

STFC

Coca-Cola LEAGUE 1

vs Blackpool
Saturday 15th January 05
Kick-Off 3.00pm

ISSUE



.19

THIS ISSUE:

Jamie Cullum

The Wiltshire Jazz sensation on supporting the Town

Head2Head

Luke Garrard takes on new boy Jamie Slabber

Matt Hewlett

The Club Captain gives us his A-Z

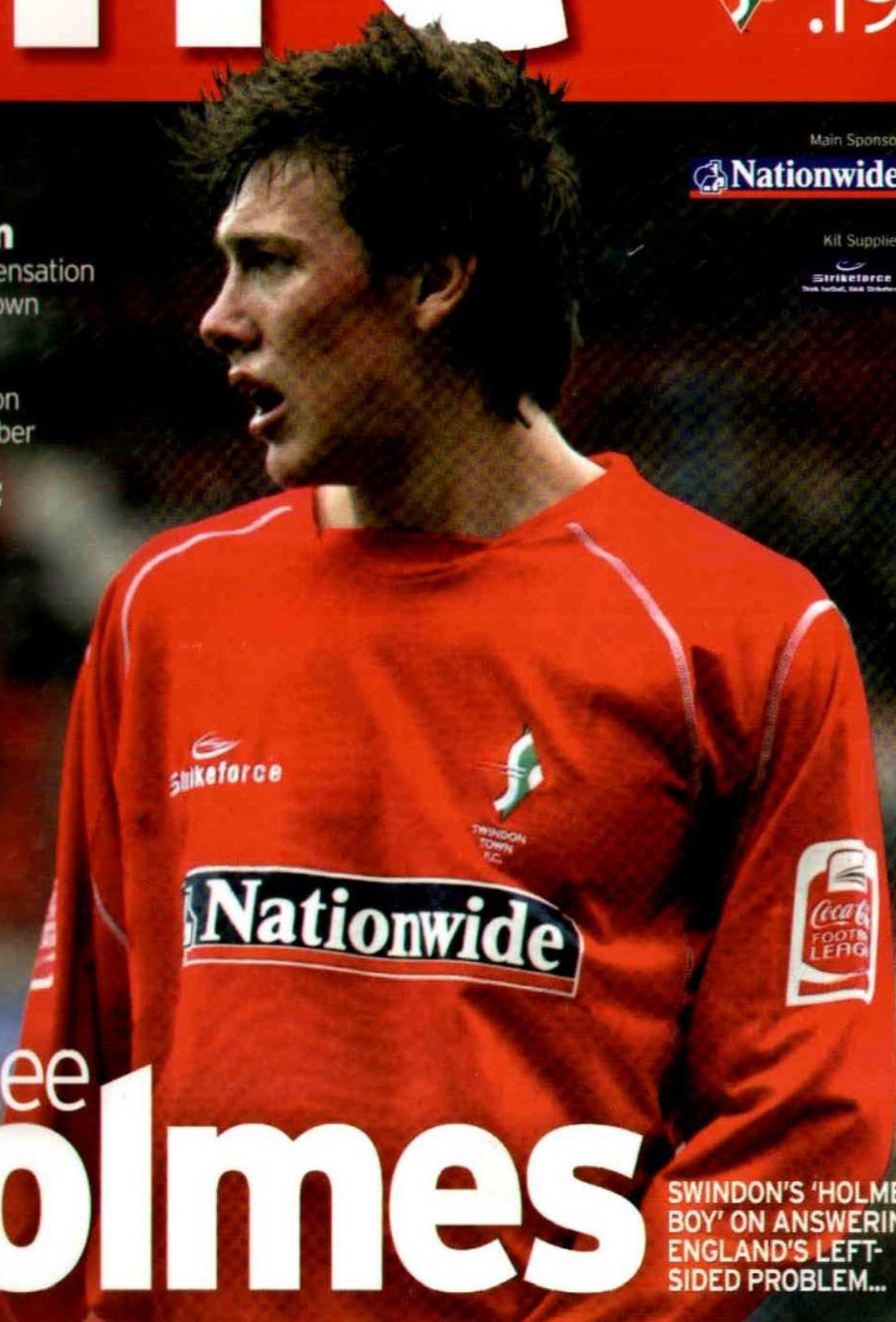
Blackpool

A look at today's opponents

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Lee Holmes

SWINDON'S 'HOLME BOY' ON ANSWERING ENGLAND'S LEFT-SIDED PROBLEM...

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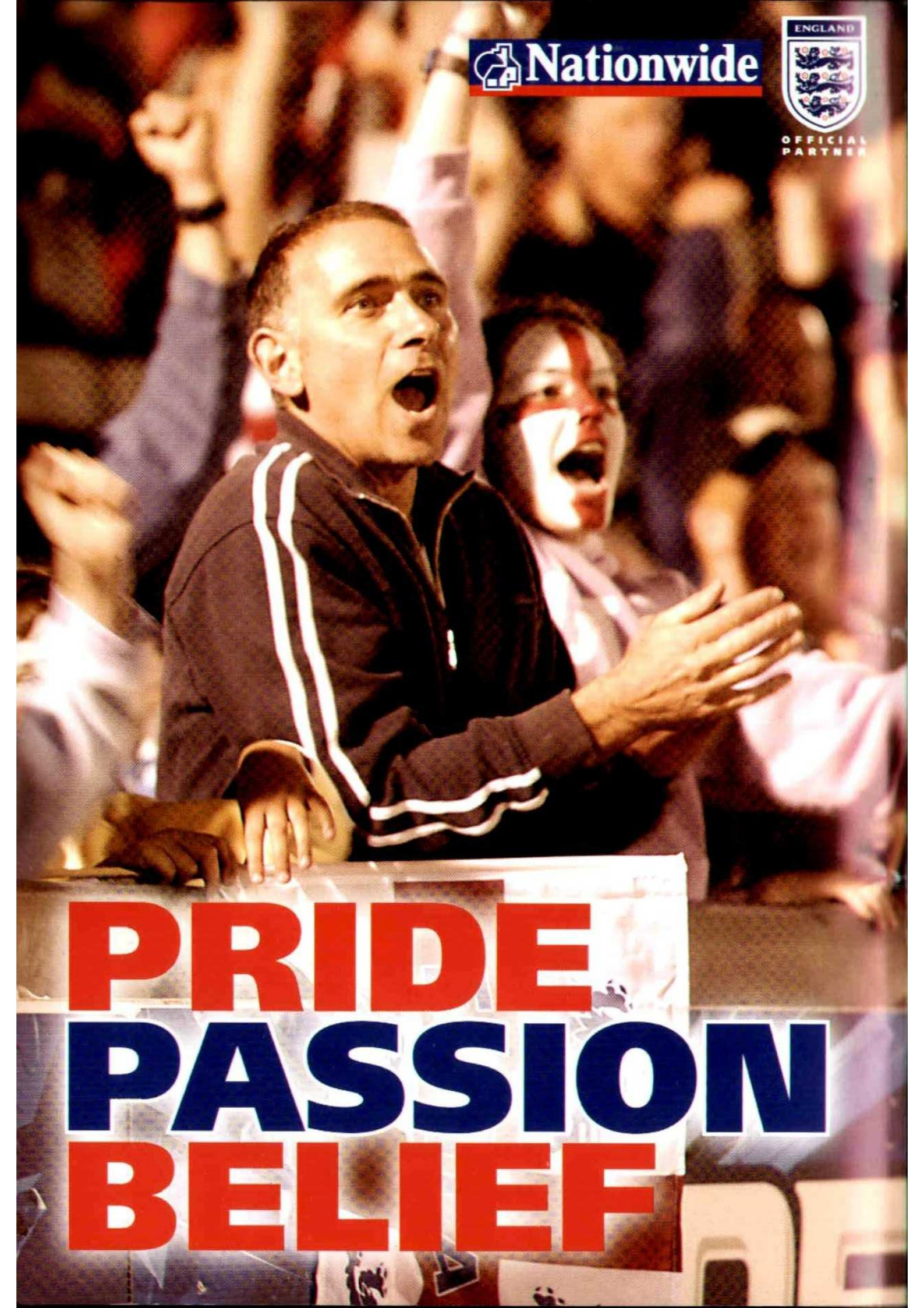


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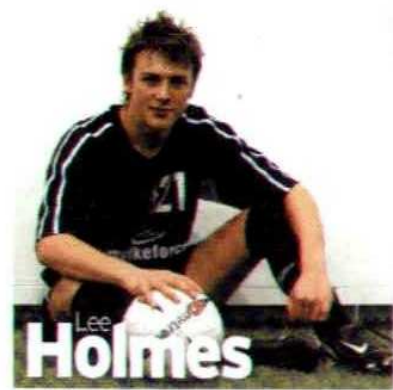
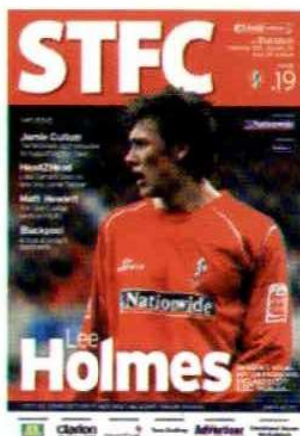


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Programme produced by:



The views expressed by individual contributors are not necessarily the views of Swindon Town FC, the Editor or Dunwoody Design & Publishing.



