the Spirettes.

CountyBet: 20/1

#### Colchester United v Port Vale

Luke's Prediction: 2-0 - The U's will prove to be too strong at home against Vale.

CountyBet: 7/1

Graham's Prediction: 2-1 - Another home win for Colchester at Layer Road.

CountyBet: 7/1

#### Doncaster Rovers v Wrexham

Luke's Prediction: 1-0 - Rovers got beat 5-0 last week but will bounce back with a home win.

CountyBet: 13/2

Graham's Prediction: 0-1 - Wrexham should edge this one at Belle Vue.

CountyBet: 8/1

#### Hartlepool United v Hull City

Luke's Prediction: 2-1 - Hartlepool are too strong at home and will beat the Tigers.

CountyBet: 8/1

Graham's Prediction: 1-0 - A home win I think as Hull are having a sticky patch.

CountyBet: 7/1

#### Huddersfield Town v Walsall

Luke's Prediction: 2-1 - Huddersfield are the surprise team this season and will win again.

CountyBet: 7/1

Graham's Prediction: 2-0 - The Terriers will be too strong at home for Walsall.

CountyBet: 7/1

#### Peterborough United v Torquay United

Luke's Prediction: 0-0 - A bore draw between two teams that are struggling in League One.

CountyBet: 17/2

Graham's Prediction: 3-1 - Come on Barry Fry, nail Helen Chamberlain's boys!

CountyBet: 12/1

#### Sheffield Wednesday v Milton Keynes Dons

Luke's Prediction: 3-0 - Wednesday have a new manager and this will be a home banker.

CountyBet: 11/1

Graham's Prediction: 2-1 - A home win for the Owls against the Dons.

CountyBet: 7/1

#### Stockport County v Swindon Town

Luke's Prediction: 2-1 - We should have won last week but we'll win today.

CountyBet: 9/1

Graham's Prediction: 3-0 - Let's go for it against the Robins!

CountyBet: 28/1

#### Tranmere Rovers v Luton Town

Luke's Prediction: 1-0 - The leaders have got to lose sometime and it could well be at Prenton Park.

CountyBet: 7/1

Graham's Prediction: 1-0 - I think Tranmere could take Luton's unbeaten record.

CountyBet: 7/1

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Mark Robertson was in dominant mood at the KC Stadium on Saturday



# MatchReview

Coca-Cola League One  
Saturday September 25 2004

Hull City	0
County	0

Hull City Myhill, Thelwell (Walters 67), Cort, Lewis, Dawson, France, Ashbee, Keane, Elliott, Allsopp (Price 59), Wilbraham (Green 60)  
Unused Subs Duke, Edge  
Booked Ashbee

County Cutler, A Williams, Griffin (Jackman 73), Mair, Cartwright, Robertson, Goodwin, Lambert (Daly 88), Adams, Welsh, Beckett  
Unused Subs Geary, Barlow, Spencer  
Booked Adams, Cutler, Goodwin, Mair

Attendance 16,182  
Visitors 564  
Referee M Atkinson (Leeds)



#### Taylor

"It was a frustrating afternoon and in the end we probably got what we deserved. In the end we weren't good enough to break them down and Stockport worked extremely hard and played some very good football. But that didn't surprise us as no team comes to a game just to lie down. We didn't play enough football in the second half and just went with percentages when at times they had a lot of bodies behind the ball and percentages wasn't the answer."

#### McIlroy

"We stood up to the challenge and really had the best chances of the game. Unfortunately we couldn't get one but there were two great saves from their goalkeeper. But we can build on that, there's no doubt about that. We looked solid and, defensively, we were magnificent. Cutler had very little to do but he made a fantastic save near the end when he was needed.

"Once again our away support was simply fantastic and they never stopped singing for 90 odd minutes and, for me, that's the main reason why I am determined to turn things round to reward those fans and give them what they deserve."





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Matchday Programme*



# Climbing the Pyramid

Northwich Victoria don't know whether to laugh or cry.

They have been placed in administration and that means, other than the fact they have no money, that they will be docked 10 points by the Conference. That would take them at present to -5 and give them a job and a half

Barnet's Giuliano Grazioli is the Conference top marksman



to catch up to the rest of the field. On the brighter side there is a guy called Mike Conner waiting in the wings to invest £1million into the club. With a move imminent to occupy their new state of the art ground there may be better times around the corner for a club that has desperately struggled this last couple of years.

It was a shock to the system to find out last week that old County favourite Mike Flynn had signed for Accrington Stanley. You do tend sometimes to think that certain players will go on forever. Mike was here so long, he was part of the furniture. He played with Blackpool for a couple of seasons but the old legs don't last forever and he has moved into the Conference. Stanley are now full time and Flynny got off to a flying start on Wednesday night when he scored a goal in his team's sensational 2-1 win at Bradford City in the LDV Vans Trophy.

Giuliano Grazioli is a name that has been around a bit. He hit the headlines at Stevenage when he topped the goalscoring charts and scored against Newcastle in the FA Cup. He went into the League with several clubs before ending up at Bristol Rovers. He didn't quite make it and dropped back into the Conference with Barnet. Now he is top of the goalscoring charts again and starting to enjoy his football. Some players can only do it at certain levels and maybe the Conference is as far as he can go.

Carlisle are starting to show a bit of form now and look to be big contenders for a return into the Football League. The 5-0 demolition of Aldershot last week on their own patch certainly proves the point. That's in stark contrast to York City who hover somewhere near the bottom and are struggling desperately to show a bit of form.

Stevenage chairman Phil Wallace has stated: "We are in a hurry, we've got to be in the top five at the end of the season." There's nothing like putting a bit of pressure on your manager!

I was on the oldest football ground in the world this week. Not a million miles away, just down the road in Sheffield at quaint Hallam. They also claim to be the second oldest club in the world behind Sheffield FC. That means that Sheffield FC didn't have a ground! Can't work that one out.

Flynn scored for Accrington in their 2-1 win at Bradford City





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# EdgeleyEvents

This afternoon Ian Lancashire takes us back to 1962 when England Schoolboys staged a special trail game at Edgeley Park.

As a twelve-year-old boy I was really excited about the prospect of England playing at Edgeley Park.

Although it was not the full England squad, I still could not wait for the visit of England Boys.

They were due to play a select side on Saturday March 3, 1962, and great interest in the game had been generated throughout the town because three of our own Stockport Boys players had been selected for the 'The Rest.' The pick of them, Johnny Clay of Hall Street, was thought to be on the verge of a full England Boys cap after some sterling displays over the previous twelve months at schoolboy level.

A huge posse of League scouts had flocked to Edgeley Park to watch him play for Stockport Boys on more than one occasion, and this was a great opportunity for him to shine in front of the England selectors, in this final International trial.

Although he had a couple of twenty-yard efforts in the second half he couldn't manage to find the net and the final score ended: England 2 The Rest 0.

Both goals came in the first half. Outside-left, Ken Morton, from Bishop Auckland, hit the first goal after 25 minutes with Blackpool's John Hurst heading the second just before the interval.

As I went home after the game, I looked far into the future to the year of 1966 and wondered if any of the players I had seen today would go on to represent England when the World Cup would be played in our country.

Here are the teams on the day ... do you recognise anyone?

England Barnett, Harrop, Brindley, Farrar, Pack, Adams, Bullock, Gordon, Hurst, Pearson, Morton.

The Rest Parker, Rooney, Hignett, Whittington, Barlow, Cathermole, Rearden, Clay, Hall, McCulloch, Maher.

Although none of the boys went on to play for the full England side, John Hurst won nine Under-23 caps during his distinguished spell at Everton where he helped the Toffees win the FA Cup in 1966 and the League title four years later. He completed his career at Oldham Athletic where he added 170 games to his 347 League appearances with Everton.

In goal for England was Geoff Barnett, who also joined the Goodison giants. After two years on Merseyside the Northwich-born shot-stopper joined Arsenal where he played in the 1968 League Cup Final.

Others to enjoy fine careers were John Brindley (Notts County) and robust striker Mickey Bullock who served Birmingham, Oxford, Orient and Halifax.

John Pearson and Ken Morton both joined Manchester United and, later, both moved to York City.

For the 'Rest' Alan Hignett made a solitary appearance for his hometown club, Liverpool, before moving to Chester.

Frank Barlow did much better. The Sheffield-born defender made 121 appearances for the Blades before adding another 141 following his switch to Chesterfield.

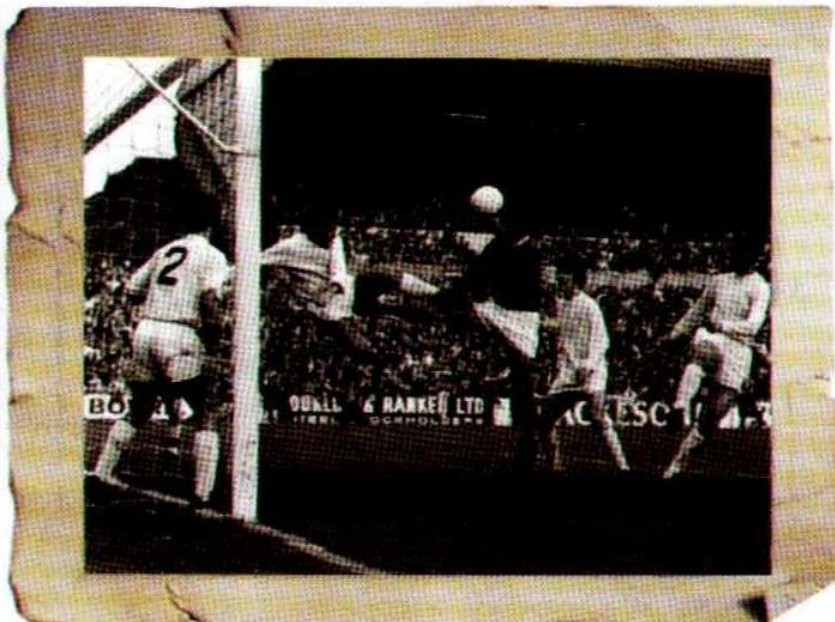
The admission prices back in 1962 were, incidentally:-

Stand: Adults 3/- (15p), Children 2/- (10p);  
Ground: Adults 2/- (10p), Children 1/- (5p).

right. Geoff Barnett lines-up for Arsenal in 1969 ... future County star, George Armstrong, is second-right on the front row.



below. Everton's John Hurst scores against Leeds United in 1971... 9 years after scoring at Edgeley Park for England Schoolboys







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# LeagueOneReview

Luton Town extended their lead at the top of Coca-Cola League One after defeating Peterborough United 2-1 at Kenilworth Road last Saturday. Rowan Vine opened the scoring for Mike Newell's side after 31 minutes only for Curtis Woodhouse to equalise for the Posh three minutes into the second period. However, Paul Underwood grabbed the winner for the other Hatters after 57 minutes with a close-range finish. The win increased Luton's lead at the top to nine points as a result of County's battling point at Hull City. Hull's failure to win enabled Tranmere Rovers to climb

to second in their place following a dramatic late win at Torquay United. Iain Hume scored after two minutes for Rovers but the Gulls struck back through Alex Russell just after half-time, as the former Rochdale man returned from injury in the best possible style.

## WINNER

With the points looking likely to be shared, Hume hit his second and the winner with three minutes remaining. Sheffield Wednesday started life under new manager Paul Sturrock with a 3-0 victory at Wrexham. Steve MacLean opened the scoring for the Owls after 25 minutes and goals from Chris Brunt (55th) and Adam Proudlock (62nd) secured all three points. Chesterfield lost ground on the leaders after going down to a late goal from Barnsley's Anthony Kay. The midfielder scored the winner with just three minutes remaining to secure the three points at Oakwell. Blackpool finally recorded their first win of the season with a 3-0 triumph at Port Vale. Colin Hendry's side moved off the bottom of the table (at our expense) after two goals from Scott Vernon and another from Scott Taylor gave the Seaside's the points.

## GIANT-KILLING

Bournemouth followed their midweek giant-killing exploits at Blackburn Rovers by thrashing Doncaster Rovers 5-0 at Dean Court. Portuguese trialist Dani Rodrigues scored the first after three minutes and James Hayter added a second two minutes later. Eddie Howe, the penalty hero in the Carling Cup win the previous Wednesday, scored the third and Garreth O'Connor sent the Cherries into the break with a 4-0 lead. Hayter wrapped up the win with his second and his side's fifth 20 minutes from time. John Salako scored the only goal of the game as Brentford recorded their first away win of the season at Walsall. The former England winger scored from the penalty spot after 30 minutes to keep up the pressure on the other promotion hopefuls.

## BLIP

Colchester United's recent blip in league form continued with a 1-1 draw at Oldham Athletic. The U's were a goal down to David Eyre's 24th-minute goal, but Greg Halford equalised 11 minutes into the second half.

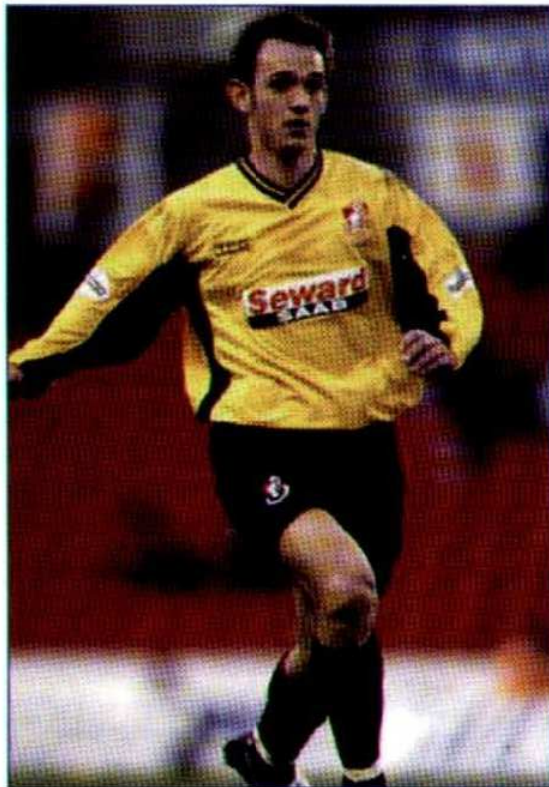
Milton Keynes Dons beat Hartlepool United 4-2 in an entertaining clash at the National Hockey Stadium and as a result climbed out of the relegation zone.

Adam Boyd grabbed the opener for the Pool but the Dons hit back with four goals in 19 minutes. Izale McLeod scored twice and Wade Small and Gary Smith scored one each to win the game in the first 50 minutes for Stuart Murdoch's side. Boyd scored a late consolation with three minutes to play.

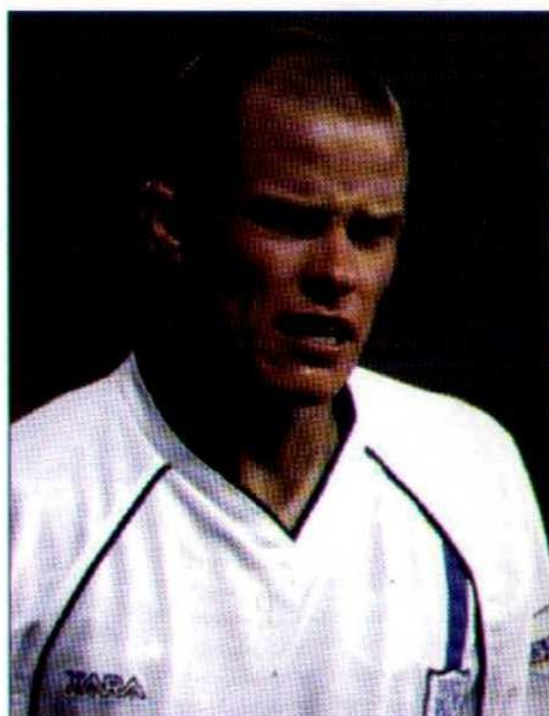
Bristol City managed to grab a last-gasp draw against Huddersfield Town at Ashton Gate. Scott Murray had given the Robins a ninth minute lead but Peter Jackson's side went ahead through Danny Schofield and Pawel Abbott goals after 28 and 35 minutes. Chris Brandon added a third on the hour. Leroy Lita gave Brian Tinnion's side hope with an 82nd minute penalty and David Mirfin scored an own goal in injury-time to share the points.

Sammy Igoe scored a late winner for today's visitors Swindon Town as they beat Bradford City 1-0 at the County Ground.