Swindon's 'Holme Boy' on answering England's left-sided problem & breaking records...

After a long wait, Swindon's Lee Holmes has finally made his debut for the national team. The young winger has been called up to the England squad for the first time, and is expected to make his debut in the friendly against the Netherlands on Tuesday night.



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EditorsNotes

Welcome back to The County Ground for our second home game of the New Year.

We have enjoyed a steady record against The Seaside over the past few seasons with just one defeat in our last nine meetings both home and away. They always seem to be entertaining fixtures nonetheless and let's hope we can continue the record with a victory today.

Away from the pitch we have a busy next few weeks with visits to Brentford and Southend United in the LDV Semi-Final as well as another home game with Stockport. If you are not making the trip to Roots Hall then check out swindontownfc.co.uk for details of our text or STFC World service to keep you right up to date.

chris@swindontownfc.co.uk

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Latest News

Holt steps down... Ifil suspension nearly over... Wrexham still in trouble... Valentines Day at The County Ground...

Holt Steps Down

Bob Holt has stood down from his position of Acting Chief Executive, but will stay on as a Director following the club's AGM.

Holt himself explained the reasons behind the move, adding that it is the 'most economical way' of running the club.

"Following on from this

morning's AGM I will be stepping down as Acting Chief Executive," said Holt.

"With immediate effect, reporting to the Board will now be Andy King (football), Linda Birrell - Club Secretary (Football Administration), Mike Sullivan (Sales & Marketing) and Sandy Gray (Finance).

"The Board has

resolved to hold more frequent Management/ Board meetings to monitor the progress of the club. Furthermore, the Board feel that this is the most economical way of running the club which will allow any savings to be focused on team building."

One More for Jerel

Town defender Jerel Ifil will today serve the last of his two-match suspension after his dismissal at Bradford City on January 3rd.

Ifil brought down Steven Schumacher just outside the penalty area in the 2-1 win at The Bradford & Bingley Stadium. The defender, who had only just returned from a three match ban following a sending off against Huddersfield, sat out last weekend's match at Hillsborough against Sheffield Wednesday (8th Jan) with today the last of his two game ban.

The match official for the game logged the incident as 'denying a goalscoring opportunity' and the club decided not to appeal.

Things still aren't going well at Wrexham



Dragons Appeal Denied

A Sporting Sanctions Appeal Panel dismissed Wrexham AFC's appeal against the 10-point deduction imposed under Football League regulations after the club became subject of an administration order.

The independent panel, whose decision is final and binding, dismissed claims that the club's insolvency was due to unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances after examining evidence from club officials and an independent expert.

Therefore, the -10 point penalty imposed on the club stands.

PhysioRoom Dick Mackey

For physio advice or treatment email physio@swindontownfc.co.uk or call 07801 586658



Hello, good afternoon and welcome to this afternoon's game with Blackpool.

Christian Roberts has undergone a repair at the Ridgeway Hospital following a consultation on Tuesday and will be unavailable for about six weeks.

Steve Jenkins and Matt Hewlett are making good progress and I hope at least one of them will be available for today's game. Sean O'Hanlon's hamstring is still sore and we will give him right up until kick-off to make a decision on him.

Enjoy the game!





Captain's Column Matt Hewlett

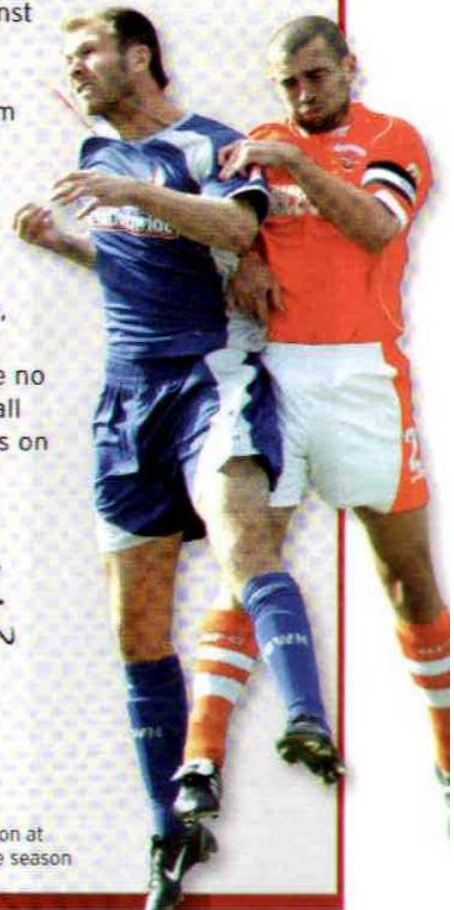
Good afternoon and welcome back to The County Ground today for the visit of Blackpool.

Last weekend we travelled up to Hillsborough knowing that they would be looking for revenge for the two previous defeats we had inflicted upon them earlier in the season in the league and of course the FA Cup. Before the game we spoke about how we would try and frustrate them in the early stages. Although we battled well we didn't seem able to provide that final ball.

As for the Play-Offs - well we know what we need to do. The Manager has set us a target of winning the next four games to put us back where we need to be. We are all totally focused upon that and hope to start by a win against Blackpool today.

We drew 1-1 with them at Bloomfield Road earlier in the season in what was a tough game. There is no easy game in this division, but if we battle hard again today I can see no reason not to claim all three points to set us on our way.

▶ Sam Parkin pictured in action at Bloomfield Road earlier in the season



Valentines Day

Swindon Town FC will be offering people a chance to celebrate Valentines Day at The County Ground this year.

The Conference & Banqueting Department will once again be offering packages at the Barnsley game to corporate and private customers. The Valentines Day Special was a success last year so book early to avoid disappointment.

Packages are expected to include a three-course meal, match ticket and refreshments.

For more details call 0870 443 1894, or turn to page 27.

Thank you!

Swindon Town FC would like to thank Westlea Fire Station for their help at the last home game. With their assistance, the collection for the Tsunami appeal raised £2,300.

STFC & the Football in the Community Office would like to wish Mike Spearman many happy returns for tomorrow, and to thank him for all his help with the FITC project. Sixty at last Mike!

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BoardroomTalk

Director Bob Holt talks about the recent AGM and gives us his thoughts ahead of today's game...

Well the Board survived the Annual General Meeting and Messrs Carson and Holt were duly re-elected for another term by the shareholders.

The AGM was held on the last day of 2004 here at The County Ground and after the formalities of the meeting some serious debate took place. The shareholders posed a number of 'interesting' questions to the Board. Hopefully our replies were informative and those present left feeling that the Club had made progress during the last twelve months. Whilst the 'Black Clouds' of the past were thankfully well behind us the Board stressed that there still remained a mountain of work and commitment ahead.



The Board thanked you, the loyal supporters plus the executives and staff that work tirelessly behind the scenes, for their unswerving enthusiasm. The Board also reminded shareholders that for the Wills family, and more recently St. Modwen's, continuing financial support the Club's very existence would be in doubt.

Andy King then joined the meeting and answered, from the floor, questions on football matters in his inimitable 'frank and honest' way. The shareholders were left in no doubt the complexity of training and developing a squad on such a limited budget.

The Board explained that the Club had operated without a CEO

for six months and with the non-replacement of Mark Devlin and the reduction of other non-playing activities, Andy King had been able to utilise these savings to attract additional players such as Christian Roberts and Steve Jenkins to strengthen the squad.

It is intended to continue this policy with yours truly stepping down as Acting CEO and the work load will be divided between Sandy Gray (Finance), Mike Sullivan (Commercial) and Linda Birrell (Club Secretary) dealing with football administration. To supplement this, the Board would meet more frequently to monitor progress and direction.

Just a thought, if Exeter City managed a draw with Manchester United in the FA Cup at Old Trafford and we beat Exeter City at St. James Park in the LDV Vans Trophy earlier in the season, what would happen if we took on 'Man U' here at the County Ground?

Bob Holt
Director



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Swindon, Wilts SN1 2ED

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DIRECTORS

Bob Holt, Willie Carson
James Wills, Sandy Gray

TEAM MANAGER

Andy King

ASSISTANT MANAGER

Mike Walsh

RESERVE MANAGER

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MatchReport

Sheffield Wed 2 • Swindon 0

Saturday 8th January '05 • Kick-Off 3.00pm
Coca-Cola League One • Hillsborough

Town were unable to repeat their feat of recovering from a two goal deficit as Wednesday earned maximum points at Hillsborough, writes STFC Sports Reporter Adrian Smith.

Andy King was forced to make changes to his line-up as he was without the services of Jerel Ifil (suspension) and Matt Hewlett (injury) although Grant Smith retained his place following his two goals against Bradford City earlier in the week.

Wednesday took the lead in the 40th minute when a cross from the right wing was punched out by Evans, only to find Joey O'Brien on the edge of the box who sent a first time shot into the back of the net.

After the break Town pressed but Kenwyne Jones sealed the game in the 68th minute when he eventually prodded the ball home from close range after a goalmouth scramble.

Andy King

Good afternoon and welcome to today's home League One encounter with Blackpool...



I would like to welcome the visiting Management, Directors, Players and Supporters who have made the trip from the North West.

Today's game has now become of greater importance to us as any side wishing to make a serious challenge for the Play-Offs has to maintain good home form. We are still only five points behind during what has been, I admit, an inconsistent season for us to date.

The past two away games have seen us visit Bradford City and Sheffield Wednesday in succession. During the interval at Bradford I told the lads to continue in the same manner as they had been playing and thankfully we then got the early goals we needed which gave us something to hang on to. Unfortunately Jerel Ifil was sent off for the second time in a matter of months. It was a tackle he had to make but at the end of the day we cannot afford to lose players through suspension at any time of the season.

Last Saturday we paid a visit to Hillsborough and I would like to thank

all of you who made the trip up there to support us. The crowd was magnificent and it felt like we were going to a Premiership club in the FA Cup such was the atmosphere. It is a fantastic stadium and with 20,800 people there it was a great occasion. We played particularly well but for me the difference between last weekend's game and Bradford was

I have challenged the players to win the next four games and if we manage that, we could put ourselves right back amongst the play-off places...

scoring the first goal. We seem to fall behind which makes it doubly difficult but had we scored first; I felt we could have gone on to take something from the game. I felt we deserved something from the game as in the first twenty minutes Sheffield Wednesday found it difficult to cross the half way line. The first goal is so important and that is something we have to address.

On the injury front it looks as though we are going to lose Christian Roberts - that is a disaster. He may have to have a hernia operation which would put him out for up to two months. On the bright side Stefani Miglioranzi played eighty minutes of the reserve game in the week and we were delighted to see him back. He looked fit and gave the side a presence in midfield. He is an athlete and looked like a man on a football field - which is something we have been missing. He looks after himself well and if you had come to the reserve game - you would not have known that 'Stef' had been out for three months. If he comes through the fatigue then he could well be involved today.

I have challenged the players to win the next four games and if we could manage that, we could put ourselves right back amongst the play-off places. Everyone is beating everyone in this league as I stated at the start of the season. However, we have to win our home games - starting today against Blackpool.

Enjoy the game,
AK.

MatchAction



Coca-Cola League One

Saturday 8th January 2005
Hillsborough, 3:00pm

Sheff Wed (1) **2**

Swindon (0) **0**

Attendance: 20,804

Sheffield Wed



(blue & white shirts, black shorts)

1. David Lucas
2. Lee Bullen
3. Paul Heckingbottom
4. Graeme Lee
6. Glenn Whelan
7. Jon-Paul McGovern
8. Matthew Hamshaw
9. Steven MacLean
15. Kefwynne Jones 1
16. Richard Wood
18. Joey O'Brien 1

Subs Used

11. Chris Brunt (B)

Subs Not Used

33. Robert Poulter
12. Patrick Collins
24. Guylain Ndumbu-Nsungu
25. Andrew Talbot

Swindon



(red shirts, red shorts)

1. Rhys Evans
2. Sean O'Hanlon
3. Grant Smith
7. Sammy Igoe
9. Sam Parkin
11. David Duke
17. Brian Howard
18. Alan Reeves
19. Matty Heywood
21. Lee Holmes
23. Luke Garrard

Subs Used

8. Rory Fallon (17)
15. Andy Nicholas (2)

Subs Not Used

20. Steve Book
5. Jamie Slabber
16. Steve Robinson



Photos: Chris Adams




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MediaComment

The Evening Advertiser's Chief Sports Writer Jon Ritson brings you his latest column for STFC Magazine...

Why is it that we waste so much energy trying to either engineer or prevent things over which we have no control?

I confessed this week to having predicted the outcome of our trip to Hillsborough and have since given myself a severe talking to about the futility of such behaviour.

I know the 2-0 defeat wasn't my fault but I still couldn't help feel guilty. Still, I'm sure I'm not the only one to admit such irrational feelings. Nick Hornby has talked about this issue in one of his books I believe. His efforts to help Arsenal (while also thwarting the opposition) have included eating cheese

years to aid my team has included switching the radio off if the other team are in possession, buying a particular drink at half-time and placing tickets in a particular book for safe keeping ahead of a game.

Hardly in the Nick Hornby class but still nonsense nonetheless. In terms of Town, all you can really do is trust the gut feeling of a bloke called Keith. I won't embarrass Keith further by revealing his full identity or role at the club but take it from me, when Keith has a good/bad feeling the outcome is generally a foregone conclusion. Hopefully he has a good feeling in his gut today.

Talking of penalties, when on earth are we going to be awarded one? When was the last team a team went a whole season without getting a spot-kick?

and onion crisps and throwing the heads of sugar mice into the path of oncoming cars. Bizarre, yes but uniquely crazy, no!

My own strange behaviour over the

Blackpool are our visitors today and if my memory serves me correctly we haven't beaten them since Alan Young scored the only goal of the game in 2002. Last year's match was an entertaining 2-2



Alan Young scored the winner the last time we beat Blackpool back in 2002...

draw and I'm sure Super Sammy won't thank me for reminding him that he missed a penalty in the second half.

Talking of penalties, when on earth are we going to be awarded one? When was the last team a team went a whole season without getting a spot-kick? Are our players too honest in the opposing box? If it's 0-0 with seconds to go this afternoon I hope the referee will remedy the situation.

Whatever happens today (and hopefully it proves to be a cracking

home win) we can take consolation in being a better side than Manchester United. After all, we've beaten Exeter City this season. That's more than Fergie's lot have done!

Get behind the boys today and hopefully we can clock up the first of those four victories that Mr King is demanding.

Then it's on to Brentford. Hang on, haven't we just played them? Don't get me started on the fixture computer again!

Until next time....

Seaside Struggle



Blackpool

Colin Hendry and his Blackpool bravehearts arrive at the County Ground this afternoon looking to build on last weeks promising performance at Championship side Leicester in the FA Cup. Sitting only one place above the relegation zone after 4 defeats in their last 5 league games, The Seaside will be hoping the tide will turn in 2005 in their bid to avoid the drop.

Words: Simon Coy



NICKNAME:.....The Seasideers
GROUND:.....Bloomfield Road
MANAGER:.....Colin Hendry
YEAR FORMED:.....1887

Division 1 Runners-Up: 1955/56
Division 2 Champions: 1929/30
Division 2 Runners-Up: 1969/70, 1936/37
Division 3 Play-Off Winners: 2000/01
Division 4 Runners-Up: 1984/85
Division 4 Play-Off Winners: 1991/92

FA Cup Winners: 1953
FA Cup Runners-Up: 1951, 1948
LDV Trophy Winners: 2004, 2002
Anglo-Italian Cup Winners: 1971
Anglo-Italian Cup Runners-Up: 1972

Biggest Win: 7-0 v. Preston North End, 1948
Biggest Defeat: 10-1 v. Small Heath (Birmingham), 1901
Record Attendance: 38,098 v. Wolves, 1955

Most Appearances: 568, Jimmy Armfield, 1952-71
Top Goalscorer: Jimmy Hampson, 247, 1927-38
Goals in a season: 45, Jimmy Hampson, 1929/30
Most Capped Player: Jimmy Armfield, 43, England

Biggest Transfer Fee Paid:
£275,000, Chris Malkin from Millwall, 1996
Biggest Transfer Fee Received:
£1.75m, Brett Ormerod to Southampton, 2001

The Seaside's Squad

After two mid-table finishes The Seaside's fans could be forgiven for expecting a fight for promotion this campaign rather than a fight against relegation. However, after a bad run of results at the beginning of the season the Bloomfield Road club find themselves just above the drop zone.

New manager Colin Hendry would have hoped for a far better start as Blackpool didn't manage a single league win during August and September, a period which included a home draw with Swindon.

Results began to improve during October with only one defeat at Bradford but good away wins at Oldham and Brentford. The Seaside's also drew with Bournemouth, Colchester and Huddersfield giving hope of a revival.

Consistency was missing from Blackpool's form over the period leading up to Christmas as victories over Torquay and Wrexham were mixed with four defeats by the odd goal. Unfortunately the festive season didn't bring much cheer as defeats to Hull and the MK Dons were coupled with the loss of top scorer Scott Taylor to Plymouth.