James Hayter hit two of Bournemouth's goals in the 5-0 thrashing of Bournemouth



James Hayter hit two of Bournemouth's goals in the 5-0 thrashing of Bournemouth







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# SwindonTown

Swindon Town picked up three important points at home to Bradford City last Saturday although they left it extremely late as Sammy Igoe scored the only goal of the game with just three minutes remaining.

## IN GOAL

Rhys Evans, a one-time County target, started his career as a trainee at Chelsea but never made a first team appearance at Stamford Bridge. Loan spells with Bristol Rovers, QPR and Leyton Orient followed before Swindon signed him on a free transfer in July 2003.

## IN DEFENCE

Paul Mitchell is currently on loan at the County Ground from League Championship side Wigan Athletic. The defender, who has made 80 appearances for the Latics, has played four times for Swindon so far this season.

Jerel Ifil is a London-born defender who started his career at Watford. He made a number of loan spells during his time at Vicarage Road before a £70,000 switch to Swindon prior to this season.

Sean O'Hanlon is a former Everton trainee who originally joined Swindon on loan last season before the Robins captured his services on a permanent basis on transfer deadline day by paying £150,000 to the Toffees.

David Duke is a Scottish midfielder who arrived at the County Ground in July 2000 on a free transfer from Sunderland having failed to break into the Black Cats' first team. He should make his 200th appearance for the club in the next couple of weeks.

## IN MIDFIELD

Sammy Igoe, the creative spark in Swindon's midfield, started his career at Portsmouth before joining Reading for £100,000. A loan spell with Luton preceded a free transfer move to Swindon in the summer of 2003.

Steve Robinson is a tough-tackling and energetic midfielder who started his career with Birmingham. Loan spells with Kidderminster and Peterborough

followed before Swindon paid £50,000 to take him to the County Ground in February 2001.

Brian Howard is a left-sided midfielder who started his career at Southampton although he failed to make a first team appearance for the Saints. He left in the summer of 2003 to join Swindon and has since made over 50 appearances for the club.

Stefani Miglioranzi hails from Brazil and started his English career with Portsmouth back in March 1999. He scored 2 goals in 42 appearances before Swindon picked him up on a free transfer in August 2002.

## IN ATTACK

Rory Fallon is a big striker who started his career at Barnsley, scoring 11 goals in 58 appearances. He has also been on loan at Shrewsbury before Swindon decided to take him to the County Ground in November 2003.

Sam Parkin is a young and promising forward who started his career as a trainee at Chelsea. During his time at Stamford Bridge he was loaned out to Millwall, Wycombe, Oldham and Northampton before he left the London club for good in August 2002 to join the Robins.

## IN CONTENTION

Matthew Hewlett is a Bristol-born midfielder who started his career with hometown club City making over 150 appearances for the club. He later joined Burnley on loan before Swindon signed him on a free transfer prior to the 2000-01 season.

Jamie McMaster completed a loan move from Leeds United on Tuesday. The Australian, who can play in midfield or up front, enjoyed a similar spell with Chesterfield last season

## The Robins' XI v Bradford City

Last Saturday Sept 18, Player career record in italics





# SwindonTown

It is quite ironic that County's best performance in weeks at Hull City last Saturday should result in the Hatters dropping to the bottom of the League One table.



There were plenty of positives to take out of that game, though, but it will only represent a corner being turned if it is the pre-cursor to a change in fortunes here at Edgeley Park. One thing's for certain, though, the opposition net will need to be found far more frequently. Just two goals scored in our last seven league fixtures clearly shows room for improvement whilst the Cheadle Enders, in particular, have been short changed big style this season - the only County goals to nestle in their net being the two scored in our unfortunate 3-2 opening-day defeat at the hands of Huddersfield Town way back on August 7.

But, with your continued vocal support, we can finally register that first important home league win this afternoon as we welcome Swindon Town to Edgeley Park.

Last year the two sides registered one win each, County picking up a creditable 2-1 victory at the County Ground but the Robins gained revenge with a 4-2 win here at Edgeley Park. Tommy Mooney - thankfully now at Oxford - plundered three goals in the two games whilst County's Stuart Barlow also scored in both games.

## FIRST HURDLE

Last season the Robins occupied a top-six from

Sam Parkin misses today's game through suspension



the turn of the year but fell at the first hurdle in the Play-Offs. A 1-0 home defeat in the first leg at the hands of Brighton & Hove Albion was not the ideal platform to take to the Withdean Stadium but Sam Parkin levelled the tie and Fallon's 97th minute goal looked to have put Swindon through. Virgo, however, hit an extra time stoppage time equaliser for the Seagulls and Gurney's penalty miss saw the Robins crash out 4-3 in the lottery of penalties. The current season has seen Town displaying somewhat patchy form although they still visit Edgeley Park handily placed in 7th position. On home soil Swindon have picked up nine points from the fifteen available, having won three games and lost two. The first of their home defeats came when they entertained Luton Town. An entertaining encounter saw the plastic Hatters just shade things 3-2. The men on target for Town being Parkin and Reeves but, ultimately, their efforts were in vain as a penalty from Nicholls, one from Steve Howard and an own goal from Fallon ensured that Swindon's start on Wiltshire soil was unsuccessful. Home win number one was registered at the second attempt when Franchise FC, aka Milton Keynes Dons, made their first ever visit to the County Ground. Sam Parkin gave Swindon the lead but by half time Milton Keynes had levelled matters thanks to a goal from Allan Smart. Brian Howard added what turned out to be the winner for Swindon midway through the second half.

## RUTHLESS

Hartlepool United were next up at the County Ground and a ruthless first half performance by Andy King's men soon saw Swindon establish a 3-0 interval lead thanks to goals from Henderson, Parkin and an opposition own goal. The match was effectively over as a contest and, as so often happens, there was no further addition to the scoreline during the second 45 minutes. Peterborough United were the next team to visit the County Ground and the Posh registered a surprise victory courtesy of a solitary first half goal from much travelled Steve Jenkins. However, last Saturday the Robins returned to winning ways, Sammy Igoe the hero as his late goal earned all three points against Bradford City. Chances had been at a premium although Parkin and Matt Hewlett both fired wide for the Robins when well placed. The introduction of Dean Windass in place of Dele Adebola looked to have given the impetus to the side from West Yorkshire and they appeared to hold all the aces when Parkin was red carded following a difference of opinion with City keeper Paul Henderson but Igoe came up trumps powering home his first goal of the season from an 85th minute free kick. On their travels the Swindon faithful have seen their side pick up seven points from a won two, drawn one and lost two record. The opening day of the



Sammy Igoe scored a late winner against Bradford City last Saturday



season saw Town venturing into North Wales to take on Wrexham. The trip was in vain, though, as the Red Dragons claimed all three points thanks to goals from the giant Dennis Lawrence and a Chris

Armstrong penalty. Caton pulled one back late on for Swindon but it proved to be merely a consolation goal.

Their second away trip was more successful as they fared slightly better than County did at Ashton Gate! Darius Henderson helped himself to a goal in each half to engineer a 2-1 victory for Swindon, Tom Doherty scoring the Bristol City goal. August ended with a trip to the Bescot Stadium where a frenetic first half saw the sides sharing four goals, Howard and Henderson netting for Swindon with Jorge Leitao scoring twice for Walsall. The match looked to be heading towards a draw until Gary Birch's 87th minute goal ensured that Walsall took all three points.

Two away games played in September have seen Swindon unbeaten. They picked up three points at Layer Road against Colchester United, Parkin's early goal proving to be the winner, whilst at Blackpool they drew 1-1 but required a second half equaliser from Henderson after the Seaside had taken a first half lead through former County striker Scott Taylor.

In the Carling Cup 1st Round Swindon left it very late away at Rushden & Diamonds, Matt Hewlett scoring the games' only goal in stoppage time. Their reward was a trip to Elland Road and, whilst they lost the match 1-0 to a 9th minute Michael Ricketts goal, some consolation could be taken from their share of a sizeable attendance.

**This season's scorers** (all competitions): Henderson 5, Parkin 4, Howard 2, Caton, Hewlett, Igoe, Reeves, OG 1.

COUNTY LEAGUE GOAL TIMINGS 2004-05							
Minutes	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	Total
Goals Scored	1	0	1	2	3	3	10
Goals Conceded	2	6	5	3	0	5	21
SWINDON TOWN LEAGUE GOAL TIMINGS 2004-05							
Minutes	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	Total
Goals Scored	2	4	3	0	3	2	15
Goals Conceded	0	3	6	0	1	1	12

	P	W	D	L	F	A
League	13	7	1	5	24	21
FA Cup	Never Met					
League Cup	Never Met					
Play-Offs	Never Met					
Associate Members Cup	Never Met					
<b>Our Home League &amp; Cup Record Against The Robins Is</b>						
<b>Home League Statistics</b>						
First Meeting	2-0, Sat Oct 25 1958, Div 3					
Last Meeting	2-4, Sat Feb 14 2004, Div 2					
Last Win	3-0, Mon Apr 24 2000, Div 1					
Last Draw	1-1, Sat Nov 18 1995, Div 2					
Last Defeat	2-4, Sat Feb 14 2004, Div 2					
Biggest Win	3-0, Mon Apr 24 2000, Div 1					
Biggest Defeat	2-5, Sat Jan 18 2003, Div 2					
Biggest Attendance	10,544, Sat Oct 25 1958, Div 3					
Lowest Attendance	1,680, Fri Mar 1 1985, Div 4					



# Swindon Dream Team

Football historian Leigh Edwards selects a post-war Swindon Town 'Dream Team' with the help of several Swindon supporters and club officials... and their selection includes a very familiar name to County supporters.

## FRASER DIGBY

England U-21 goalkeeper who was a key figure in Swindon Town's 1992-93 First Division play-off final triumph. Signing professional for Manchester United in April 1985, he moved to Swindon in September 1986 and featured in that season's promotion success. He was ever-present in 1988-89, starring as they qualified for the play-offs in successive seasons and were Coca-Cola Cup semi-finalists in 1994-95. Also featuring in the 1995-96 Second Division title triumph, he had a testimonial in July 1997 and played 417 League games before joining Crystal Palace in August 1998, then played for Barry Town.

## ROD THOMAS

Welsh international right-back who was capped 30 times while at Swindon Town. Initially with Gloucester City, he moved to the County Ground in July 1964 and was a key figure in Swindon's 1968-69 promotion and League Cup 'double' success. He also starred in their 1970 Anglo-Italian Cup final triumph and netted five goals in 296 League games prior to joining Derby County in November 1973. Featuring in their 1974-75 League Championship

campaign, he moved to Cardiff City in November 1977 and subsequently had spells with Newport County and Gloucester again before becoming a publican.

## JOHN TROLLOPE

Long-serving left-back who holds Swindon Town's appearance record. Signing professional at the County Ground in July 1960, he made his League debut in Swindon's 1-1 draw at home to Halifax Town a month later and was ever-present in seven consecutive seasons including the 1962-63-promotion success. He featured in Swindon's 1968-69 promotion and League Cup 'double' campaign as well as their 1970 Anglo-Italian Cup final triumph. Scoring 21 goals in 770 League games for Swindon, he was coach before managing them between November 1980 and March 1983, then their youth-team boss.

## GLENN HODDLE

Former England international midfielder who was player-manager as Swindon Town reached the Premiership in 1992-93. Signing professional for Tottenham Hotspur in April 1975, he starred as they won promotion in 1977-78, then won the FA Cup in two consecutive seasons and the UEFA Cup in 1984. He moved to Monaco in July 1987 and helped win the French title in 1987-88, becoming Swindon's player-boss in August 1991. Scoring once in 64 League games, he left to take charge of Chelsea after the 1992-93 First Division play-off final triumph and has since managed England, Southampton and Spurs.

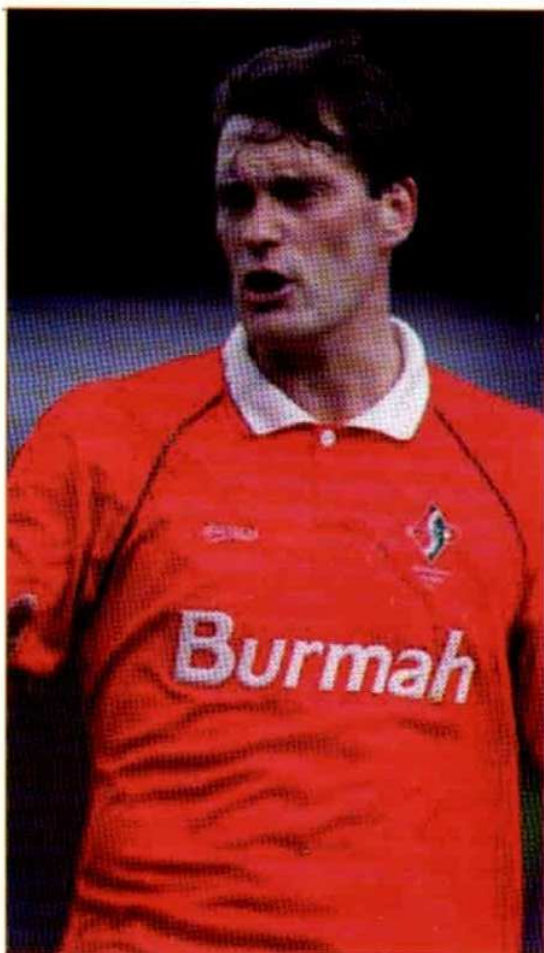
## COLIN CALDERWOOD

Commanding central defender who was capped 36 times by Scotland after leaving Swindon Town. Signing professional for Mansfield Town in March 1982, he moved to the County Ground in July 1985 and starred as Swindon won the Fourth Division title in 1985-86. He also helped to win promotion in 1986-87, then featured in two further play-off finals including the 1993 Wembley triumph. Scoring 20 times in 330 League games for Swindon, he moved to Tottenham Hotspur in July 1993 and subsequently played for Aston Villa and Nottingham Forest. He is now managing Northampton Town.

## SHAUN TAYLOR

Influential central defender who was ever-present alongside Colin Calderwood as Swindon Town reached the Premiership in 1992-93. He impressed with Bideford before moving to Exeter City in December 1986 and starred in their 1989-90 Fourth Division title triumph. Joining Swindon in July 1991, he was the sole ever-present player in their 1993-94 Premiership campaign and also featured in the 1995-96 Second Division title triumph. He netted 30

Glenn Hoddle led Swindon to the Premiership in 1993







goals in 212 League games while at the County Ground before moving to Bristol City in September 1996 where he has become development coach.

#### MIKE SUMMERBEE

Brilliant winger who was capped eight times by England after leaving Swindon Town. Initially with Cheltenham Town, he moved to the County Ground in March 1960 and was an important figure in Swindon's 1962-63 promotion success. He netted 39 goals in 218 League games prior to joining Manchester City in August 1965, amassing a vast collection of domestic and European honours under the Joe Mercer/Malcolm Allison partnership at Maine Road. Subsequently with Burnley, Blackpool and Stockport County, he is a successful businessman and his son Nicky also starred for Swindon Town.

#### ERNIE HUNT

England U-23 international striker who was Swindon Town's leading marksman in four successive seasons including their 1962-63 promotion triumph. Born locally, he signed professional at the County Ground in March 1960 and netted 82 goals in 214 League games for Swindon prior to joining Wolverhampton Wanderers in September 1965. He was top scorer as they regained top-flight status in 1966-67 and subsequently played for Everton, Coventry City, Doncaster Rovers and Bristol City, featuring in their 1973-74 FA Cup run. He ran the Full Pitcher pub in Ledbury and then became a window cleaner.

#### PAUL RIDEOUT

England U-21 international striker who was Swindon Town's leading goalscorer in two consecutive seasons. He was Swindon's youngest League player at 16 years 107 days against Hull City in November

1980 and netted 38 goals in 95 League games while at the County Ground before joining Aston Villa in June 1983. Moving via Italian club Bari to Southampton in July 1988, he rejoined Swindon on loan in March 1991. He had spells with Notts County and Glasgow Rangers prior to joining Everton in August 1992 and was an FA Cup winner in 1995, then played for several clubs in China and Tranmere Rovers.