However, last weekend's draw with Leicester in the FA Cup will give Colin Hendry hope that his charges can pull themselves away from the bottom of the table over the coming months.

21 Kevin Stuhr-Ellegaard

Giant Danish keeper signed on loan from Manchester City as cover during current injury crisis with regular shot stopper Lee Jones. 6'11" Kevin, 21, has made only 7 appearances for City.



2 Leam Richardson

Another player who joined Blackpool following a successful loan spell, this time from Bolton Wanderers. Right sided player who has made over 60 appearances for The Seaside's since joining in June 2003.



3 Gareth Evans

Leeds born defender who started as a trainee at Elland Road. Moved to Huddersfield where he spent 2 seasons before joining Blackpool in August 2003. Recently collected his 5th booking of the season.



4 Keith Southern

Like Peter Clarke, another player signed from Everton following a loan spell. Hard tackling midfielder man who has suffered a lot from injury but is now returning to form. Scored the 2nd goal in the FA Cup last weekend.



6 Simon Grayson

Highly experienced midfielder. Simon, 35, is about to make his 500th appearance for his 9th club in a career spanning 16 years. Has played at Leeds, Blackburn, Aston Villa and Leicester among others.



7 Richard Wellens

Central midfielder man who started his career at Manchester United before being signed by Steve McMahon for The Seaside's in March 2000. Has since made well over 200 appearances for Blackpool.



8 Keigan Parker

Scottish forward who made the journey south from St Johnstone during the summer. Will have more responsibility to get goals now that Scott Taylor has left for Plymouth. Scored a hat-trick against Torquay.



11 Martin Bullock

Experienced right winger who has suffered greatly from injury so far this season but returned to action in the last fortnight. Has made almost 170 appearances for The Seaside's since joining from Barnsley in 2003.



12 Danny Cold

Liverpool born defender now in his 7th season at Bloomfield Road having begun as a trainee with Blackpool. Can play on the right side of defence or slot into midfield when needed.



20 Rob Clare

Summer signing from Stockport County. Can play as either full back or centre back. Made 128 appearances for County and has been recognised with a call up into the England U21 set up.



22 Mark McGregor

Another summer signing by Colin Hendry who picked up Mark, 26, on a free from Burnley. Versatile player who can slot into midfield but has formed a good partnership in defence with Peter Clarke.



23 Simon Lynch

Canadian born striker who represents Scotland at international level. At the very end of a month long loan from Preston but is a transfer target for Colin Hendry as he looks to replace Scott Taylor.



24 Peter Clarke

Long term target for The Seaside's following a 3 month loan spell from Everton in 2002. Eventually joined the club in September this year and made his debut as a permanent signing against Swindon.



Last Time
at the County Ground



Date: Sat 30th August 2003

Competition: Division Two

Half-Time Score: 2-2

Full-Time Score: 2-2

Swindon Goalscorers:

Mooney, 8, 30

Blackpool Goalscorers:

Douglas, 10; Taylor, 27

Attendance: 6,219

Swindon Final League

Position: 5th

Blackpool Final League

Position: 14th

OnetoWatch 9 John Murphy

A loyal servant to the Seaside, John, 28 is Blackpool's longest serving current player having made just short of 250 appearances for the Bloomfield Road club scoring 93 times.

Born in Whiston, John began his career as a trainee at Chester City in 1995. Over the course of 4 years at the club he made 119 appearances and scored 21 goals for The Blues forming a strong partnership up front with Luke Beckett.

His talent was spotted by then

Blackpool boss Nigel Worthington who snapped him up in August 1999. He made his debut for The Seaside in the 2-1 victory over Wrexham at the start of the 1999/2000 season and went on to score 10 goals during his first campaign. However, he really made his mark partnering Brett Ormerod the following season when the pair scored 50 goals between them in all competitions, Murphy weighing in with 23 of these.

Unfortunately, John's career at Bloomfield Road has been blighted by injury and this campaign he has only appeared in half Blackpool's games



netting 8 times. He will be hoping to stay injury free over the coming months as The Seaside

chances of avoiding the drop will be greatly enhanced by his goal scoring prowess.



thegaffer Colin Hendry

Following a long and distinguished playing career, ex-Scotland international Colin Hendry made his first step into management in June last year when he took over the reins at Bloomfield Road from Steve McMahon.

In a playing career spanning over 20 years Hendry made over 625 appearances for 8 different clubs including a loan spell at Bloomfield Road in 2003. He gave his longest service to Blackburn Rovers with whom he appeared over 350 times during two spells at Ewood Park and most noticeably was part of the Premiership winning side in 1995. Hendry also represented his country on over 50 occasions, including 3 appearances at the 1998 World Cup finals in France.

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HEAD -2- HEAD



Luke Garrard

Jamie Slabber

Who has recently taken over as Manager of Nottingham Forest?	Gary Megson	Gary Megson
Can you name the Hollywood couple who have recently announced their split?	Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston	Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston
The first Bond movie was released in 1964. What was the title?	Not sure	Goldfinger
What was the score when Spurs played at Manchester United recently?	0-0	0-0, but it should have been 1-0 Spurs!
What colour is the cue ball in pool?	White	It's white
From where did Swindon sign Jerel Ifil?	Watford	Watford
The professional world heavyweight champion 1964-67, Muhammed Ali had a catchphrase. What was it?	'Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee'	'I am the greatest'
On a darts board, what number is directly opposite No.1?	19	20
Who is the official matchball supplier of the Coca-Cola League footballs?	Mitre	Mitre
How many miles is it from White Hart Lane to The County Ground?	86 (closest answer wins)	72 miles

Final Scores



8/10

7/10

Verdict: In the battle of the Londoners, Luke Garrard emerges as the winner just pipping Spurs loanee Jamie Slabber by a point.

Who would you like to be featured in the next Head2Head? Or, if there is a question you would like to be featured, then just send them in to chris@swindontownfc.co.uk

Previous winners: David Duke, Brian Howard, Steve Robinson, Steve Book, Christian Roberts.



CommercialView

with Mike Sullivan

A Warm Welcome to our Match Sponsors George Wimpey Homes, Clarion (GB) Ltd, AA Drainaway and Greenbridge MOT Centre, and to our Matchball Sponsors Tom Godfrey, David & Susan McGoldrick and The Evening Advertiser.

The Draw Is Today!

At half time today, we will be drawing the names out of the drum of the winners of the four main prizes of this years CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR DRAW. The draw was sponsored by BLOOR HOMES and the prizes to be won are:

- 1st Prize:** £1,000
- 2nd Prize:** A Weekend for Two in Amsterdam
- 3rd Prize:** Tea for Two at the Ritz and tickets to see a top West End theatre show
- 4th Prize:** A V.I.P Day out at STFC for four people.

We will draw out the runners prizes after the game in the Platinum Lounge. Result sheets with the names of all the lucky winners from the draw will be available on

Tuesday 18th January from 2pm in the afternoon and can be picked up from the front reception desk in the Main offices of the Club.

All the lucky winners will be notified by post, and result sheets will also be sent to all supporters who sold tickets on behalf of the Club. In my next programme notes against Stockport, I will announce all the names of the lucky winners who won a V.I.P Day out at the Club for selling books of tickets.

On behalf of the Club, may I thank those of you who supported the draw by buying or selling the Christmas/ New Year tickets for the Club. I would also like to thank BLOOR HOMES for their continued great sponsorship.



▶ A representative from ESP Colour receives a signed and framed STFC matchday programme.



▶ Lee Holmes presents a signed football to one of the Matchball Sponsors against Colchester.



▶ Match Sponsor Gary Barnes presents Man of the Match Lee Holmes with a bottle of champagne.

Sponsors vs Colchester United



▲ The Match Sponsors line-up with the Captains and Officials (and Rockin' Robin!) before Kick-Off.

Matchball Sponsors

Tom Godfrey

A loyal Town Ender who saw his first Swindon game in 1987, **Tom Godfrey** is here today as a Matchball Sponsor. He is joined by girlfriend, Clare, who although a Derby fan is slowly being converted to joining the Robins. Brother and travel companion Titch will also be in attendance this afternoon.

Tom is hoping for a strong finish to the season and for some of the fair weather fans to return and hopefully to keep on coming!

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NO true Swindon Town fan can afford to miss out on the new-look Evening Advertiser. Every Monday kicks off with The Red - our new eight-page pullout on Town's big match

The full 90 minutes are relived in words and pictures, complete with all the analysis, stats and reaction from Andy King and his players. Whether you were at the game or not, you'll just have to read The Red.

Our unrivalled coverage of Town then continues throughout the week. Every night we bring you the latest news and the thoughts of our chief sports writer Jon Ritson. We also have exclusive columns from Sammy Igoe and Rhys Evans and - new this season - is the Ex Men, where a former County Ground hero gives their thoughts on the current game. Town and the Adver - we really are the winning team.

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George Wimpey



George Wimpey Homes, is the first of today's Match Sponsors. They have been in the Swindon area since 1963 and are the country's largest house builders. They specialize in detached

houses and are the market leader in this sector. Their party today is led by Director and General Manager, Mr. Philip Towl and both he, and the Company have been much valued long term sponsors of the Club.

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Greenbridge MOT Centre

Another Match Sponsor today is the **Greenbridge MOT Centre**. Every football club needs local support and none come any better than the lads from the Greenbridge MOT Centre. Run by the owner Mr. Keith Mayo, the Company come along to most home games, but their support is always guaranteed at mid week home games and also all the Club's Sporting Dinners. They are a great bunch of lads who always enjoy themselves. This is always confirmed when we see the size of their bar bill at the end of the game.

David and Susan McGoldrick

Another of today's Matchball Sponsor's are David and Susan McGoldrick and their friend Fred Tower. David McGoldrick is a regular follower of the Town despite not living in the area. He hails from North London and tends to go to watch Tottenham Hotspur every week at White Hart Lane. Amongst his favourite memories in football are two from Wembley. The first was as a young man of 24, he watched Tottenham destroy Leicester City in the 1961 F.A. Cup Final and his second was when he witnessed Don Rogers scoring the winning goals against Arsenal in the 1969 League Cup Final. "That was a great day for me, not only for beating Arsenal, but seeing Don walk around the Gunners goalie, Bob Wilson for the third goal just meant so much to me. I cried all the way home," said David. David's wife Susan, also likes watching football and follows Inverness Caladonian Thistle in Scotland. Hailing from near Loch Ness, Susan has been described by their two children, Claire and Paul, as being 'like the Monster' when her team loses. She is at the moment learning The Knowledge, a test that all London Cab drivers need to learn about getting around the streets of London. This is purely to help her improve her chances of winning when she plays Monopoly. Susan likes to keep 'up with Jones's' at all times and providing she gets everything, first she is happy. Susan plays the banjo.

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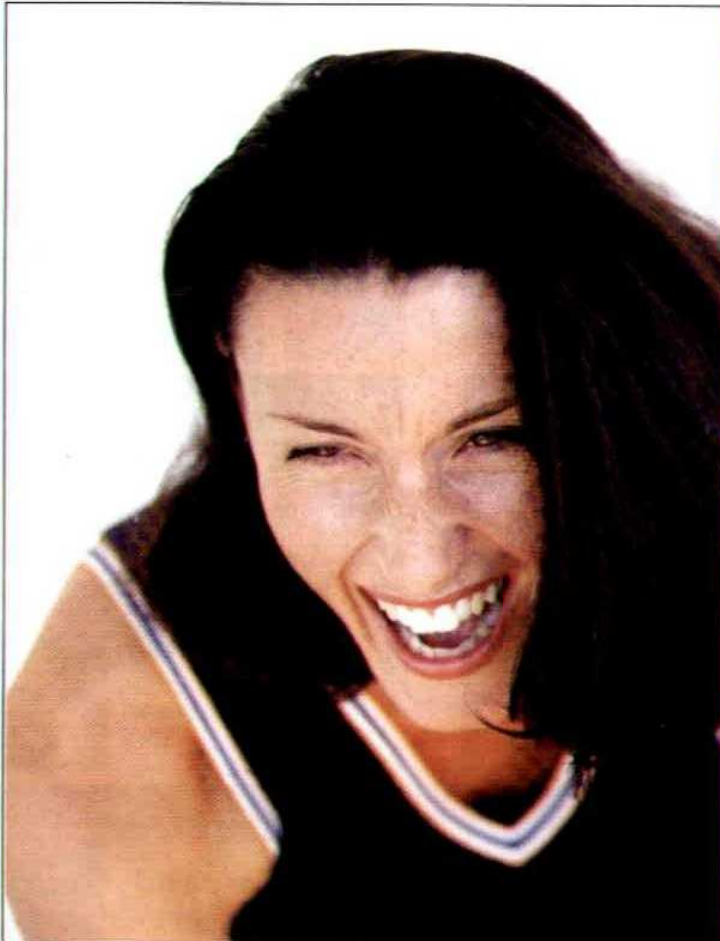


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Town Pipped By Cherries

A strong Swindon Town side lost out 2-1 to AFC Bournemouth on Tuesday afternoon, with the wind and rain playing their part in a blustery affair.

Although the game was down as an away fixture, Town were more than familiar with their surroundings as the game was switched to The County Ground due to the state of the pitch at The Fitness First Stadium.



Stefani Miglioranzi started the game in midfield whilst former Town trainee Ian Oliver and ex-loanee Eddie Howe appeared in the opposition starting eleven.

The Cherries could have broken the deadlock just 2 minutes in when Derek Holmes connected well

with a James Coutts corner, but the tall striker planted his free header straight at Steve Book in the Swindon Town goal.

Rory Fallon opened the scoring after 10 minutes following some good work from Michael Pook. A mistake from the Bournemouth midfield let Pook in down the left hand side of the penalty area and his well placed cross found Rory Fallon who, with his back to goal, somehow managed to divert the ball into the back of the net.

Rory Fallon then had the ball in the net for a second time on 15 minutes when he connected with an Ashan Holgate cross shot, but the big New Zealander was adjudged to have been offside and the goal was ruled out by the match official.

As the half time interval approached, Bournemouth hit back with a fortunate set piece equaliser after Andy Nicholas had committed a foul on the edge of the area. Derek Holmes' left foot shot went under the Town wall and with the aid of a deflection, found it's way past the motionless Steve Book

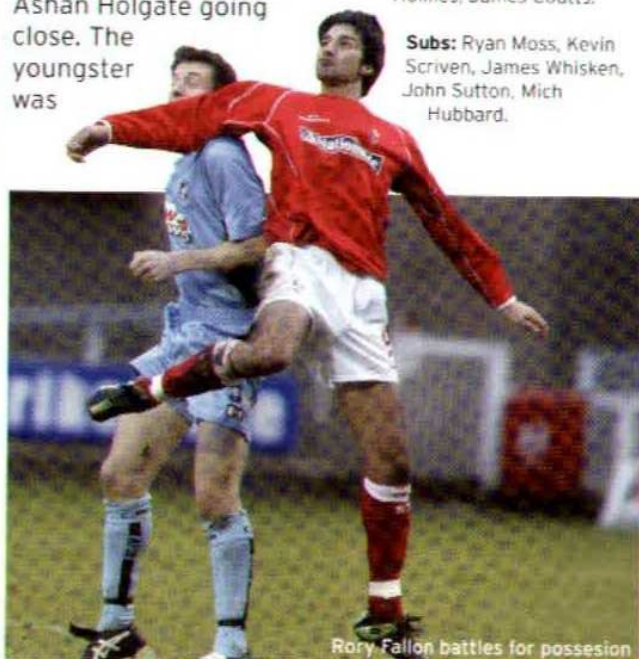


who could only stand and watch as the ball crossed the line for 1-1.

After the break the conditions did not ease up with swirling wind and rain sweeping across The County Ground.

However, Town were unable to edge in front and it was left to Bournemouth to take the upper hand as they made it 2-1 with Nick Kuyper taking advantage of a defensive mistake.

After the hour Swindon continued to search for the equalizer with Ashan Holgate going close. The youngster was



set free after a good ball from Pook, and after stepping inside his marker, unleashed a fierce shot which fell straight into the arms of Stewart.

Full-Time: Town 1
Bournemouth 2

Town: Steve Book, Ben Wells, Andy Nicholas, Kyle Lapham, Leigh Henry, Steve Robinson, Michael Pook, Stefani Miglioranzi (McKay), Ashan Holgate, Rory Fallon, Andy Caton.

Subs: Matt Bulman, Justyn McKay, Lance Lewis, Chris Taylor, David Stroud.

Bournemouth: Gareth Stewart, Stephen Purches, Ian Oliver, Eddie Howe, Nick Hudson, James Rowe, Nick Kuyper, James Hayter, Dani Rodrigues, Derek Holmes, James Coutts.

Subs: Ryan Moss, Kevin Scriven, James Whisken, John Sutton, Mich Hubbard.



Matt Hewlett

AMBITIONS... what are yours?

To achieve promotion with STFC.

BOOTS... whose boots did you clean when you were in the youth team?
Andy Cole's.

CALL... what phone do you have?
Nokia 6100i.

DRAW... can you draw a teammate?



EXCELLENT... best memory in football?

Playing for England at youth levels and making my debut at 17.

FOREIGN... if we could sign any foreign player, who would it be?

Thierry Henry.

GROUND... most impressive you have ever played at?

Highbury.

HOLIDAY... where is your favorite destination?

Calla Dor - Spain.