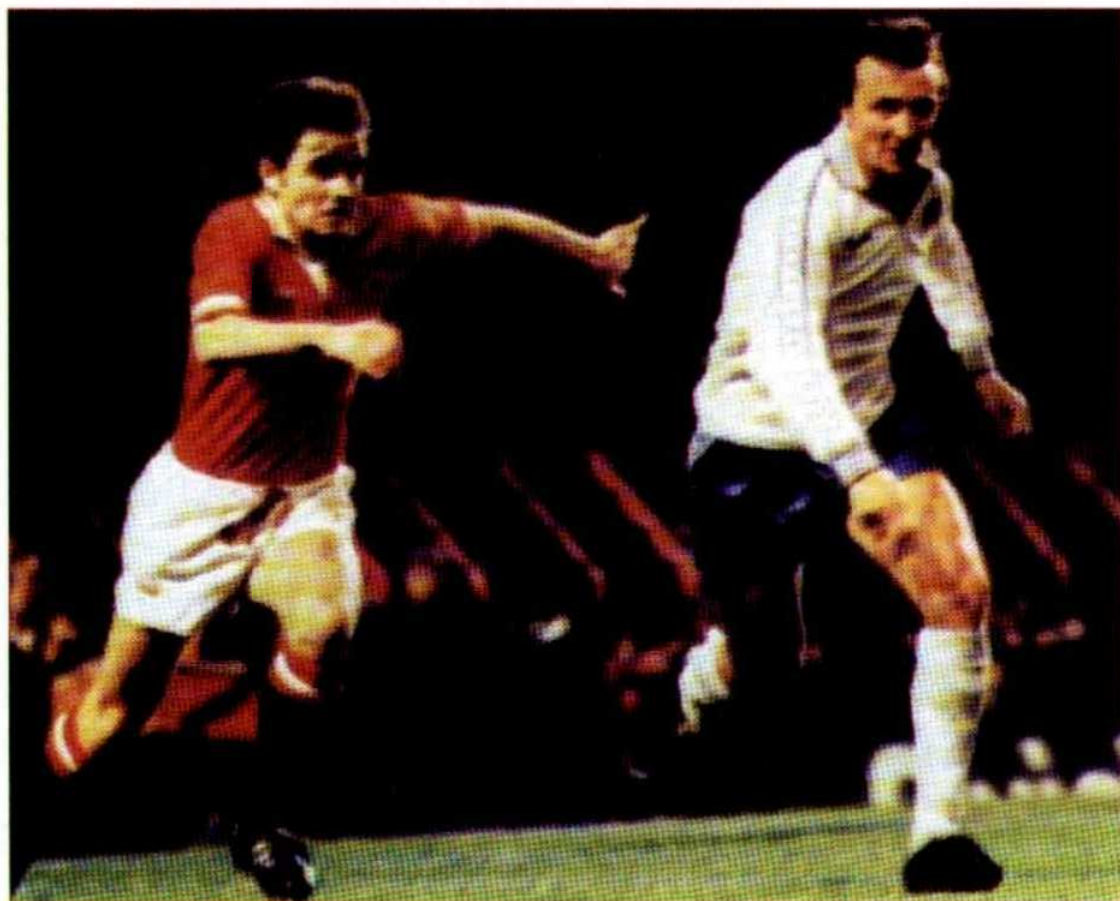
#### PETER NOBLE

Versatile favourite who was ever-present in Swindon Town's 1968-69 promotion and League Cup 'double' triumph. Initially with Consett, he joined Newcastle United in November 1964 and played top-flight football before moving to Swindon in January 1968. He scored twice in their 1970 Anglo-Italian Cup final success and netted 62 goals in 216 League outings prior to joining Burnley in June 1973. An FA Cup semi-finalist in 1973-74, he was twice ever-present for the Clarets and leading marksman in 1978-79. He subsequently played for Blackpool and has since run a sportswear business in Burnley.

#### DON ROGERS

England U-23 international winger who scored twice in Swindon Town's 1969 League Cup final success. Signing professional at the County Ground in October 1962, he featured in Swindon's 1962-63 promotion campaign and was ever-present in four successive seasons. He starred as Swindon won promotion again in 1968-69 and the Anglo-Italian Cup in 1970, reuniting with Bert Head at Crystal Palace in November 1972. Moving to QPR in September 1974, he rejoined Swindon in March 1976 and netted 148 goals in 412 League games overall for the Robins. He has since run his own sports shop in Swindon.

Former County player-manager Mike Summerbee made more than 200 appearances for the Robin





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## BALLBOYS/GIRLS

We have with us today players from Queensgate Football Club, who are regular visitors to Edgeley Park. The players on ball duties this afternoon are:- David Maguire, Jordan Holland, Oliver Anderson, Alex Nichols, Alex Elliott, Adam Sedgwick, Chris Johnson, Jack Nolan, Josh Davies, Adam Davies, Louis Woodward, Michael Hickman, Sam Wood, Ben Irving, Antoneil Walker, Alexander Read, and Toby Anderson. A very Happy Birthday goes to Oliver Anderson and Manager, Jim Anderson, who celebrate their birthdays with us today - all the best from us all in the Football in the Community Office.

## SOCCER SCHOOL SCARE!

As mentioned in previous programme notes, we have now got all the details for our next School Holiday Soccer Course, read on ...

Venue: Stockport School, Mile End Lane, Stockport

Date: Monday 25th to Friday 29th October 2004

Time: 6/7 Year olds - 10am to 12Noon

8/16 Year olds - 10am to 3pm

Cost	Daily	Pre-Booked	On-Day
6/7	£7.00	£20.00	£25.00
8/16	£10.00	£35.00	£40.00

Ref: FITC 68

Deadline: Friday 22nd October 2004

Open to: Boys and Girls

Application Forms are available from Main Reception and the Club Shop here at Edgeley Park. For more information on our Soccer Courses, contact the Hotline on 0161-286-8888 ext 262.

Stockport County Football in the Community are proud holders of the 'FA Charter Standard - Holiday Courses' Award.

## BIG LOTTERY FUNDED COURSES

Also taking place during the next school holidays are our Big Lottery Funded courses, as follows:

Venue: St. Ambrose Primary School, Adswold

Date: Monday 25th to Friday 29th October 2004

Time: 9am to 5pm

Open to: Boys and Girls, aged 8-12 years old

Cost: £40.00

Ref: NOF 20

The course is available to children attending - Adswold Primary, St. Ambrose Primary, Cheadle Heath Primary, Ladybridge Primary, Cale Green Primary, St. Matthew's Primary, Alexandra Park Junior, Our Lady's Primary, St. George's Primary, Larkhill Primary and Bridge Hall Primary Schools.

For more information on the course, contact Mark Frankland on 0161-286-8888 ext 263

Again, forms are available from Main Reception and the Club Shop here at Stockport County.

## FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

Over the summer FITC have been running Friday Night Coaching Sessions at Werneth High School in conjunction with the Youth Strategy Team of Greater Manchester Police.

Some of the young men who attended the coaching sessions visited Edgeley Park for the game against Luton and were presented with certificates by County star Mark Robertson.

Hopefully the success of this scheme will lead to the development of other similar activities around the borough.

## AND FINALLY ...

That's all for now folks, enjoy the game, see you all back cheering Sammy, Mark and the team on versus Peterborough United at Edgeley Park on the 16th October 2004.

Mike Smith

Football in the Community Officer

Mark Robertson and PC Paul Slamon of GMP present certificates to the young men from Werneth High School





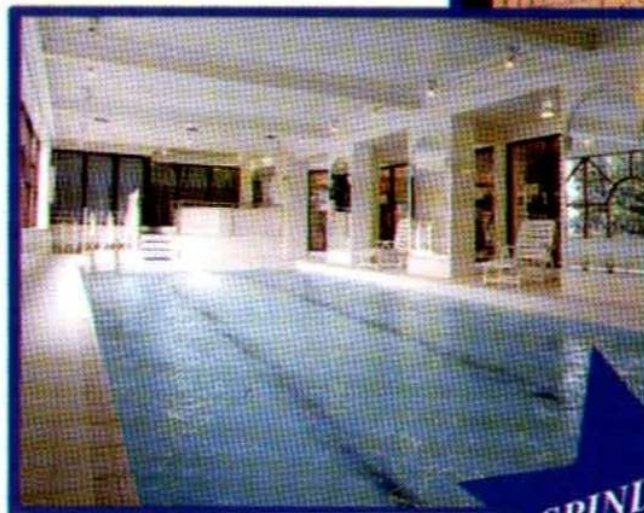
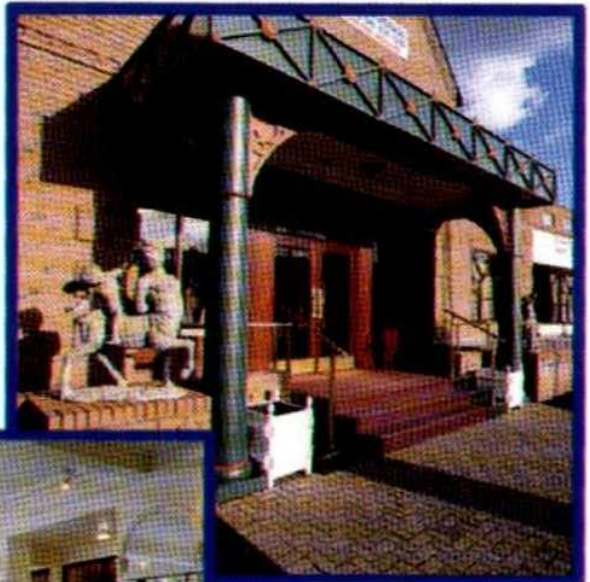
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# LensCaptain

Do you know of anyone who thinks that Brian Clough should not have been given the chance to manage England in the late 70s or early 80s?

I don't know if England would have won a World Cup under Cloughie, but it certainly would have been more interesting watching them try. Instead of going for the best manager around, of course, the FA suits opted for the entirely gentlemanly and safe option of Ron Greenwood. Greenwood was a studious coach with an above-average track record who would not rock the boat down at Lancaster Gate. Clough was a self-taught, tough manager with a sensational track record who had a mouth as big as the River Trent and who knew his own mind and didn't suffer fools at all. In short, he was trouble.

The debate about whether Old Big 'Ead should have got the chance to manage the national team re-emerged last week after this genuine legend died at the age of 69. Of course, everyone remembers how Clough got the very best out of journeymen players to achieve success first at Derby and then Nottingham Forest, but it wasn't all plain sailing. For example, in his 44 day stint in charge at Leeds United he managed to lose the dressing room when he told his new players - one of the most successful teams of their day, don't forget - to throw away all their medals because they had won them all by cheating. Perhaps this demonstrated an aversion to "star" players that may have gone against him if he had taken charge of England.

Leeds' loss was Forest's gain, however, as this deeply unfashionable club was dragged kicking and screaming from Second Division obscurity (ie. the old, old Second Division, when the First Division was the Premiership, if you see what I mean) to Champions of England and then twice Champions of Europe. All

within five years. I can't see anybody doing that again in our lifetimes.

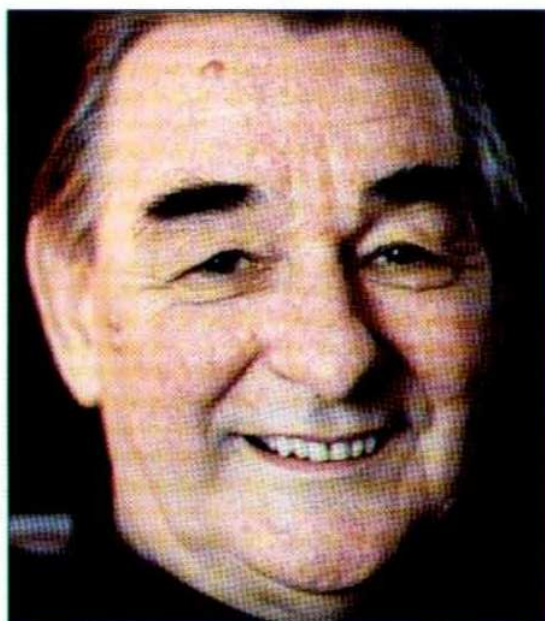
But Mr Clough will be remembered as much for his -ahem- forthright opinions, as for the brilliant football produced by his teams. By his own admission he was a bigmouth but a provincial club like Forest needed someone to bang their drum for them. Everyone has a story to tell about Brian Clough, and the newspapers at the weekend were full of cartoons alluding to his legendary status. In one, Cloughie had just told off St Peter for slouching. In another, God was asking Mr C if he could please have his seat back. In a similar vein, there was the tale that Clough himself used to tell of when he climbed into bed after arriving home late one night. His wife said to him "God, your feet are cold," to which he replied "sorry about that, Barbara...and by the way, you can call me Brian."

I met the great man once, at a book signing after he had retired from management. Everyone in the room knew that they had to say "please" and "thank you" and address him as "Mr Clough" or else they wouldn't get their book signed. True to form, he ticked off one young lad for walking with his hands in his pockets. Before the event, there was a real atmosphere of respect tempered by a little bit of fear as this larger-than-life character entered the room. You could see why the young apprentices would scatter when they heard him approach. Of course, when it came down to it, he was charming and had everyone in the room straining to hear his every word. He would probably have hated being given a knighthood, as a Socialist all his life, but he certainly deserved to be offered one for his services to sport. As I have already mentioned, not everything in his managerial career went his way. His final year in charge of Forest was, of course, the low-point of his career as he led them to relegation, a blow from which they have never really recovered. But it is a measure of the man, and the esteem in which he was held, that on his final day in charge - having just been relegated - he was given a standing ovation and treated like he had just secured the championship again. He said that he never forgave himself for getting Forest relegated, but the fans forgave him on the spot because of all the incredible memories he had given them. What a manager, what a man. You will be sadly missed, Mr Clough.

Steve Southart - Club Photographer

PS. I couldn't let today pass without recording the end of an era here at Edgeley Park as Steve Bellis leaves his position to pursue a career in sports consultancy. It was Mr Bellis who gave me my first break as a jobbing photographer, and for many years was also my programme editor. As I like my articles to be absolutely current and fresh (ie. submitted 10 minutes before deadline, and occasionally several days after it) he had to endure many a close call, but amazingly never lost his temper. He is known and trusted by everyone at the club - players, directors, sponsors, fans - and his departure will leave a gaping hole, which will be extremely difficult to fill. Good luck, Steve, and thanks for everything.

Brian Clough's phenomenal achievements will never be repeated



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Club

## The latest news from our Supporters' Clubs

Last Saturday's performance was certainly a step in the right direction as County gained a valuable point at Hull City's fantastic KC Stadium. The performance by the whole team was a great improvement from previous weeks performances. The defence was rock solid with Danny Griffin giving another assured performance, which seemed to boost the rest of the lads as Adams, Williams and Mair all gave one of their best performances of the season. The only minor point I would raise is the relative lack of chances that were created, although it's always best to rectify the defence first then worry about the other positions after that. Going back to Hull's stadium, it was an impressive stadium on a par with Bolton's Reebok Stadium and would not look out of place in the Premier League. Hopefully a repeat of last week's performance against Hull will secure a positive result today against a Swindon Town side who have certainly enjoyed their last couple of visits to Edgeley Park

### SUPPORTERS CLUB MEETING

The Supporters Club held their first meeting of the season the other week at Edgeley Park. Unfortunately, due to a the whole of the First Team being on a bonding session that night, we had to make do with the troublesome trio of Peter Ward, Lee Todd and Paul Jones! The old-boys certainly proved a good replacement as they gave honest opinions on County's current form and

hopes for the future. They had the supporters in attendance in laughter as they recalled funny moments from their career and gave good impersonations of former manager, Danny Bergara. Many thanks to Peter, Lee and Paul for giving up their time on what was a miserable night, weather wise.

### SUPPORTERS CLUB AGM

The Supporters Club held their AGM prior to the Luton game in the Supporters Club Bar. A healthy membership and bank balance were reported as the Club embarked on their third year since formation. Don't forget that we are always grateful for new ideas or recommendations for improvements. Just drop us a line to HYPERLINK "mailto:scfcsuppclub@hotmail.com" scfcsuppclub@hotmail.com or see any committee member in the Supporters Club Bar on a matchday.

### DANNY GRIFFIN INTERVIEW

Our intrepid reporter, 'The Dool' has once again been scouring the streets of Edgeley to get the points of view from a current County player. This month's player in the spotlight is Danny Griffin who talks openly about his recent injury and ambitions for the future. If you want to read the full transcript, then you can either have to log onto the 'scsclist' or pick up a copy of the interview from the Supporters Club Bar.