IMAGINE... where will we finish at the end of the season?

In the top six.

JOKER... who is the joker in the pack?

Steve Robinson is very quick, but Sammy Igoe plays a few pranks too.

KALEIDOSCOPE... who is the worst dresser at STFC?

Steve Robinson, a great 'eBayer!'

LET OFF... worst miss you have ever seen?

Ronny Rosenthal for Liverpool against Aston Villa.

MOTOR... what's your dream car?

A Porsche Cayenne 4x4.

NUTRITION... when the time is right, what's your favourite food?



BEST MEMORY IN FOOTBALL?

"Playing for England at youth levels and making my debut at 17."



WHO IS THE JOKER IN THE PACK?

"Steve Robinson is very quick, but Sammy Igoe plays a few pranks too."

Steak and chips.

OLD... what will you do when you retire?

I hope to do my coaching badges and stay in football in some capacity.

PROFESSIONAL... how old were you when you turned pro?

17.

QUALITY... what is your best?

Breaking up the opposition's play.

RETREAT... where do you like to spend time away from the Club?

I like to play the odd game of golf when the

trips do you least/most look forward to in a season?

Chesterfield and Bristol City.

UNKNOWN... tell us something we don't know about you?

I am a secret chef!

VOCAL... who is the loudest in the dressing room?

Christian Roberts, without doubt.

WILDCARD... who is your outside bet to win the FA Cup this season?

Everton.

X... sign here please

weather is nice. But aside from that just relaxing in front of the TV.

STRIKE... best goal of your career?

When I was at Bristol City I scored against Wycombe with a 25-yard curler. With my left foot!

TRAVEL... which away

YEARBOOK... which member of the squad would be your 'most improved' tag so far this season?

Luke Garrard because he gets better and better with every game.

ZERO-TOLERANCE... what is your pet hate?

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They say "delegation is the art of good management"! Proof again in this column with another contribution from my nephew Jon Adams who's had more time than me over the New Year to research matches between Swindon and Blackpool:

Matches between the Town and the Tangerines are always juicy affairs. Neither side has emerged victorious since Alan Young won the three points for us at the County Ground, towards the back end of the 2001/02 season.

"Youngy" was billed as the best player that Swindon had produced for some time. Unfortunately, that never

worked out, but the signs are that we have a bright future ahead of us. Luke Garrard has this season emerged as a product of the youth system with a genuine chance of becoming a regular for the first team, having already played a number of games without failing to impress. Leigh Mills was another bright young star, who was sold to Tottenham Hotspur as part of the "best endeavours" deal. Although he won't appear in a Town shirt in the near future, he's more proof that exciting things are happening in the youth system, now under the guidance of Woany & Iffy.

A lot has changed since that last win, notably the managerial movement at Blackpool,

with Steve McMahon being replaced last year by Colin Hendry. The return of McMahon to the County Ground was always looked eagerly anticipated, as is the visit of any former manager

At the time of writing, Swindon lie tenth in League One whereas Blackpool are twentieth, indicating perhaps that the Town can end this trend of draws against Blackpool and come

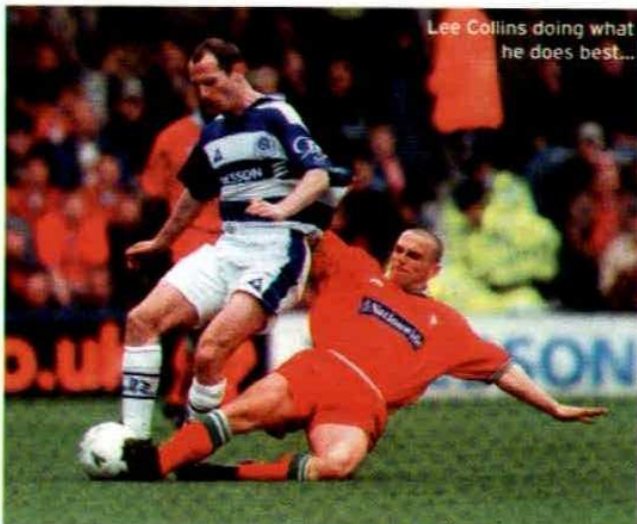
McMahon and Collins certainly provided Swindon with an element of "tenacity" which many point out that the current side is lacking...

or player. It was he who was in charge of Swindon when we won the second division championship in 1996, mathematically gaining promotion at Bloomfield Road, against today's opponents.

McMahon, along with Lee Collins, who also went to Blackpool from the Robins, certainly provided Swindon with an element of "tenacity" which many point out that the current side is lacking. Having said that, Steve Jenkins has shown he's capable of fulfilling such a role, with his superb performance against Brentford in particular. It emphasises that with such a small squad, having adaptable players like the former Welsh international full-back is vital for success.

out on top. "Football Manager 2005" agrees, predicting a score of 3-0 to Andy King's men, with a brace from Parkin and one from Fallon.

As impressionist Mike Yarwood used to say "and this is me" the bloke from the radio with a final comment. Hasn't the manager unearthed another gem in Lee Holmes. Our own pundit Phil King has recently likened him to former Sheffield Wednesday team-mate & England international Chris Waddle. Let's just hope the 17-year-old on-loan Derby winger doesn't take any important international penalty like the man famous for his hairstyle as well as his football talents!





SWINDON
TOWN
F.C.

Lee Holmes

21

Lee
Holmes

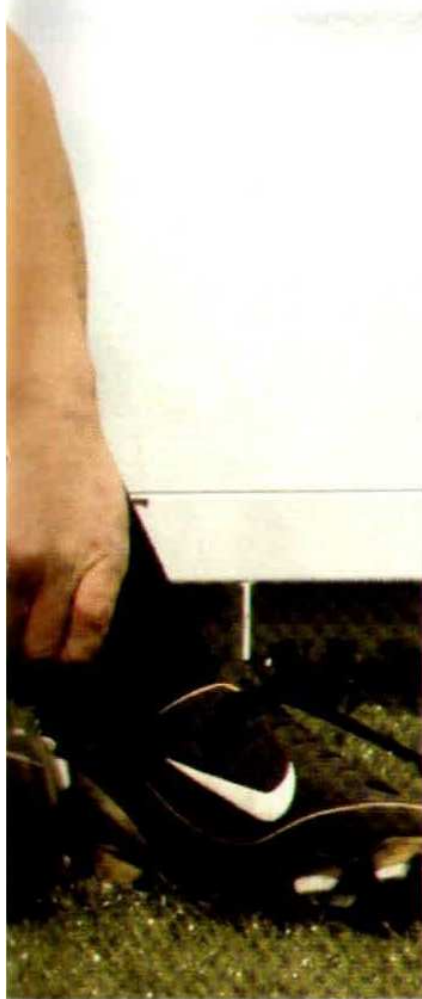




Lee
Holmes

Swindon's 'Holme Boy' on answering England's left-sided problem & breaking records...

Words: Nick Judd



At fifteen years of age the majority of us were probably experiencing girls for the first time. Or beer. At seventeen it was all about driving (and perhaps a little bit more beer than we could handle two years earlier!), but for Lee Holmes, however, Swindon's latest loan recruit, it was debuts, goals and broken records in what has been a remarkable young football career already.

At 15 (and 267 days to be precise) Lee made his league debut for Derby County as a substitute against Grimsby Town. Shortly afterwards he became the youngest player ever to appear in the FA Cup. Two years later and he'd already become a Derby regular, scored a hatful of goals for England's youth teams and more recently, contributed some sparkling moments to Swindon Town's topsy-turvy season.

Lee's been a revelation on Swindon's left-hand side, taking players on at will, delivering accurate crosses and generally looking a bit tasty. But can Swindon's temporary 'Holme boy' go on and claim a place in George Burley's promotion chasing team? And could he be the answer to England's left-sided problem?

It was quality and I'll always be thankful to John Gregory for giving me the opportunity. When you're 15, still at school and playing in front of 27,000, it's like a dream...



It's been a good period for Lee Holmes; you must be pleased with the way your spell in SN1 is going?

I've really enjoyed it. It's just about what I needed and winning three of the first four games was a great feeling.

You've just got arrived back in Derby (Lee travelling home to Derbyshire after a training session in Wanborough), has the travelling been a bind?

Not really, but I've been fairly lucky with the way things have gone. We've had so many games in the last few weeks that we've not trained as much – it's been more of a case of going to the games and back, and they've been fairly close to home!

The Bradford win came at a time when they were really motoring, it's a shame we couldn't repeat the feat at Hillsborough...

I think we've been playing well at the moment. The score at Hillsborough flattered Wednesday and I thought

we did enough to get a point at least, perhaps even nick a win. Even when we've not played well, Colchester for example, that can simply be put down as a bad day in the office. Even then, in conditions that didn't really suit our game we were the better side in the second half, we'd just given ourselves too much of a mountain to climb.