## Fan of the Match

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#### HULL, HELL AND HAPPINESS

Saturday's trip to Hull saw a few hundred smiling faces at the end of the game and for once they belonged to the County following. A much more assured performance saw County draw against their promotion challenging hosts. The all round improvement by everyone in the team meant that Hull found chances harder to come by than virtually any opposition this season. Meanwhile, attacking wise, although County still seem to think Luke is about a foot taller, we created more half chances than in any game since Blackpool. There were of course still things to improve on. The defender who appeared to duck as a Hull player prepared to shoot needs a bit of constructive criticism from the management, as does the player who decided to time waste at a corner. The latter player got plenty of advice from the fans as, however welcome this point was, there was the hell of dropping to bottom of the table and we need to go for wins wherever possible. At the time we were pressing Hull and should have tried to take advantage of this.

Still it was nice to come away smiling on our first visit to Hull's new ground.

#### PEELS NIGHT WITH THE PLAYERS

Andy Welsh and James Spencer will be the honoured guests of Peels on Wheels in the Pool Room at the Sir Robert Peel (Bobby Peel to most of us) on Castle Street, Edgeley on Tuesday 12 October. The Bobby Peel branch and HISC would like to express our thanks once again to Sammy and the club for allowing players to attend events away from Edgeley Park.

These events are always interesting, so please come along to meet the players and show them what real supporters are like.

Apart from that, you could always mention the scandalous lack of choice of pies at the so-called best stadium in the Division. Meat & Potato or Chicken & Mushroom. NO Balti pies - I've only just calmed down. In fact writing this has angered up the blood again.

#### COMEDY GAME

These LDV first round ties certainly have given the fans some much-needed entertainment in the last couple of years. For those of you who weren't there Tuesday's saw both sets of fans - and the scoreboard operator - thinking they had scored a second in normal time. Red cards for three members of the Bury players and staff - one for comments to the referee after being treated following a strong(ish) tackle from a County player. Finally an entertaining third goal as Adam Le Fondre's cross went a little awry and floated over the keep into the net. Remember Adam when anyone asks you about your first senior goal the phrase is "Went for and got!" Even in this game the opposition could be looked on for some tips not least the fact that they seemed likely to pass us off the park for lengthy periods. But we are through to the next round, which will probably have been drawn this morning.

#### SUPPORTERS ORGANISATION GET TO TOGETHER

HISC were delighted to be invited to the Supporters Groups get-to-together arranged earlier this week by the Stockport County Trust. We were able to send a couple of representative to an event which might well be the precursor to setting up a liaison group like that organised by former director Mark Maguire. We'll keep you informed of any progress.

There were a few hundred smiling faces at the KC Stadium on Saturday







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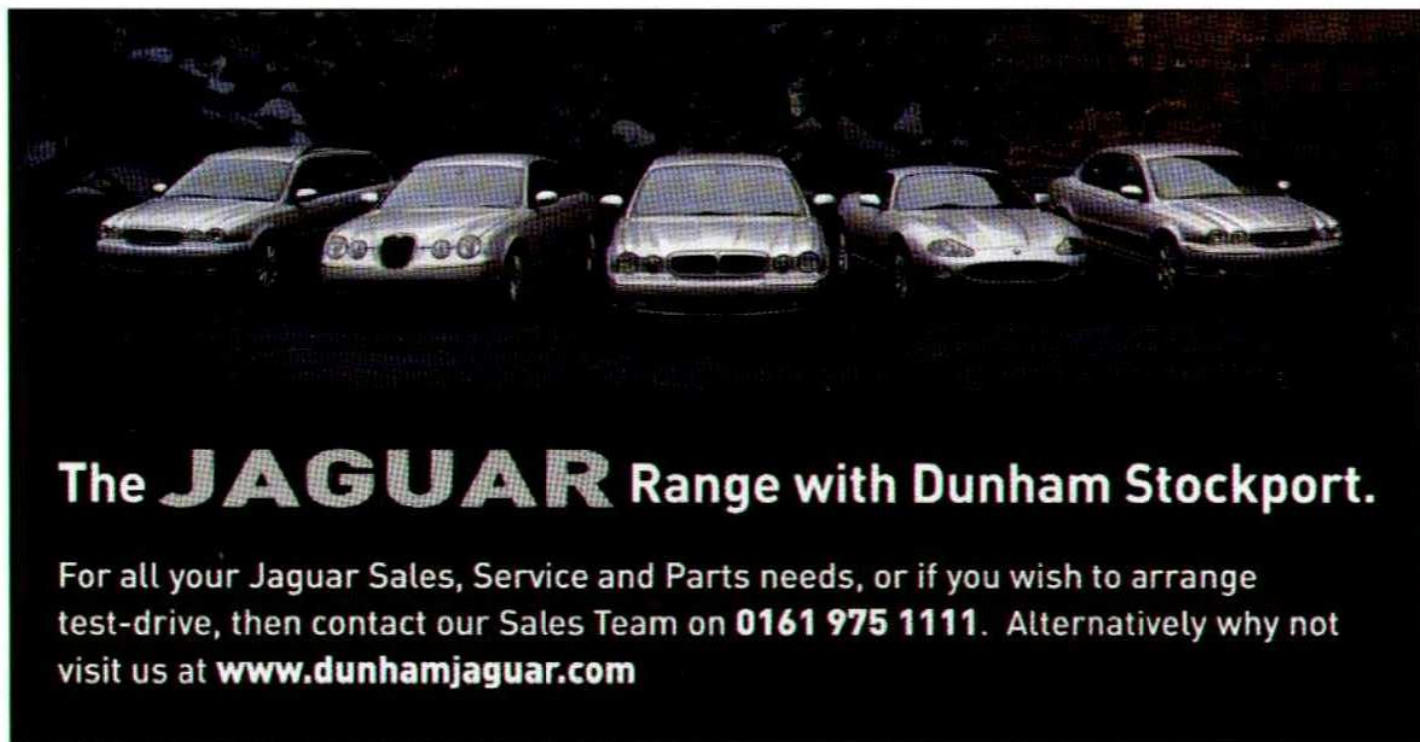


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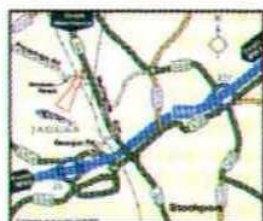
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# LeagueOneStats

## Highest attendance

26,264 Sheffield Wednesday  
v Huddersfield Town, 21.8.04

## Lowest attendance

2,922 Torquay United  
v Tranmere Rovers, 25.9.04

## Highest scoring home win

5-0 Bristol City v Stockport County  
11.9.04

## Highest scoring away win

5-0 Bournemouth v Doncaster Rovers,  
25.9.04

## Penalty Scorers

2 Taylor (Tranmere Rovers),  
**Salako (Brentford)**

1 Thirteen players

Total successful penalties

17 (Home team 9, Away team 8)



## League One Hotshots 2004/05 Season

	Lge	Cup	Total
Lita (Bristol City)	7	2	9
<b>Elliott (Hull City)</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>
Hayter (Bournemouth)	6	1	7
McLeod (MK Dons)	5	2	7
Abbott (Huddersfield)	6	0	6
Boyd (Hartlepool United)	5	1	6
Fragan (Colchester Utd)	4	2	6
Taylor (Blackpool)	5	1	6



## Attendances 2004-05

	Highest	Avg	Avg03/04	Lge top scorer
Barnsley	13,175	10,415	9,620	Conion 3
Blackpool	6,713	6,017	6,326	Taylor 5
Bournemouth	6,918	6,342	6,913	Hayter 6
Bradford City	10,444	7,843	11,377	Windass 5
Brentford	5,682	5,295	5,542	Salako 3
Bristol City	14,275	11,911	12,879	Lita 7
Chesterfield	5,150	4,624	4,338	N'Toya 5
Colchester United	3,868	3,646	3,536	Fagan 4
Doncaster Rovers	7,082	6,622	6,939	McIndoe 4
Hartlepool	6,032	5,030	5,419	Boyd 5
Huddersfield Town	14,794	11,955	10,528	Abbott 6
Hull City	17,569	16,620	16,847	Elliott 7
Luton Town	7,694	7,183	6,337	Howard 5
Milton Keynes Dons	4,720	3,797	4,751	McLeod 5
Oldham Athletic	6,143	5,567	6,566	Johnson 4
Peterborough United	5,745	4,874	5,274	3 players with 2
Port Vale	6,736	5,672	5,810	Brooker 5
Sheffield Wednesday	26,264	22,368	22,336	MacLean 4
<b>County</b>	<b>7,473</b>	<b>6,663</b>	<b>5,315</b>	<b>Beckett 4</b>
Swindon Town	6,286	5,535	7,839	Henderson 5
Torquay United	5,005	3,830	3,460	Gritton 4
Tranmere Rovers	9,826	8,837	7,606	Hume 4
Walsall	8,225	6,383	7,853	Fryatt 5
Wrexham	5,688	4,743	4,440	Armstrong, Sam 3

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# JonKeighren

Those supporters who opted to stay away for Tuesday night's LDV win over Bury missed an unusual evening's entertainment.

It was a game which had everything: goals, debuts, fine saves – and three red cards in a bizarre display from experienced ref Mark Cowburn.

Let's start with the goals: congratulations to Jon Daly and Stuart Barlow who both confirmed their reputations as penalty box predators with two excellent pieces of anticipation. The third County goal was an odd one, but it capped a fine display from teenage striker Adam Le Fondre on his first team debut. It was clearly intended as a cross, but as Craig Madden said afterwards: "In years to come, he'll have convinced everyone it was a 25-yard screamer into the top corner!"

Adam could've "done a Rooney" and almost had a hat-trick on the night – he hit the bar late in the game and had an earlier opportunity to put the game beyond Bury's reach. All in all, he can be

mightily proud of his first team bow, and it looks as though County's Centre of Excellence has unearthed yet another gem.

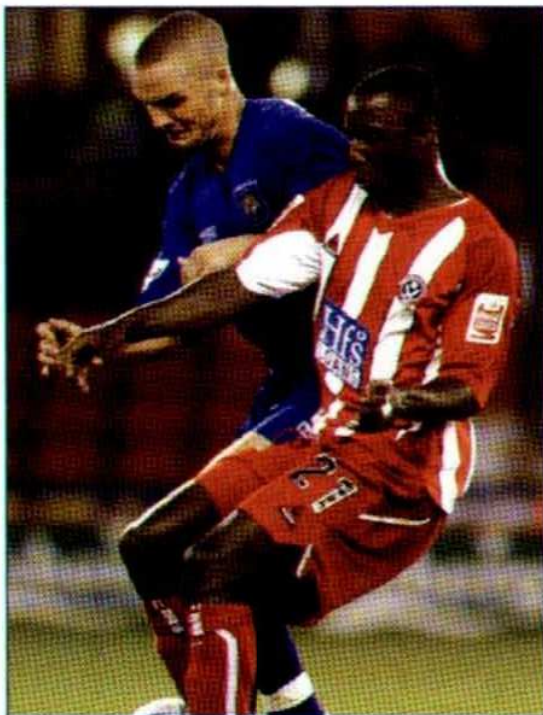
The fine saves came from Neil Cutler in the County goal, who has made his peace with the Hatters fans and is starting to impress the Edgeley Park faithful with his consistency. His 88th save on Saturday to deny Stuart Elliott was right out of the top drawer.

Finally, onto the red cards against Bury – I was mystified on the night and post-match interviews did little to clear up the confusion. Ironically, I did think that Tom Kennedy should have walked in extra time for his challenge on Derek Geary, but that would've been even more ridiculous! Bury boss Graham Barrow was so incensed, he found himself watching the game from the stands (actually, right behind the dugout where he'd been originally!)

So, although we were not too convincing against nine men, it was a home win all the same and we now need to build on that this afternoon against Swindon Town. They're without the suspended Sam Parkin, so expect Jamie McMaster to make his debut after joining the Robins on loan from Leeds. He's a useful player and he scored a couple of goals on loan at Chesterfield last season. But County have also been hit by a one-match ban handed to midfield general Jim Goodwin. It's a massive blow to be facing Swindon without Jim as he has been one of the real shining lights this season. His energy and enthusiasm in the middle of the park are an example of how the game should be played. Let's hope his replacements today can show half as much commitment. One thing we can expect to see today is goals, goals, goals – the last two meetings here between these two sides have produced no less than 13. It would be nicer if nine of them hadn't ended up in our net, of course.

Imagine FM

Losing Jim Goodwin through suspension is a massive blow



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# Simon Smedley

It's been a better week for the Hatters this week; certainly last Saturday's performance at Hull City's plush new stadium was one to be proud of.

It was just a bit gutting for everyone when you hear the results minutes after the final whistle and find out that we went to the bottom of the table!

Once again last weekend highlighted many people's belief that there isn't much between sides at the top and bottom of League One. I wasn't too impressed with Hull really, considering the resources and talent they have at their disposal. Neil Cutler had very little to do, while our old mate Aaron Wilbraham just couldn't get into the game, save for a few fancy flicks he tried in the opening few minutes.

Defensively the lads seemed to have a renewed impetus as well, I thought Danny Adams, Ashley Williams and Lee Mair had their best games for a while, and Danny Griff looked fitter and is surely nearly back to his best now.

So here we are again at Edgeley Park, it's time we started putting something of a home run together now, and we certainly owe Swindon one after they smashed us for four here towards the end of last season.

We did get that elusive home win the other night of course, against Bury in the LDV Vans Trophy.

I know some people tend to dismiss that competition and don't take too much interest. But I think that's nonsense and looking at the side we had out on Tuesday, it looks like Sammy Mac feels that way too.

Wins in any competition breed confidence, and that's what's been lacking in a few of County's games this term. Don't forget you don't have to win that many games to make it to a showpiece final at the Millennium Stadium, a run in the LDV can prove to be quite lucrative too.

I also remember being at Blackpool towards the end of last season for our 1-1 draw, and that fell the weekend after the Seasiders had won the LDV Trophy at Cardiff. The fans loved it and went bananas when their players paraded the silverware after the match at Bloomfield Road, while I also spoke to the reporter from the Blackpool Gazette and he said he had had a ball the previous weekend.

Let's hope we get another decent draw in the next round - I think that's done today sometime if I'm not mistaken.

Finally it was great to see young Adam Le Fondre bang one in the other night. He really is a star in the making as I did see him in action a few times in China earlier in the year and he scored a few there. Watch that lad go. His mum works at our place - in the production department - and I know she was absolutely buzzing when she came in work on Wednesday.