Were you surprised at how you were thrust straight into the side, and at how quickly you settled in?

The good thing was that I had a full weeks' training behind me and in that time I got to know the lads well. Everyone, including the manager and the coaches did their best to make me feel welcome and that helped. By the time the first game came I was really looking forward to it. Nervous, but I knew I could do a job.

I think many Town fans were surprised to see you play so confidently, because of your age...

The only way I know how to play is to run at

players, I'm not scared to do that. To be fair the fans were really good with me, right from the first game.

What's your assessment of the Town squad and League One – do you think we have what it takes to go up from what you've seen?

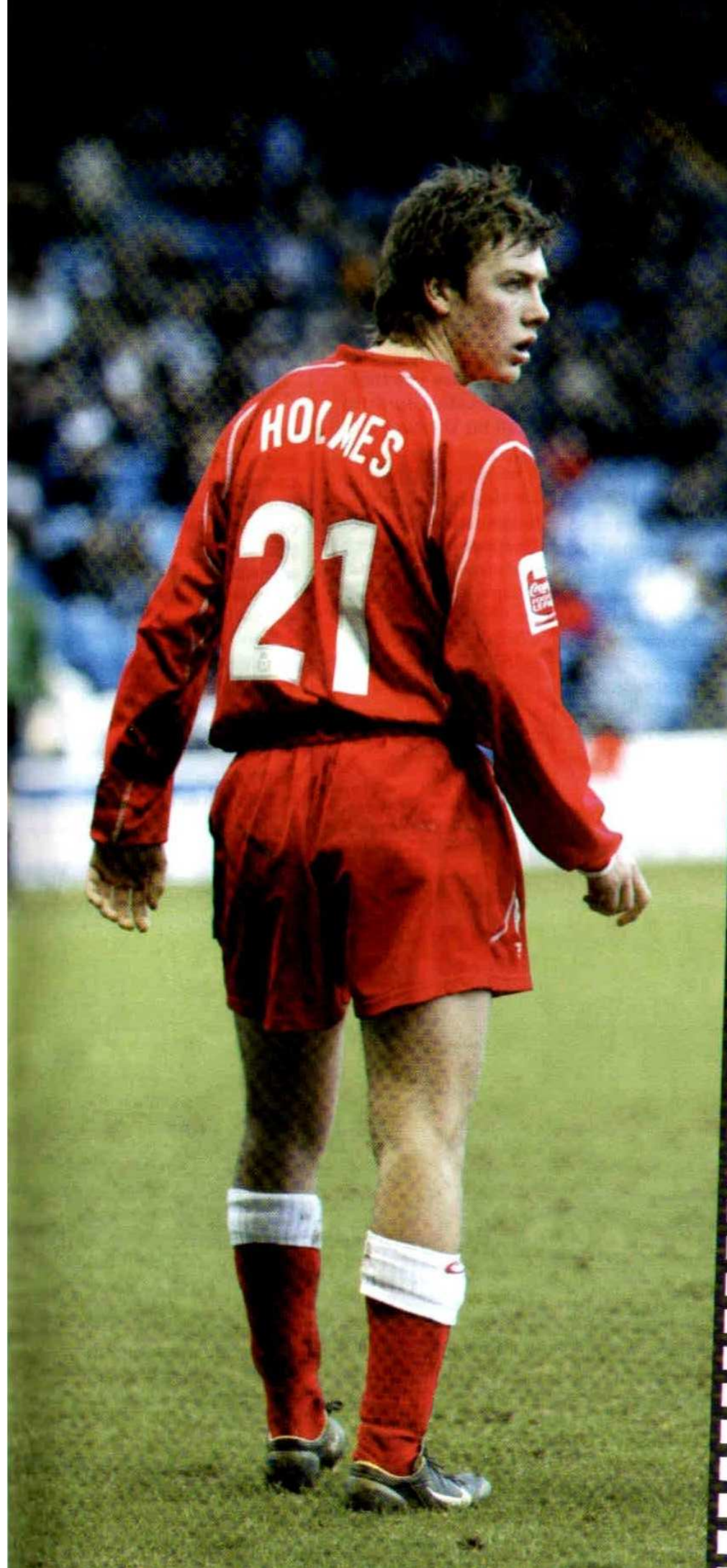
Definitely. You look at the teams we've played recently. Bradford, Brentford, Sheffield Wednesday... we've played well against all of them and deserved to win.

So what's next for you – can we expect an extension to your loan spell or is it a case of heading back to Pride Park and fighting for your place?

Well, the first thing to say is that I've loved my time here. The experience, the people, and the fans – it's been great. But at the end of the day I'm contracted to Derby County and so at some stage I'll go back and see what happens contract-wise there.

You played 20 games last year, have you been you surprised at the





lack of opportunities this time around?

I want to play games. It's a different experience playing in first team games in front of 25,000 people compared to the reserves. I was frustrated, so to come here and play has been excellent.

I suppose one advantage this season is that the size of Derby's squad has almost halved, that must mean more opportunities?

It works both ways. Yeah, the squad has got smaller, but the quality is getting better all the time under George Burley. There are some really good players there at the moment, and while there aren't so many players going for the places, they are better players. Although playing with better players can only help you improve your own game...

from the Premiership you have to have more faith in the youth side, there simply isn't the money to keep squads like that together. But George has also got a job to do in the transfer market, to bring in quality that the club can afford.

And its working, County look like they could make a surprise push for the play-offs?

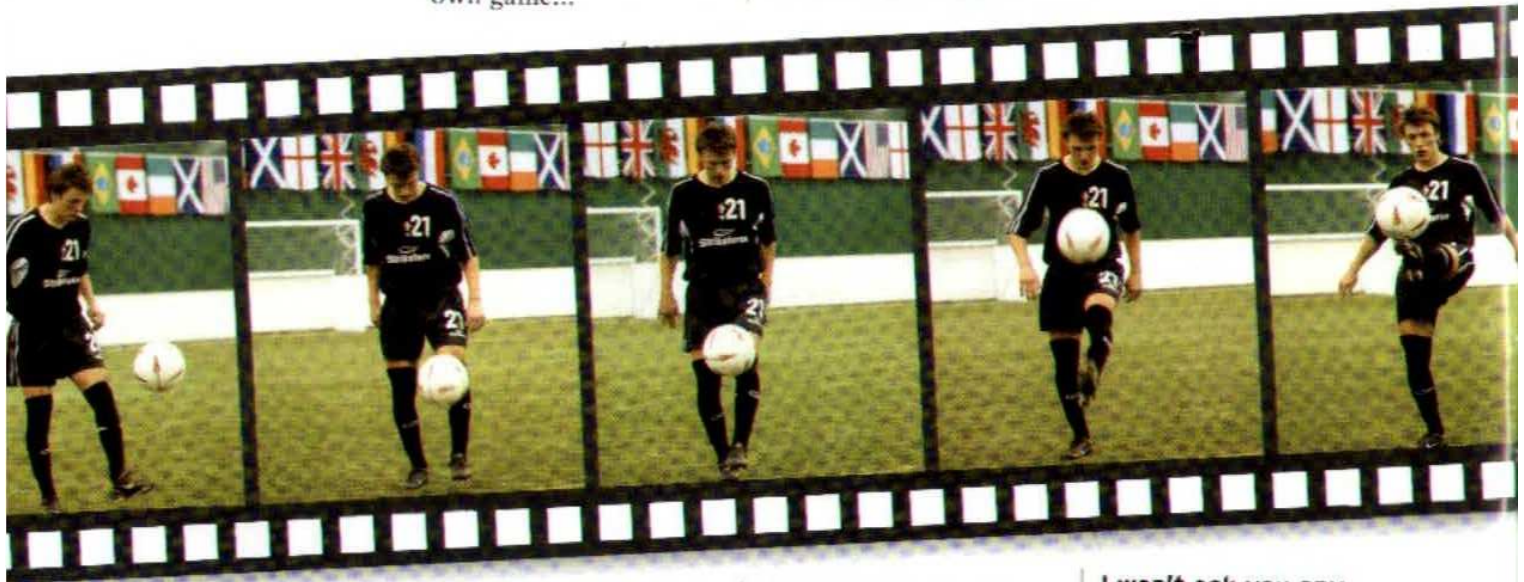
It wouldn't be that unbelievable for Derby to go up, staying in the Premiership would be a whole new ball game, though. The thing with the Championship is, like this league, is that everyone beats each other. We're doing well and have some good players, so we'll see how the season develops.

Leon Osman played at Derby last season. What did you make

Everyone that saw Leon play at Pride Park knew of his ability. We knew it wouldn't be long until he broke into their first team. In fact he scored on his return at Everton, it didn't take him long to do well! It would be great if I could go back and start for Derby – if that's the case I'll have Swindon and Andy (King) to thank!