See you next FRIDAY at Bournemouth then. Stockport Express

Cardiff here we come?  
... Jon Daly scores our  
opening goal against  
Bury on Tuesday night



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# stats

fixtures and results for the 2004/05 season



## player stats 04/05

	League		Cup		County League Career	
	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls
Danny Adams	10	-	1	-	22	-
Stuart Barlow	0(6)	-	0	-	15(21)	8
Luke Beckett	8	4	1	-	72(5)	42
Marc Bridge-Wilkinson	6(1)	-	1	-	6(1)	-
Michael Byrne	0	-	0	-	1	1
Lee Cartwright	8	1	2	-	22(1)	1
Neil Cutler	6	-	2	-	6	-
Jon Daly	1(3)	-	2	1	56(25)	11
Warren Feeney	9	3	0	-	9	3
Derek Geary	9	-	2	-	9	-
Jim Goodwin	3(4)	-	2	-	54(20)	7
Danny Griffin	2	-	1	-	17	1
John Hardiker	4	-	1	-	72(6)	3
Danny Jackman	4(3)	1	2	-	31(3)	3
Rickie Lambert	10	1	1	-	71(8)	15
Adam Le Fondre	0	-	0(1)	1	0(1)	1
Fraser McLachlan	0	-	0	-	43(10)	4
Lee Mair	6(1)	-	0	-	6(1)	-
Owen Morrison	0(1)	-	0(1)	-	11(12)	1
Martin Pemberton	0	-	0	-	20(6)	-
Mark Robertson	8	-	1	-	17(3)	1
James Spencer	4	-	0	-	21(1)	-
Andrew Welsh	2(5)	-	0(1)	-	42(27)	3
Ashley Williams	10	-	2	-	20	-
Chris Williams	0	-	0(1)	-	5(17)	3
Own Goals	-	-	-	1	-	-

## Coca-Cola Football League One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD
Luton	10	9	1	0	20	9	28	11
Tranmere	10	5	4	1	13	7	19	6
Hull	10	6	1	3	15	12	19	3
Brentford	10	6	1	3	16	16	19	0
Chesterfield	10	5	2	3	12	9	17	3
Colchester	10	5	1	4	18	12	16	6
Swindon	10	5	1	4	15	12	16	3
Sheff Wed	10	4	3	3	14	13	15	1
Bournemouth	10	4	2	4	16	12	14	4
Huddersfield	10	4	2	4	16	13	14	3
Hartlepool	10	4	2	4	17	17	14	0
Wrexham	9	4	2	3	10	11	14	-1
Doncaster	10	4	2	4	13	18	14	-5
Barnsley	10	3	4	3	14	13	13	1
Bradford	10	4	1	5	13	12	13	1
Port Vale	10	4	1	5	14	16	13	-2
Bristol City	10	3	3	4	19	18	12	1
Oldham	10	3	3	4	17	17	12	0
Peterborough	10	3	2	5	12	12	11	0
M K Dons	10	3	2	5	13	17	11	-4
Walsall	10	2	4	4	15	19	10	-4
Blackpool	9	1	3	5	8	15	6	-7
Torquay	10	1	3	6	9	18	6	-9
<b>Stockport</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-11</b>

date	opponents	res	att	vis	pos	ref
<b>August</b>						
Sat 7	Huddersfield Town	H	2-3	7473	2607	16 T Parkes
Tue 10	Colchester United	A	2-3	3346	224	22 C Penton
Sat 14	Blackpool	A	4-0	6334	1320	15 N Miller
Sat 21	Bradford City	H	0-1	5338	1055	19 A Bates
Tue 24	Sheffield Utd CC1	A	1-4	5399	542	- A Hall
Sat 28	Brentford	A	0-3	4643	405	20 L Probert
Mon 30	Tranmere Flowers	H	1-1	5502	1178	21 L Mason
<b>September</b>						
Sat 4	Torquay United	H	0-2	4372	152	23 J Ross
Sat 11	Bristol City	A	0-5	10811	308	23 A Penn
Sat 18	Luton Town	H	1-3	5128	808	23 P Prosser
Sat 25	Hull City	A	0-0	16182	-	24 M Atkinson
Tue 28	Bury LDV1	H	3-1*	1416	277	- M Cowburn
<b>October</b>						
Sat 2	Swindon Town	H				
Fri 8	Bournemouth	A				
Sat 16	Peterborough United	H				
Wed 20	Chesterfield	A				
Sat 23	Port Vale	A				
Sat 30	Oldham Athletic	H				
<b>November</b>						
Sat 6	Sheffield Wednesday	H				
Sat 20	Doncaster Rovers	A				
Sat 27	Walsall	H				
<b>December</b>						
Tue 7	Wrexham	A				
Sat 11	Hartlepool United	A				
Sat 18	MK Dons	H				
Sun 26	Bristol City	H				
Tue 28	Barnsley	A				
<b>January</b>						
Sat 1	Torquay United	A				
Mon 3	Hull City	H				
Sat 8	Bournemouth	H				
Sat 15	Luton Town	A				
Sat 22	Barnsley	H				
Sat 29	Swindon Town	A				
<b>February</b>						
Sat 5	Peterborough United	A				
Sat 12	Port Vale	H				
Sat 19	Oldham Athletic	A				
Tue 22	Chesterfield	H				
Sat 26	Hartlepool United	H				
<b>March</b>						
Sat 5	MK Dons	A				
Sat 12	Colchester United	H				
Sat 19	Huddersfield Town	A				
Sat 26	Blackpool	H				
Mon 28	Bradford City	A				
<b>April</b>						
Sat 2	Brentford	H				
Fri 8	Tranmere Rovers	A				
Sat 16	Doncaster Rovers	H				
Sat 23	Sheffield Wednesday	A				
Sat 30	Wrexham	H				
<b>May</b>						
Sat 7	Walsall	A				

\* - after extra time

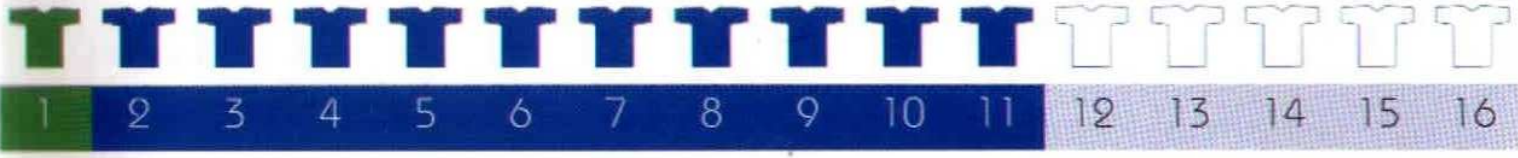


# Key

goal scored **1**  
 booked **Y R**  
 sub replaced **10**



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Cutler	Geary	AWilliams	Mair	Adams	Cartwright	Lambert	Robertson	BWilkinson	Feeney1	Beckett1	Jackman1	Barlow1	Hardiker	Welsh	Goodwin
Cutler	Geary	AWilliams	Mair	Adams	Cartwright1	Lambert	Robertson	BWilkinson	Feeney	Beckett1	Welsh1	Goodwin1	Barlow1	Jackman	Hardiker
Cutler	Geary	AWilliams	Hardiker	Adams	Cartwright	Lambert	Robertson	Jackman1	Feeney1	Beckett2	Goodwin1	Welsh1	Barlow1	BWilkinson	Daly
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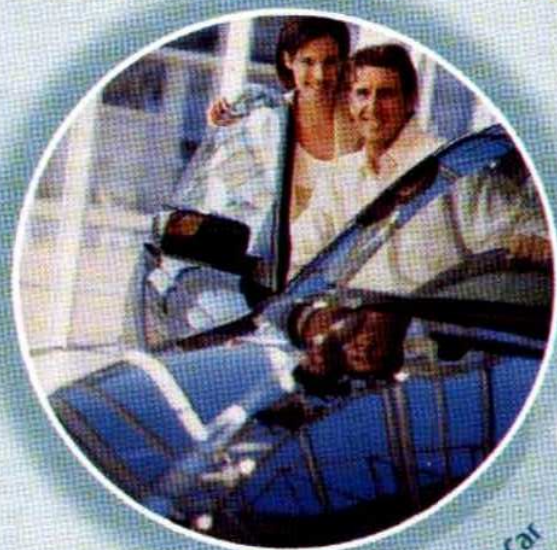


**Jump to it...** Jim Goodwin gets the better of Hull City's Ryan France at the impressive KC Stadium last Saturday



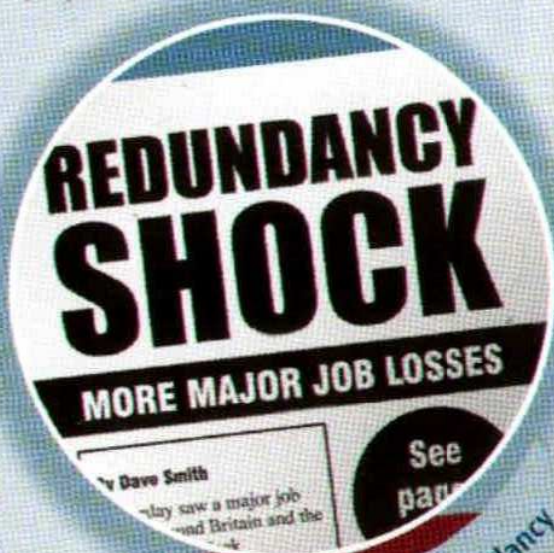
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# CountyKids

Hello again and welcome back to Edgeley Park for this afternoon's match against Swindon Town.

After a slow start our visitors seem to be picking up points again so another tense afternoon is in prospect before, hopefully, three very much needed points.

We have invited the Junior Robins to join us today for football and lunch at Power League. We hope you have enjoyed your visit and have a safe journey home.

Last Saturday we made our first visit to the impressive KC Stadium at Hull where a great battling performance earned us a point, which could have been three. It's typical that after our best

performance, apart from Blackpool away, that we end the day bottom of the table although there's still a long way to go yet.

Don't forget our next meeting a week tomorrow here at Edgeley Park, your chance to meet the players or play football at Power League.

That's all for now.

Cheer on the lads to a much needed win.

Ian Butterworth

County Juniors

## AWAY TRAVEL

Our next away travel will be Wednesday October 20 for the trip over the Pennines to Chesterfield. The coach will leave Edgeley Park at 5.45pm and the Crown at Great Moor at 6.00pm. If you wish to book seats for this trip please contact Brenda on 0161 487 2766 or myself on 0161 456 7606.

Further coaches to:

Port Vale	Saturday October 23
Doncaster Rovers	Saturday November 20
Wrexham	Tuesday December 7
Hartlepool United	Saturday December 11

## MEETINGS

Our next County Juniors meeting will be here at Edgeley Park next Sunday October 10, usual start time of 10.45am leaving for football at Power League at 11.00am. County players will be along to join us.

## BLACKPOOL TRIP

Our annual trip to Blackpool and tour of the lights will this year take place on Sunday November 7. Leaving Edgeley Park at 9.30am and returning to the ground at approx 9.00pm after our tour of the lights. Each year this trip usually sells out so seats are allocated on a first come first served basis. To book seats please contact Brenda on the usual number of 0161 487 2766 or Lynda on 0161 456 7606.

This  
afternoon's  
mascot



We are delighted to offer a very warm Edgeley welcome to **Bryan Whelan**, our mascot this afternoon.

Brian, who attends Ysgol Emrys Ap Iwan in North Wales, tells us that Ashley Williams, Owen Morrison and Luke Beckett are his favourite County players. The 13-year-old includes playing football, WWE Wrestling and playing on his Play Station 2 amongst his hobbies



GUZZLE



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Sid



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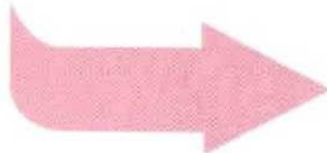
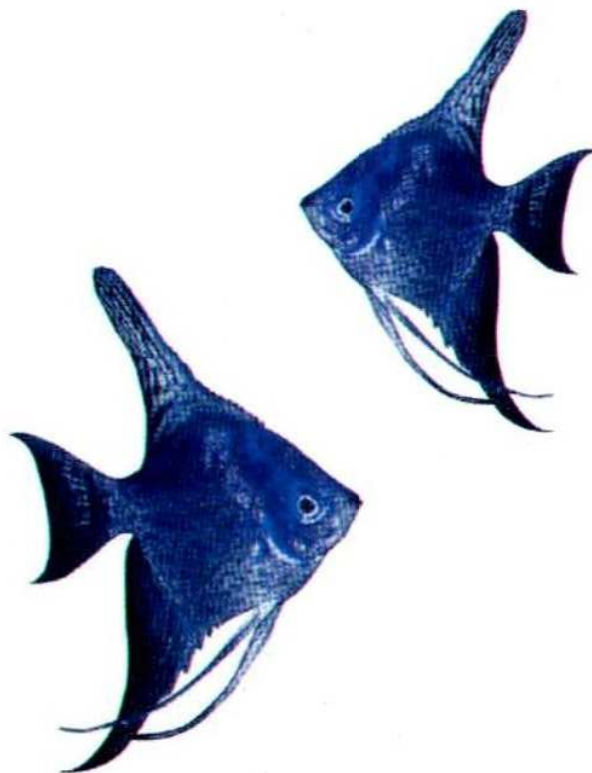
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# Edgeley Park Study Centre

Friday 24th September saw the newly named 'Edgeley Park Study Centre' play host to a number of Secondary School Head Teachers.



The Heads, from Stockport, were visiting the Centre to see a presentation on the new 'Stay On Side' project. The aim of the project is threefold, firstly to offer secondary schools the opportunity to work with professional coaching staff from both Stockport County and Sale Sharks in an 'innovative' project linking 'education and sport'.

'Stay On Side' aims to offer students a parallel program of coaching tied in with an individually tailored program of multi media 'video editing'.

Secondly, through a 'multi agency' approach aimed at tackling the ever-increasing problem of drugs in society, players from both sports will be used as positive role models to inform and educate youngsters about the dangers of drugs and their consequences.

Students will then be able to use the Study Centre's 'video editing' library to create promotional anti drugs DVD's. These can be used back in schools to promote an anti drugs message.

Thirdly, through a 'Healthy Eating' project aimed at educating students about the importance of a healthy balanced diet and the need for exercise, players and nutritionists from both Stockport County and Sale Sharks will offer youngsters expert help and advice and this will also tie in with a course of expert 'video editing' tuition.

The above programs are by no means definitive and are just examples. The Edgeley Park Study Centre can tailor individual programs to the needs of individual schools maximising the enormous potential professional sportsmen can offer to inspire and motivate youngsters.

If you are interested in your school purchasing time at the Study Centre for daytime projects please contact me on: 0161 477 2959 Or via email at [stockportstudy@email.com](mailto:stockportstudy@email.com) for further information on the Study Centre click onto [www.stockportcountystudycentre.org.uk](http://www.stockportcountystudycentre.org.uk)

Gary Richards  
Study Centre Manager



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# SquareEyes

Steve Southart's off the wall TV review

I'm glad to see that the Athens Paralympic games have been receiving such excellent coverage from the BBC over the past couple of weeks. What a tremendous event it has been, and what a humbling one as well. The competitors who are involved in the Games are all people that we might normally refer to as "disabled" but what an inappropriate label that is when you see the level of ability, dedication, commitment and determination on show here.

Ability – rather than disability – is certainly the key to these games. I don't know how quickly I could run 100 metres, although I suspect that you would need a calendar rather than a stopwatch to measure my effort. What I do know is that I wouldn't be able to run it inside 12 seconds if I had four legs, whereas the first three runners in the Paralympic 100m final all did so with at least one leg missing. The bronze medalist from South Africa is a double amputee. If you look at any of these athletes they have the same physique and smooth running style as any "able-bodied" athlete. (I hate the phrase but I can't think of a better one.) These guys and girls certainly put in the hours, the training is just as strenuous and the achievement in just

getting as far as competing is huge.

Make no mistake about it, the Paralympics is a huge event in its own right now, not just a sideshow to the main Olympic Games. Any future bids for the Olympics are going to have to make sure that their provisions for the Paralympic games are spot-on as well, or else they won't get the gig, which is a tremendous breakthrough for the way in which disabled people, and disabled athletes in particular, are perceived. There is talk at the moment that New York's chances of hosting the games in 2012 has been badly damaged by the fact that the Paralympics have received no television coverage at all in the US.


Sorry, went off on a bit of a rant there. Anyway, yes the TV coverage by the BBC has been absolutely excellent, the punditry of Clare Balding and Colin Jackson has been professional, measured and relaxed, and the games have produced many, many special moments. By far the best moment for me was when Sophie Christiansen, a 16-year-old competing in the horse riding events, was told that she had just won a bronze medal in her first Paralympics. The unrestrained joy on her face had me beaming from ear to ear. What a moment!

Don't forget that next year, Manchester hosts the first ever Para World Cup event, which hopefully will be the first step towards establishing a series of grand prix events for disabled athletes (at the moment, the Paralympics are the only such event, so that disabled athletes only get the chance to compete against one another every four years.) Don't miss your chance in May next year to see these incredible athletes in action.

PS how sad that Barry Davies has retired from Match of the Day. The beeb have certainly under-used this consummate professional, in favour of John Motson's breathy anorakism and Jonathan Pearce's ear-bashing yodelling. Davies was perhaps considered too cerebral for the masses, a measured and intelligent commentator who never shied away from telling it as he saw it. Luckily, we have not heard the last of him as he will still be commentating on other sports for the BBC, but Match of the Day has certainly lost one of its finest observers.

Sophie Christiansen winning a bronze medal was one of the highlights of the Paralympic Games





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# Steve Bellis

## Chingri Joll, a great point, KC but no sunshine band!

It was like old times at Hull on Saturday. It was a game when everyone would have expected, on current form, a hiding in favour of the home side but as I have said so many times before, County as a club are usually at their best when up against all odds.

It was a miserable start to the morning with Stockport shrouded in that horrible drizzle that you can't actually feel but you always end up being absolutely soaked. The weather in this country is often worse the further east you travel but thankfully Saturday was an exception and the Humber was bathed in autumn sunshine.

The hospitality provided by the directors at Hull City is second to none. There was hot and cold food and even a free bar. Noticing the free bar Kenny Boxshall decided to get a rare round in and we were all set for an afternoon of excitement in Hull's glorious new stadium. We got very excited about the KC stadium expecting the Sunshine Band to strike up at any moment but there was na na na na na na na na na na no such luck.

### THREATENINGLY

Hull started threateningly as one would have expected and our old friend Aaron Wilbraham looked almost Brazilian at times. Those times didn't last for Alby or his team mates and before long we started to gain in confidence. Indeed by half time we had had two

excellent chances both falling to Sir Luke but sadly this was a rare off day for the County hero.

At half time some fantastic cured ham sandwiches had appeared in the boardroom and I resisted the temptation to stuff a couple in my pockets for the second half. (Boxshall's pockets looked a tad bulging though!)

Sammy's new look formation was certainly working out with Lee Mair a revelation at right back and Robertson and Goodwin exemplary in midfield. The home fans were getting mightily frustrated as not only were they not winning but they actually were in serious danger of losing the game.

It was ironic that such a well earned point should result in us dropping to the foot of the table but we won't be there for long playing with the resilience that was on display at Hull.

### PLEASANT

The journey home was therefore a pleasant one and as the sun disappeared (probably until next March) there was only one thing on my mind ... a curry.

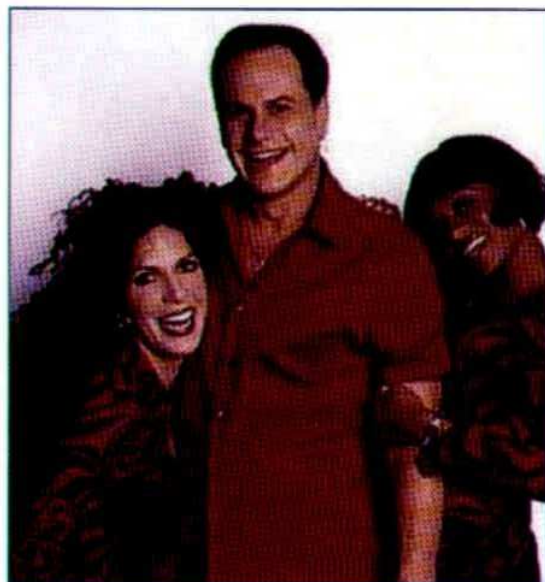
The curry had to wait, however, as one of my County loving chums Ady Stores was celebrating his fortieth at some trendy Manchester bar. The place was called Barca and is apparently owned by Simply Reds Mick Hucknall, after buying the first round it was easy to see why 'money's too tight to mention'. Kenny Boxshall wouldn't have been first to the bar at this particular venue.

The curry had to wait, therefore, but when we did venture out for our fix as usual Saffron did not let us down. This recently rebranded Indian in Offerton, still the haunt of many County fans and ex players, reminds me of Doctor Who's Tardis. It doesn't look much from the outside but inside it never ceases to amaze.

We decided on a dish we hadn't had for some time, a prawn Chingri Joll. This amazing dish is medium spiced but with an undercurrent of mustard that gives it a really unique flavour. It tastes great with a couple of chapati's and an ice cold bottle of Bangla beer. If you call in to see Abdul (yes, that's really his name), the proprietor at Saffron, tell him you're a County fan and he will look after you.

Well this afternoon we entertain Swindon in the hope that our run can continue, we will once again need to be resilient but I genuinely feel that today will yield our first home league win. It's just one of those days!

KC and the Sundance Band



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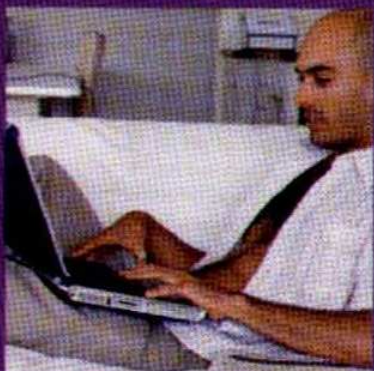
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# Captain's Corner

There were more than one or two raised eyebrows when Sammy McIlroy announced the County line-up for the visit of Luton Town.

Following the 5-0 mauling at Bristol City the previous week changes, particularly in defence, were inevitable but, even so, the inclusion of Danny Griffin was a real shock.

The Northern Ireland international had not kicked a ball in anger since tearing his Achilles at Blackpool back in March.

And he'd done a little more than a week's training after receiving the green light from physio Rodger Wyld to return to the first-team squad at Manor Farm.

Griffin, himself, admits that he was a little surprised to return so quickly. He said: "The Gaffer spoke to me and I spoke to Rodger and the medical staff and we went through all the possible ways of getting on with it.

"I wanted to get back playing as quickly as possible and, because of circumstances, the manager wanted me to play against Luton.

It's great to have the skipper back in action



"Some people may say the decision backfired because of their second goal which came about because I wasn't fit or sharp enough to get to the ball.

"But after missing six months or so these things are going to happen. Hopefully not too many, though!"

There was certainly no sign of any errors last Saturday when we stopped Hull City scoring at their impressive KC Stadium for only the second time this season.

"It was a great performance at Hull," Danny agreed. "Getting a clean sheet was a real bonus and we need to build on that. It's a confidence thing, really, but the 0-0 draw shows everyone in the dressing room that we can do it."

With two games under his belt the skipper then improved his match fitness by playing for the full 120 minutes against Bury in midweek.

Just what the Doctor ordered? "Not really," laughed Danny. "I would have much preferred us to win in normal time!

"It was like a cup final for Bury and they came and made things very difficult for us. It wasn't the prettiest of games but the lads rolled their sleeves up and dug in. We're in the next round which is all that matters."

Another bonus from the extra-time victory was a debut goal from Adam Le Fondre. "I was delighted for Alfie," added Danny. He's been looking sharp in training and I've had to chase after him a few times!

"It shows that we have a good youth set up at Edgeley Park, though, and it's good that the Gaffer is not afraid to chuck the kids in."

With a draw and a win in the last two games Griffin insists that we must use that as a springboard to climb the table. He said: "We know what we have to do today and we'll be going out 100% committed. The manager and Lills have got the backing of every player in the dressing room and we're fully focussed on beating Swindon.

"After last week's great result it was a blow to drop to the bottom of the table. The only way is up now starting with three points today."





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# Continental County

Former county youth starlet Zhang Xiaobin has returned to China.

The 19-year-old, who is due on trial at PSV Eindhoven, has decided to return to his native land to get some match practice before returning for trials in Europe. Xiaobin burst onto the Edgeley Park scene in October 2001 when he arrived as part of a group of under-privileged youngsters from China. Former County player Paul Jones was the first to spot his talent and before long he was training with the centre of excellence where Nigel Deeley confirmed the boy's ability.

As he was already officially on the books of then Chinese First division club Shaanxi Guoli County had to seek permission for Xiaobin to return to the UK on a two-year youth development programme. This was agreed and the Chinese youngster soon became a popular member of the youth team ranks at County. During his time at the club he soon picked up the language thanks to support and excellent teaching from Ridge Danvers College and, in August of 2003, he returned to the Far East with the youth team for a two-game tour of Urumqi in North Western China.

#### HERO'S WELCOME

Xiaobin received a hero's welcome in Urumqi and has become extremely well known throughout China, as have the club. During the two games Xiaobin scored a great goal and also created one or two for his team mates to the delight of the watching scouts. Whilst the players were in Beijing waiting to return home, Xiaobin received the news that he had been selected to train with the 2004 Chinese Olympic squad.

As a result of his call up Xiaobin couldn't return to England with his team mates, instead he flew south in China to join up with the squad.

Although too young for the 2004 squad, which operates at Under-23 level, Xiaobin was told that he would be monitored with a view to him joining the 2008 squad in Beijing.

#### FOUR-MATCH TOUR

In May of this year Xiaobin joined the County first team for their four-match tour of China. He achieved one of his dreams by playing with the senior team in the opening three games, but then emotion got the better of him. Xiaobin couldn't face travelling to Urumqi for the last leg of the tour knowing he would then have to say his goodbyes as his time at County had come to an end.

Instead he stayed in Beijing and said a brief and tearful farewell before returning to see his family. The talented youngster then returned to Europe to join Belgian club Westerlo on trial. He made an instant impact and scored a great goal in front of the watching PSV Eindhoven scouts. Sadly he also picked up an injury and his trial was put on hold.

He has now returned to China to get fit and play some competitive fixtures before returning for trials in Europe. Xiaobin's main dream though remains the same, to play for Stockport County at Edgeley Park.

We will of course update you on his progress.

Zhang Xiaobin fulfilled a dream when he played for our first team in China







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Bruce Desmond  
Date of Birth  
June 14th 1988  
Hometown  
Preston  
Nickname  
Brucey  
Position  
Right midfield  
Any schoolboy representative  
honours  
Preston Boys, Lancashire  
Boys

## Strengths

Pace, crossing, shooting

## Weaknesses

Heading, communication

Club supported as a kid

Manchester United

## Heroes

Eric Cantona

Biggest joker at County

James Wonfor

Best tunes

Nelly, Chingy

Best films

Godfather, Rocky

Hobbies

Music, golf

In 5 years I'll be ...

A professional footballer

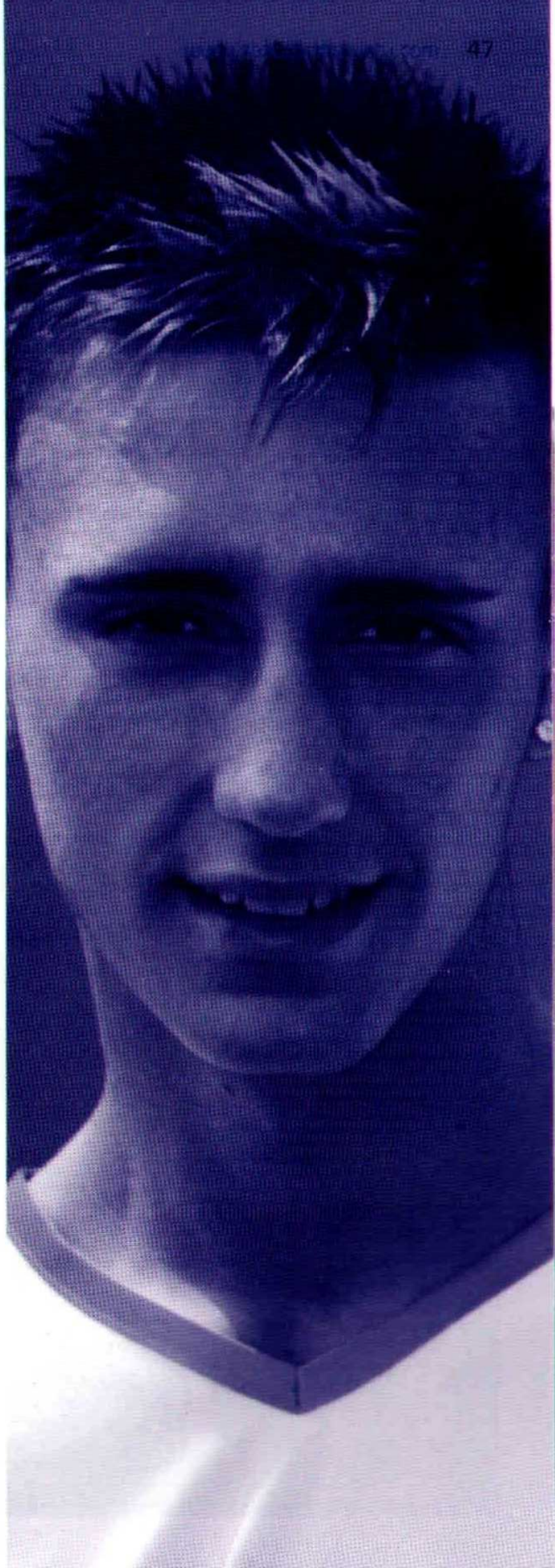


## Heroes

Eric Cantona

## Joker

James Wonfor





# On This Day in History

275 days into 2004, 90 days until 2005, 84 days until Christmas Day

And exactly eight years since Dave Jones' men marched into the east end of London and beat Millwall in their own back yard.

The 1996-97 season had started poorly and, after six games, the Hatters were languishing in 23rd place with just two points on the board.

Rumours were rife that if County failed to beat Plymouth Argyle in their seventh game Jones would be sacked.

The Pilgrims were beaten. Jones stayed. County were on the march.

The following game County beat Sheffield United in the Coca-Cola Cup then beat York City at Bootham Crescent thanks to a couple of Brett Angell goals.

A wonderful 5-2 victory at Bramall Lane in the Coca-Cola second leg and a 2-1 EP victory over Gillingham then made it five wins on the bounce for resurgent County.

Jones had a full-strength squad to chose from when his side travelled to face promotion-chasing Millwall on Tuesday, October 2nd, 1996.

And the 223 County fans that made the long midweek journey will all tell you that the performance was, arguably, the Hatters best ever

away from Edgeley Park in living memory.

Okay, the scoreline suggests a close game. Don't you believe it. The Lions were simply outclassed by a County side oozed confidence and quality. Kieron Durkan grabbed his first Hatters goal when he prodded home Brett Angell's left-wing cross at the far post on 24 minutes.

And although Anton Rogan equalised with a 25-yard bolt-out-of-the-blue four minutes later two goals from Alun Armstrong and Jim Gannon after the break underlined County's superiority.

Chris Marsden provided the cross for Armstrong to head County back in front on the hour with Gannon grabbing his 50th Hatters goal, from close range after Tim Carter had failed to hold Tom Bennett's shot, three minutes later.

Millwall were now chasing shadows and the visitors, wearing their black and white strip, almost grabbed a fourth goal but Durkan's pile-driver bounced to safety off the underside of the bar with Carter in the home goal hopelessly beaten.

Had that shot gone in there was a feeling that County could have gone on to beat their record away win - 7-1 at Bradford City in 1965.

As it happened, though, Millwall, amazingly, restored parity with two goals in three minutes. Rogan added his second on 71 minutes, a header from Bobby Bowry's well-flighted free kick, with substitute Paul Hartley volleying past Paul Jones from the left side of the penalty area for the equaliser.

With the home fans creating a quite superb atmosphere lesser sides would have buckled. Not the class of 1996-97, though. They weathered the storm and got their slick passing football going again.

And they were rewarded in the final minute when Armstrong side-footed the winner after man-of-the-match Bennett had carved open the Lions' defence with a superb run down the right.

After the game Dave Jones said: "Rodger [Wylde] turned to me after 20 minutes and said that we'd put about 17 quality crosses into the box and that's something we keep working on.

"We are doing alright but we've won nothing yet. We need another 70 or 80 points.

"Alun's second goal was a great time to score!" Jones' assessment was spot on. Over the next 36 games County amassed 72 points to take their tally to 82, which secured promotion to the second tier of English football for the first time in 60 years.

The County team on that memorable night at the New Den was Paul Jones; Sean Connelly, Mike Flynn, Jim Gannon, Lee Todd; Kieron Durkan, Tom Bennett, Chris Marsden, John Jeffers; Brett Angell, Alun Armstrong.

Unused Subs Tony Dinning, Damon Searle.

Tom Bennett created Alun Armstrong's winner at Millwall on this day in 1996





## Division Two October 2nd 1996

Team	PL	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1 Brentford	10	7	3	0	21	10	24
2 Crewe Alexandra	10	6	1	3	16	11	19
3 Watford	10	6	1	3	10	8	19
4 Chesterfield	10	6	1	3	8	7	19
5 Bury	10	5	3	2	14	9	18
6 Millwall	10	5	2	3	20	15	17
7 Wrexham	9	4	4	1	12	9	16
8 Shrewsbury Town	10	4	4	2	11	10	16
9 Bristol Rovers	10	4	3	3	10	9	15
10 Stockport County	10	4	2	4	12	12	14
11 Bristol City	10	4	1	5	19	17	13
12 Burnley	10	4	1	5	12	13	13

Yellow Cards Tom Bennett (foul on Tony Witter)  
 Red Cards None  
 Attendance 7,537  
 Referee Mr C Wilkes, Gloucester

On the same night County were winning in London this afternoon's opponents, Swindon Town, lost 2-1 at Bradford City to leave them in 16th place in the First Division after winning promotion the previous season.

Going further back to 1937, October 2nd, was also the date of a quite fantastic victory over Tottenham Hotspur.

County had started their campaign in the old Second Division in fine style and, in their previous home game, had beaten Manchester United 1-0. Hopes of sending Spurs home empty handed, though, soon receded when the visitors opened up a 2-0 lead.

But the Hatters hit back, and how. Goals from Fred Jenkinson - the only one he scored in 295 County games - and Joe Taylor levelled the scores.

Then Billy Titterton sent the 19,069 attendance into raptures with a dramatic winner.

## County's results on September 18

Season	Opponents	Competition	Venue	Score
1999-00	Walsall	Division One	A	2-1
1996-97	Millwall	Division Two	A	4-3
1993-94	Bournemouth	Division Two	A	1-1
1989-90	Q P R	League Cup	H	0-0
1987-88	Cardiff City	Division Four	H	0-1
1982-83	Port Vale	Division Four	A	3-2
1979-80	Darlington	Division Four	A	0-3
1965-66	Colchester United	Division Four	A	2-3
1961-62	Darlington	Division Four	A	0-3
1954-55	York City	Division Three North	A	0-4
1948-49	Hartlepool United	Division Three North	A	0-0
1937-38	Tottenham Hotspur	Division Two	H	3-2
1926-27	Rochdale	Division Three North	H	3-0
1920-21	Bury	Division Two	A	1-1
1909-10	Gainsborough Trinity	Division Two	H	3-0

## thefacts

- 1792 Baptist Missionary Society forms in London.
- 1910 The first collision between two aircrafts occurs in Milan.
- 1935 Italy invades Abyssinia
- 1950 The comic strip "Peanuts" first appears in nine newspapers
- 1955 "Alfred Hitchcock Presents" premieres.
- 1968 More than 25 people die during a gun battle in Mexico City just 10 days before the Olympics Games are due to begin.
- 1983 Neil Kinnock becomes the new leader of the Labour party, with Roy Hattersley joining him as deputy.
- 1984 Three astronauts return to America after a record 237 days in orbit.
- 1986 Sikhs attempt to assassinate Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.
- 1988 Police break up a disturbance between Mike Tyson and Robin Givens.



## thefacts

- Top Of The Pops On This Day
- 1964 I'm Into Something Good - Herman's Hermits
- 1969 Bad Moon Rising - Creedence Clearwater Revival
- 1974 Kung Fu Fighting - Carl Douglas
- 1979 Message In A Bottle - Police
- 1984 I Just Called To Say I Love You - Stevie Wonder
- 1989 Ride On Time - Black Box
- 1994 Saturday Night - Whigfield
- 1999 Blue - Eiffel 65

## Birthdays Today

- 1904 Novelist Graham Greene
- 1921 Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury
- 1929 Actor Moses Gunn
- 1939 Cosmonaut Yuri N Glazkov
- 1945 Singer Neil Tennant (Pet Shop Boys)
- 1945 Singer/songwriter Don McLean
- 1951 Sting
- 1961 Phil Oakey (Human League)
- 1962 Actor Esai Morales
- 1965 Actress Jill Powell
- 1970 Actress Kelly Ripa
- 1971 Singer Renee Darwich ("Tiffany")

## Died On This Day

- 1780 British Major John Andre
- 1962 Actor Frank Lovejoy
- 1973 Actor Paul Hartman
- 1985 Actor George Savalas
- 1985 Actor Rock Hudson
- 1985 Actor Sidney Clute





# UpClose&Personal

Following the departure of Aaron Wilbraham to Hull City, Andy Welsh is now one of our longest-serving players.

We caught up with the Scottish Under-19 international earlier this week to talk to him about all things Stockport County. Here's what he had to say.

Now Alby's gone are you the longest serving player at the club?

I think Jon Daly and Fraser McLachlan have been here a bit longer than I have. I think Jon Daly is the longest serving player at the club now.

Talk us through that memorable FA Youth Cup run in 2001?

I've got some great memories. I scored against Spurs from a free kick and I really enjoyed the game, there was a great atmosphere at Edgeley Park on the night. Then we went to Anfield and got beat 3-1 but we had some good chances and we could have won. I think we took around 2,000 fans and you could hear them chanting from the Kop - it was unbelievable.

Who was the best player you've played with at youth level?

To be honest everyone I've played in the youth team with and the ones here now are here for a reason, and that's obviously because they've got a bit of talent. It's difficult to say who is the best. Obviously Rob Clare will stand out because he's been in the England Under-21 set-up, Jon Daly as well because he's been involved with Ireland. I rate Fraser McLachlan highly, though; he did a great job for the youth team.

Who's been the biggest influence for you at youth level?

I think at youth level it has to be Nigel Deeley when he was the youth team manager. I have to give Craig Madden a mention as well because he was the reserve team manager at the time and they both worked really well together. It's unfortunate that Nige had to go, I was really disappointed when he went because as a coach for me he was different class.

Does talk of you moving to Blackburn or Sunderland make it unsettling for you or does it work the other way?

It has been unsettling for me because I haven't been playing and sometimes you get thinking am I not playing because of what's going on or is it because the manager wants to go with something different.

People have criticised your final ball. What are your thoughts?

It's something I'm working on because I can definitely improve it.

Are you aware that you give the fans a lift when you're on the ball?

I think attacking players are always going to get the crowd going. The County fans have always given me a lift as well because they've been right behind me ever since I made my debut.

Should you score more goals?

Overall I'm disappointed with what I've produced in the first team here. If I look at the teams I've been playing in they've always been fighting relegation so I've had to hold back a little more and help the team rather than think of myself. I used to score a lot of goals but they seem to have dried up. I got two in four pre-season in four games so I know I can still do it.

Who was your toughest opponent in Division One?

When we played at West Brom on New Year's Day 2002 I was up against a right wing-back, Igor Balis, and at that moment in time I wasn't strong enough to compete against him.

How do you assess the first-team managers you've played under?

I think it would be hard to disregard Andy Kilner because he gave me my first chance. Carlton Palmer definitely wasn't good for me, though, because I never really got a chance.

The new Gaffer told me at Brighton last season that he was going to give me a long run in the side which, to be fair to him, he did. I was grateful for that because it's difficult to build confidence if you're taken out of the team after one or two games. Giving me a block of games made me more than confident and I was pleased with the number of games I played last season. I thought I did well at Hull last Saturday but I need to kick on now.

What was your loan spell at Macclesfield like?

I enjoyed it at Macclesfield because I played on the right and that gave me the opportunity to cut in and I managed to score a couple of goals. Dave Moss also played a defender behind me so I could attack a lot more, and that helped.

Who's your best mate at County?

Michael Byrne.

Does he have any bad habits?

Too many to mention!

Are you still the best runner at the club?

Well it's debatable, Fraser's still hanging in there.

Who is the worst dresser?

To be fair there's only one, Luke Beckett. He's got these jeans and he thinks he's amazing in them.









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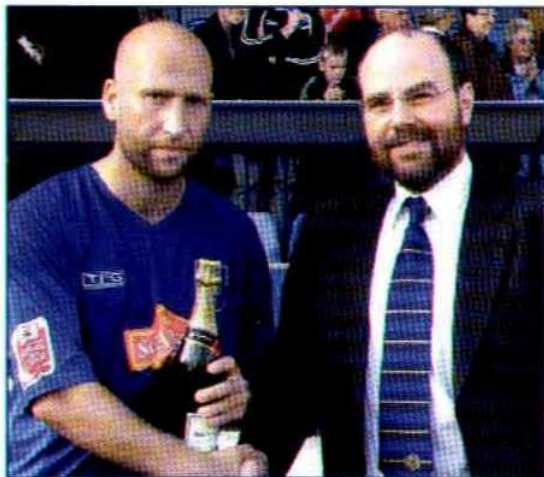




# Commercial County

A look at some of the companies involved in this afternoon's game

Parfett's Cash & Carry Managing Director, Steve Parfett, presents Danny Adams with a bottle of champagne for his man-of-the-match performance against Luton Town in our last home game



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So if you work at a local business speak to the man who makes the decisions, everyone can benefit and indirectly you are helping your company do some networking and raising valuable funds for the club. We can all make a difference and help the club prosper on and off the field.

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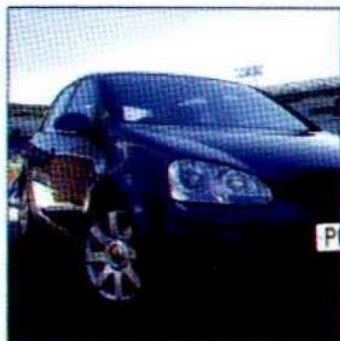




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# LastTimeatEP

Nationwide League Division Two

Saturday February 14, 2004

County 2 (Robertson, Barlow)

Swindon Town 4 (Mooney 2, Howard, Nicholas)

County T Williams, Hardiker, Griffin, Walton, Jackman, Robertson, Lambert, Gibb, Welsh (Morrison 73), Barlow (C Williams 81), Wilbraham

Unused Subs Goodwin, Spencer, Cartwright

Booked C Williams, Jackman, Walton

Swindon Evans, Gurney, Nicholas, Heywood, O'Hanlon, Duke (Igoe 75), Howard (Smith 74), Hewlett, Miglioranzi, Mooney, Parkin

Unused Subs Griemink, Stevenson, Reeves

Booked None

Attendance 4,833

Visitors 433

Referee C Webster (Shotley Bridge)

## THE VERDICT

Promotion-chasing Swindon Town stunned Edgeley Park by racing into a 3-0 lead inside the opening 18 minutes.

Brian Howard's free kick, needlessly conceded by Mark Robertson by the corner flag, picked out Tommy Mooney and the former Watford man planted a header inside Anthony Williams' near post after just four minutes.

Howard chipped Williams from the edge of the box for the

second on 16 and, just two minutes later, Williams was picking the ball out of the net again after Andy Nicholas had looped a header into the top corner.

By then, amazingly, County could have had three goals themselves. Aaron Wilbraham completely missed his shot, Robins defender Andy Gurney sliced wildly over his own bar and Stuart Barlow was just off target with a far-post header. The Hatters got their reward on 21 minutes when Andy Welsh and Barlow set up Robertson who hammered his first County goal - against one of his former clubs - from outside the box.

On 50 minutes, Andy Welsh's glaring miss a couple of minutes earlier was forgotten when Barlow smashed home another Gibb cross at the near post.

With time ticking away substitute Chris Williams cut in from the left and hit a right-footer across Evans that the 'keeper did well to turn round the post.

With a bitter twist of irony the Robins made the game safe with a fourth goal scored in the four added minutes awarded for their blatant time wasting.

Sam Parkin played Mooney clear and the striker who just loves scoring against County coolly rolled the ball past Williams.



Aaron Wilbraham gets the header of Town's Andrew Nicholas last time the Robins were in town



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# County Reserves

Our UniBond Cheshire Senior Cup First Round tie was switched to Alsager on September 14 when, unfortunately, we crashed to a 4-0 defeat.

The North West Counties League outfit now join Chester City, Crewe Alexandra, Hyde United, Stalybridge Celtic, Tranmere Rovers, Vauxhall Motors and Altrincham in the Second Round. From the start of the match County had plenty of the possession but it was not until the 17th minute that the Alsager goalkeeper Rob Powner was tested when he stopped a 30-yard effort from Phil Reilly.

Powner was in action shortly afterwards saving a Mat Bailey shot after Bailey had been put through by Danny Campbell.

## CHANCE

The home team had a chance but Ian Veron's 30-yard free kick floated over the bar. Campbell was involved in County's next opening, sending Danny Newby into the area but his shot was pushed away by Powner and Wayne Brotherton cleared the loose ball.

The play then flowed from end to end without either goalkeeper being troubled until Alsager started to get on top, forcing three corners in succession.

The pressure paid off on 42 minutes as they took the lead when Veron sent Mark Grice through to ride two tackles and slot the ball past the advancing Ben Coppinger. Danny Meadowcroft suffered a knee injury trying to stop Grice and left the pitch for treatment.

The second goal came three minutes later with County still down to ten men. Phil Parkinson met Steve Grocet's corner and his downward header was put into the roof of the net by Danny Campbell on the line as he tried to clear.

## REPLACED

Meadowcroft did not appear for the second half and he was replaced by Adam Oakes. Early in the half Coppinger made a brave save at Grice's feet. Veron was booked after 55 minutes for pulling back Martin Pemberton. Shortly afterwards Pemberton saw an effort from the left saved by Powner.

Alsager's third goal came on 62 minutes when Dave Walker broke through to score from the edge of the area. Four minutes later Walker got his second, and Alsager's fourth, when he picked up the ball after a mistake in the middle of the park and ran through before firing home from the edge of the area.

Straight after the goal Coppinger made a good save to deny Steve Ellis. In the last 15 minutes Alsager used all three of their substitutes but it was County who had the better chances. Adam Le Fondre forced a save from Powner and, in the last minute, Damien Allen hit the crossbar with a 25-yard free kick. County Coppinger, Lord, Reilly, Allen, Meadowcroft (Oakes 45),

Henry, Campbell, Pemberton, Bailey, Le Fondre, Newby  
Unused Subs Callery, Douglas

Alsager Powner, Espley, Chapman, Ellis (Frazer 84), Brotherton, Veron (Ireland 82), Heler, Parkinson, Grice, Walker, Grocet (Drummond 74)

## NEXT GAME

The reserves are at home this Wednesday, October 6, when Wrexham visit Lambeth Grove, the home of Woodley Sports, for a 7.00pm kick off. At the time of writing no date has been arranged for the away game at Burnley postponed due to the Unibond Cheshire Senior Cup.

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

This week's youngster to be introduced is second year professional Alex Lord. Alex, born on November 3, 1984, is a full back/centre half who comes from Astley.

He joined our Centre of Excellence at 13 and signed as a youth trainee in July 2001 and as a professional in August 2003.

His reserve debut came on February 27 2002 when York City visited Edgeley Park and he has gone on to make 23 appearances. Alex scored one goal in 52 appearances for the Under-19s.

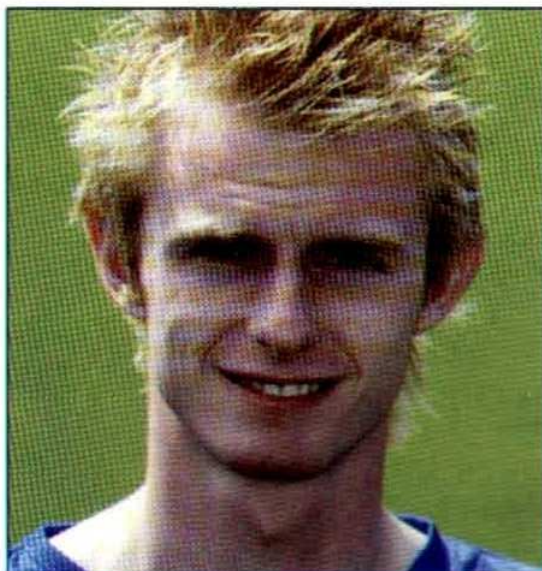
## FIXTURES 2004-05

Wed Aug 18	Carlisle United	A	1-1
Wed Sept 1	Chester City	H	2-2
Wed Sept 8	Rochdale	A	2-2
Tue Sept 14	Alsager Town*	H	0-4
Wed Oct 6	Wrexham	H	7pm
Wed Oct 13	Blackpool	A	2pm
Wed Oct 27	Manchester United	H	7pm
Tue Nov 9	Oldham Athletic	A	2pm
Wed Nov 24	Shrewsbury Town	A	7pm
Wed Dec 1	Macclesfield Town	A	2pm
Wed Dec 8	Bury	H	7pm
Wed Dec 15	Wrexham	A	7pm
Wed Jan 12	Burnley	A	7pm
Mon Jan 24	Manchester United	A	7pm
Wed Feb 2	Blackpool	H	7pm
Wed Feb 9	Shrewsbury Town	A	2pm
Wed Feb 16	Oldham Athletic	H	7pm
Wed Mar 2	Bury	A	2pm
Wed Mar 9	Macclesfield Town	H	7pm
Wed Mar 30	Carlisle United	H	7pm
Wed Apr 13	Chester City	A	7pm
Wed Apr 27	Rochdale	H	7pm

Home games played at Woodley Sports FC

\* Cheshire Senior Cup 'played at Alsager'

Alex Lord



## Pontin's Holidays League Division One West 2004-05

	PLD	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Manchester United	4	4	0	0	14	5	+9	12
Bury	4	2	2	0	7	3	+4	8
Oldham Athletic	4	2	1	1	6	4	+2	7
Wrexham	4	2	0	2	5	7	-2	6
Chester City	3	1	1	1	3	3	0	4
Blackpool	3	1	1	1	2	2	0	4
Rochdale	4	1	1	2	9	10	-1	4
Macclesfield Town	3	1	1	1	2	3	-1	4
<b>County</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
Carlisle United	3	0	2	1	2	3	-1	2
Burnley	3	0	1	2	1	5	-4	1
Shrewsbury Town	4	0	1	3	3	9	-6	1



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# County Youth

Our Under-18s have gone top of the North West Conference following two wins in their last two games.

## WIGAN ATHLETIC 1 COUNTY 3

The first victory came on September 18 with a 3-1 away win at Christopher Park over Wigan Athletic. County took the lead after five minutes from a free kick after Kevin Lee brought James Callery down 25 yards out. Adam Oakes took the kick which was helped into the net by a glancing header from Paul Douglas past keeper Floyd Croll.

The second goal came 12 minutes later when a low cross from Callery was turned home at the front post by Joe Yoffe.

Wigan pulled a goal back after 36 minutes when Luke Joyce hit a free kick from just outside the area.

The Hatters' third goal came on the hour when Oakes laid the ball inside to Douglas who found Yoffe in space to fire home from the edge of the area. After 80 minutes Lee took a kick at Douglas and, following a melee near the halfway line, Lee, Douglas, Lee Owens and Paul Pearson were all sent off to leave both teams with nine men each for the last ten minutes.

County McEwen, Brownhill, Kay, Hadfield, Raynes, Best, Callery (McAllister 85), Woolcott, Douglas, Yoffe (Jordan 81), Oakes (Pearson 65)

Unused Subs Duncan, Henry

## COUNTY 2 BURY 0

The second victory came last Saturday, September 25, when Bury were beaten 2-0 at Manor Farm, Timperley.

It was an even game that was decided with County taking their chances and then defending well to keep out the Shakers.

The opening goal came midway through the first half with Adam Oakes and Liam Brownhill combining to

find Paul Woolcott in the area to score from close range.

The second came early in the second half with Michael Raynes turning home a low corner from Oakes. In the closing minutes Oakes hit the bar from a free kick.

County McEwen, Brownhill, Kay, Hadfield, Raynes, Best, Callery (Pearson 65), Woolcott, Douglas (Jordan 70), Yoffe (Henry 75), Oakes

Unused Subs McAllister, Coppinger

The youth team visit Tranmere Rovers next Saturday and Carlisle United on October 16.

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

This week's youngster in the spotlight is second year Jordan Hadfield. Jordan is a midfielder from Salford and was born on August 12 1987. He joined our Centre of Excellence in October 2002 after being spotted playing for Swinton Schoolboys. Jordan made his reserve debut on August 20 2003 against Macclesfield Town, his only appearance, although he has been on the bench on several occasions. He has made 16 appearances for the Under-17s, 6 appearances for the current Under-18s and 14 appearances for the Under-19s.

Jordan Hadfield



## NW CONFERENCE - U18s

Sat Aug 14	Blackpool	H	2-3
Sat Aug 21	Oldham Athletic	A	2-2
Sat Sept 4	Rochdale	H	6-0
Sat Sept 11	Burnley	H	1-0
Sat Sept 18	Wigan Athletic	A	1-3
Sat Sept 25	Bury	H	2-0
Sat Oct 2	Bury (LC 1)	A	
Sat Oct 9	Tranmere Rovers	A	
Sat Oct 16	Carlisle United	A	
Sat Oct 23	Preston North End	H	
Sat Oct 30	Burnley	A	
Sat Nov 6	Wigan Athletic	H	
Sat Nov 13	Bury	A	
Sat Nov 20	Tranmere Rovers	H	
Sat Nov 27	Cup (2)		
Sat Dec 4	Carlisle United	H	
Sat Dec 11	Preston North End	A	
Sat Dec 18	Blackpool	A	
Sat Jan 15	Oldham Athletic	H	
Sat Jan 22	Rochdale	A	
Sat Jan 29	Cup (3)		

## FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE NORTH WEST CONFERENCE

	PLD	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
<b>County</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>+10</b>	<b>13</b>
Burnley	6	4	1	1	11	4	+7	13
Tranmere Rovers	6	4	0	2	17	10	+7	12
Oldham Athletic	6	3	2	1	17	10	+7	11
Preston N E	6	3	1	2	11	7	+4	10
Blackpool	5	3	0	2	9	9	0	9
Bury	6	1	2	3	7	13	-6	5
Carlisle United	5	1	1	3	9	11	-2	4
Wigan Athletic	6	1	1	4	6	16	-10	4
Rochdale	6	0	1	5	2	19	-17	1



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The Halle Rock are also performing a brand new set on New Years Eve.  
Only **£45.00** to include late night bar and gala buffet.





# CountyLadies

The Ladies recorded back-to-back wins with a comprehensive 3-0 victory over Manchester City

It was a controlled and disciplined performance by the Girls who were always in command against their near-neighbours.

The one change from the midweek victory against Wolves saw Sophie Clough take the Captains armband for the first time. The England Under-19 International was confident, composed and led the team well.

Early exchanges were quite even, although County had more of the possession and created the clearer chances. A driving run from Lucy Lutton saw the City keeper make a good save. The resulting corner from Charlotte Higginson was 'un-defendable', though, and the ball went in off a defender to open the score on 14 minutes. The visitors' response was muted but always evident and, 10 minutes later, a good strike from distance forced Vicky Gurung in the Stockport goal into making a good save. Good free kick efforts were exchanged though the home side looked the more controlled, and despite a late effort from Higginson, City held out to the break.

#### PRESSURE

The second half saw more pressure from the Hatters and

International Class ...  
Sophie Clough



on 58 minutes Donna Davidson doubled the lead from Lutton's corner.

Two minutes later an excellent strike from Nat. Smith went narrowly wide. Back came City and, on 66 minutes, Gregory chipped a sharp shot goalwards only to hit the bottom of the post before the ball was cleared.

Two further chances were created for top scorer Mel Garside who was denied by solid goalkeeping. Jane Fox, too, had good opportunities and along with an effort from Davidson, the chances to increase the lead kept on coming.

On 83 minutes, Higginson drove forward with the ball, the City defence stood static and watched as she strode into the area and thunder the ball home for County's third.

Squad Vicky Gurung, Nat. Smith, Amanda Goodwin, Chloe Llewellyn, Jo Sigley, Sophie Clough, Sarah Morris, Lucy Lutton, Donna Davidson, Mel Garside, Charlotte Higginson - Kelly Allwood, Jane Fox, Suzanne Hunt, Emma Jenks, Jane Webb.

#### SUNDERLAND 1 COUNTY RESERVES 2

County gave a below par first half performance and went 1-0 down in the 13th minute when a goal kick went unchallenged in midfield and was lobbed into the box for the Sunderland forward to shoot into the roof of the net. Anna Baxter then made several good saves to keep the Hatters in the game.

However, from the start of the second half the attitude was different, and it paid off immediately with Rachel Brindley finishing a rebound off the keeper, which came from a well-hit free kick by Jenny Cummins.

County controlled the second half, but created few clear chances. At the other end Baxter was still called upon to make more saves as Sunderland were dangerous on the break.

The late introduction of substitutes Dani Airey and Carley Davies stepped up the pace and, in the 92nd minute, Rhiane Mitchell chased a long ball, and outpaced the defence to shoot low under the keeper.

#### BLUES GOOD START CONTINUES

The Blues continued their good start to the season with another away win at Hollingworth. Goals from Kirsti Allen, Kate Needham, Louisa Brahimi and a hat-trick from Nicci Connor. Another great team performance with the team well marshalled with a man of the Match performance from captain Amanda Openshaw.



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# Keeper Wanted!

Although 19 players have represented County and this afternoon's opponents, Swindon Town, not one is a goalkeeper.

And, strangely, the three defenders to have worn County blue and Swindon red all appeared in the early 1900s. Going forward, though, there's no problem with no fewer than four players who have helped the Hatters to promotion in two different campaigns 30-years apart. Can you spot them in the following team chosen by Geoff Thomas and Ian Watts.

**JAMES KENNEDY** Made 18 County appearances during the 1909-10 season in the old Second Division scoring one goal – our first-ever against Manchester City. Joined the Robins in 1912 but didn't figure at first-team level.

**WILLIAM COCKBURN** Played twice in 1921-22 when we were crowned the very first champions of Division Three (North). Became a regular over the next two seasons before joining Swindon.

**ROLAND CODLING** A reserve player at Swindon, Codling joined County in 1903-04 – the season we failed to win re-election to Division Two. He then became a key figure the following season when we won the Lancashire Combination to reclaim our Football League place.

**JOHN THOMAS** Thomas started his career with Everton before joining Swindon. Spells with Chester and Headington United preceded his move to Edgeley Park in 1954. Jack Connor scored twice on Thomas' Hatters debut – a 5-2

victory over Carlisle United.

**MIKE SUMMERBEE** Buzzer – a Swindon legend – is featured on Page 23 of today's programme. He joined County from Blackpool in August 1977 and later, following the sacking of Alan Thompson, took over as player-manager. He resigned after a 6-1 defeat at Bradford – his 716th, and final, League appearance in a highly-distinguished career.

**MARK ROBERTSON** Robbo joined Swindon from Burnley in August 2000 but his spell in Wiltshire was a short one – just seven months later he headed north of the border to for Dundee. He scored one goal for the Robins, a 90th-minute penalty in a 3-1 home defeat by Bristol Rovers. Strangely, his one County goal came last February... against Swindon Town.

**TOMMY HENDERSON** After spells with St Mirren, Leeds and Bury Tommy joined Swindon in January 1966. Five months later, though, he moved to Edgeley Park and made 19 appearances as the Hatters swept all before them to win the Fourth Division championship. One of the best strikers of a ball ever seen at EP

**BILL ATKINS** The legend! Signed for County minutes before transfer deadline in March 1967 in a swap deal involving David Shawcross. Scored his first goal in front of 7,000 ecstatic travelling fans at Crewe and nodded the equalising goal at Notts County that secured promotion three weeks later – with SEVEN games still to play! With Jim Fryatt he formed what many County fans consider the club's greatest strike partnership.

**KEITH EAST** A month after Frank Lord left County for Blackburn Rovers – November 1966 – the Hatters swooped for East, Swindon's top marksman, as a direct replacement. Five months later he was picking up a Fourth Division title medal. He later served Bournemouth, Northampton and Crewe.

**ANDY MUTCH** Andy joined Swindon in August 1993 after earning legendary status at Wolves alongside Steve Bull. He never really produced that form in Wiltshire and, after a loan spell at Wigan, Dave Jones brought him to EP in March 1996. Scored a hat-trick in his fourth County game – a 4-2 victory over Oxford. Scored 5 vital goals the following season, many after coming off the bench, to help the Hatters win promotion to Division One.

Legend... Bill Atkins scores against Barrow in December 1968



## County / Swindon

Player records in italics





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# Over Land & Sea

Next weekend sees a return of Friday Night Football for County as they make the mammoth trek to Bournemouth.

It will no doubt bring back enjoyable memories for Hatters fans travelling to the Fitness First Stadium as this was where we secured our Second Division status last season after a battling 0-0 draw, a result that extended our fantastic unbeaten run to eleven games.

Over the years we haven't picked up too many nice memories from trips to Bournemouth, though.

In fact we have only recorded one victory on the south coast in 19 attempts, and that was way back in January 1981 when a Mark Leigh strike was enough to give us maximum points in the old Division Four.

## LAST GAME

Nationwide League Division Two

Saturday May 1, 2004

Bournemouth 0

County 0

Bournemouth Moss, Cummings, Fletcher, Broadhurst, Young, O'Connor, Stock, Browning, Elliott, Holmes, Hayter

Unused Subs Buxton, Purches, Tindall, Scriven, Maher

Booked Fletcher

County Spencer, Hardiker, Clare (Jones 23), A Williams, Adams, Morrison (C Williams 81), Goodwin, Lambert, Jackman, Wilbraham, Daly (Beckett 72)

Unused Subs Barlow, McLachlan

Booked Adams, Daly, Goodwin

Attendance 7,541

Blue & White Army 1,047

Referee P Taylor (Cheshunt)

## DIRECTIONS

Take the A34 to the M3, then to the M27 and finally to the A31.

## TRAINS

Unfortunately, as the game takes place on a Friday night, there are no trains returning from Bournemouth to Stockport after the final whistle which means taking the train down to the south coast is an unlikely option.

## TICKETS

It's pay-at-the-gate for County fans at the Fitness First Stadium next Friday. Prices are £16 (Adults) and £6 (Under-16s, OAPs). Students can gain entry for £7 on production of a valid NUS card.

## COACHES

Stockport County Supporters Club coaches will be leaving Edgeley Park at 12.30pm, priced £18 with the usual £1 reduction for members. Please telephone Paul Wilkinson in the ticket office on 0161 286 2700 between 10.00am and 4.00pm to make your booking.

The Fingerpost Travel Club will be leaving at 1.30pm, priced £19. Please contact Lou Spalding on 07970 549194 to book your seats.

THE COUNTY'S STAYIN' UP  
... The lads celebrate with the magnificent travelling army after securing their Second Division status at Bournemouth last May



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League &  
Cup Record  
Against The  
Cherries Is

League  
FA Cup  
League Cup  
Play-Offs  
Associate Members Cup

P	W	D	L	F	A
19	1	3	15	5	27

Never Met

Never Met

Never Met

Never Met

## Away League Statistics

First Meeting 0-2, Wed Apr 22 1959, Div 3  
Last Meeting 0-0, Sat May 1 2004, Div 2  
Last Win 1-0, Sat Jan 3 1981, Div 4  
Last Draw 0-0, Sat May 1 2004, Div 2  
Last Defeat 2-3, Sat Dec 16 1995, Div 2  
Biggest Win 1-0, Sat Jan 3 1981, Div 4  
Biggest Defeat 0-3, Sat Apr 30 1977, Div 4  
Biggest Attendance 8,237, Sat Sep 14 1968, Div 3  
Lowest Attendance 2,285, Sat Apr 23 1979, Div 4



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# MatchReview

Coca-Cola League One  
Saturday September 18 2004

County 1  
Luton Town 3



Excuse me ...  
Derek Geary climbs  
above Luton's Paul  
Underwood in our  
last home game

County Spencer, Griffin (Barlow 60),  
Mair (Goodwin 45), A Williams,  
Geary, Bridge- Wilkinson, Lambert,  
Adams, Jackman, Feeney (Welsh  
32), Beckett  
Unused Subs Cartwright, Cutler  
Goals Lambert 80  
Booked Goodwin, Mair

Luton Beresford, Foley, Davies,  
Coyne, Davis, Brkovic (Keane 89),  
Nicholls,  
Robinson (Leary 74), Underwood,  
Howard, Vine (McSheffrey 74)  
Unused Subs Seremet, Showumni  
Goals Robinson 33, Vine 35,  
Brkovic 54

Attendance 5,128  
Visitors 808  
Referee P Prosser (Gloucestershire)

#### McIlroy

"My results this season have been pathetic. I know that, but I also know what I have to do. To bring in new players, some of the players I have here have to leave now. Too many of the players have experienced relegation battles in recent years and seem to accept it. Some of them have to go."

#### Newell

"Stockport aren't playing with much confidence at the moment and we had a two goal lead at half-time so you have to be hungry in the second half if you are to score four or five. The opportunity to rack up a big score doesn't come along very often and it will send out a message to the other teams in the league if we had hit a big score. We are never happy after a game, we are always looking for something more - you have to be like that. There is always something you can add to a performance."



# Stockport County

- 1  Neil Cutler
- 2  John Hardiker
- 3  Danny Adams
- 4  Mark Robertson
- 5  Ashley Williams
- 6  Danny Griffin
- 7  Lee Cartwright
- 9  Luke Beckett
- 10  Rickie Lambert
- 11  Andy Welsh
- 12  Jim Goodwin
- 13  James Spencer
- 14  Marc Bridge-Wilkinson
- 15  Owen Morrison
- 16  Jon Daly
- 17  Warren Feeney
- 19  Lee Mair
- 21  Stuart Barlow
- 22  Chris Williams
- 23  Danny Jackman
- 25  Derek Geary
- 26  Alex Lord
- 28  Martin Pemberton
- 29  Adam Le Fondre
- 30  Damien Allen
- 31  Danny Meadowcroft
- 32  Ben Coppinger
- 33  Phil Reilly
- 35  Mat Bailey

# Swindon Town

- 1  Rhys Evans
- 2  Sean O'Hanlon
- 3  Grant Smith
- 4  Matthew Hewlett
- 5  Adrian Viveash
- 6  Paul Mitchell
- 7  Sammy Igoe
- 8  Rory Fallon
- 9  Sam Parkin
- 10  Stefani Miglioranzi
- 11  David Duke
- 12  Jerel Ifil
- 15  Andrew Nicholas
- 16  Steve Robinson
- 17  Brian Howard
- 18  Alan Reeves
- 19  Matthew Heywood
- 20  Steve Book
- 21  Jamie McMaster
- 22  Michael Pook
- 23  Luke Garrard
- 24  Andy Caton
- 25  Mark Yeates



cover Andy Welsh



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