You've not done too badly for such a short career, though. You've broken a few records; does everyone ask you about what it was like to be Derby's youngest ever player?

Yes, it's normally the first question! But it was quality and I'll always be thankful to John Gregory for giving me the opportunity. When you're 15, still at school and playing in front of 27,000, it's like a dream.



George has assembled a different squad than the one we were used to in the Premiership. No more Ravanellis...

With the club going down

of him and were you surprised to see him do so well at Everton on his return? Are you hoping your spell here will have the same effect on your return?!

I won't ask you any more about it then! What about your international career though - you've played for England at every age level and scored plenty of goals?

My highlights were scoring against Germany and France. Getting to the European Championships was good too, I was injured and couldn't play - but it was cool to get there. Going away like that is a special occasion for a young player...

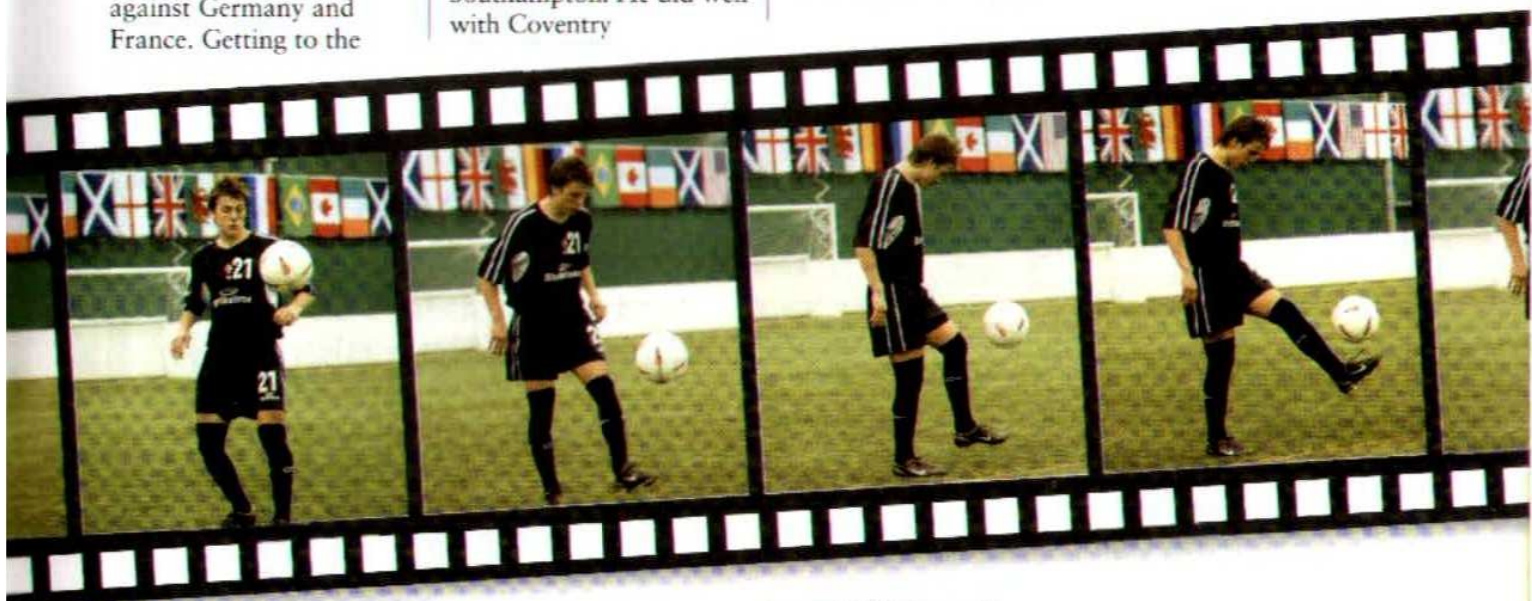
I think if I was to go back to Derby and play regularly, perhaps even go up with them and play in the top flight, I'd have a good chance of going up a few levels, but I'm playing with the 19s this year. I'm looking at the under 20s next season. I've been lucky to score one of the fastest goals, 37 seconds against Northern Ireland, but my highlights were scoring against Germany and France. Getting to the

Jerel's brother Phil with England? And Matt Mills, the youngster Southampton signed from us a few years ago...

Yeah I know Phil well. Like Jerel he's quick, but as a right-back he likes to get forward a bit more. As for Matt, we room together with England and we get on well too. He's doing really well at Southampton. He did well with Coventry

What about you're England future... is it too early to be looking to answer England's left-sided problem?!

It would be nice. There's a long way to go before that opportunity comes along, if at all. There are a couple of players coming through in that position, James Milner and Stuart Downing, but hopefully one day I



European Championships was good too, I was injured and couldn't play - but it was cool to get there. Going away like that is a special occasion for a young player.

And you've played with

on loan and could do a job for Southampton I'm sure.

Who'd win a 50/50 tackle, Jerel or Phil?

[laughs]. I'll say Jerel for his size. But it's a tough one!

could fill that role.

We think you'd give Downing a good run for his money one day...

From what I've seen he looks great. Inside, outside - he gets crosses in and scores goals.



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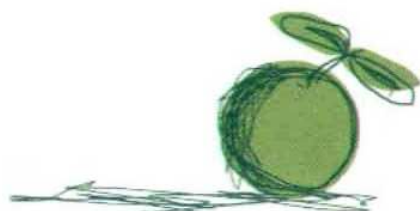
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Ladies Fixtures 04/05

Sep 5	Clevedon	2-1
Sep 12	Reading Royals	0-2
Sep 19	Forest Green	3-2
Sep 26	Reading	6-3
Oct 3	Newton Abbot	3-0
Oct 10	Keynsham	3-5
Oct 31	Bath City FAC1	4-0
Nov 7	Chesham	2-3
Nov 14	Clevedon FAC2	2-1
Nov 28	Plymouth	P-P
Dec 5	Langford FAC3	1-2
Dec 12	Forest Green	1-2
Jan 9	Newton Abbot	A
Jan 23	Launton	H
Jan 30	Clevedon	A
Feb 6	Reading Royals	H
Feb 13	Reading	A
Feb 27	Keynsham	H
Mar 6	Cardiff City	A
Mar 13	League Cup SF	
Mar 27	Chesham	A
Apr 3	Plymouth	H
Apr 24	Launton	A
TBC	Cardiff City	H
Midweek	Oxford City	H&A

All games played on Sundays unless stated. Kick off 2:00pm

Next Home Match

Sunday 23rd January 2005

Swindon v Launton

See the girls in action on Sunday at Aldbourne FC. Kick Off 2:00pm. For more information call John White on 01793 824470.

Christmas Joy for Town Reserves



The Town Ladies had hoped to restart their South West Combination League programme after the Christmas break, but their game at Newton Abbot was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch.

The Reserves continued the pre-Christmas good run with a three goals to nil victory away to Bradford on Avon in the Wiltshire County League. After a goal less first half within ten minutes of the restart Carly Smith put the Town ahead and then added a second. Cara Costello got the third.

The Town have ten

players selected for the Wiltshire County Under 18 squad to face Gloucestershire in the South West Counties Championship. Claire Moreton, Michelle Brown, Lisa Coe, Natasha Chapman, Alicia Hazzard, Leanne Hunter, Tara Lofts, Catherine Reid, Jody Steenaart and Sarah Jane Thompson will all report to Westbury for the game.

The Under Fourteen "A" visited Bradford on Avon and won by eight goals to nil. Polly New scored four, Jade Reynolds two and there were goals Chloe Bryant and Stephanie Lewis. The Under Fourteen "B" side

picked up their first point of the season when they drew a goal a piece with Wootton Bassett Town. Laura Goodchild found the net for the Town.

The Under Twelve beat West field in Midsomer Norton by three goals to nil. Hayley Neate scored twice and Hazel Matthews got the other one.

The Under-10's drew three each with Swindon Badgers with Kirstie-Elle Maisey scored two and Kellie Webb also found the net.

Tomorrow the Town travel to face Cardiff City Bluebirds in a South West Combination League fixture. City have dropped just three points this season and look to be strong contenders for the title. The Reserves entertain Bradford on Avon at home in the Semi-Final of the Wiltshire County League Cup. Kick-Off 2.00pm at Aldbourne.

Michelle^{one2one}Brown

Age: 18
Home Town: Swindon
Occupation: Student
Position: Midfield
Previous Teams: None
How did you start playing football?
 "I played with my Dad in the garden and then went along to Coleview Girls."
Favourite Team: Swindon
Favourite Player: Sam Parkin
Favourite TV Program: Friends
Favourite Film: When Harry Met Sally
Favourite Food: Roast Dinner
Favourite Holiday Destination: Portugal
Today's prediction:
 Swindon Town 1 - 0 Blackpool



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Grant Smith

'Smudger' brings you the latest from
The County Ground with a behind
the scenes view of life in SN1...

Hello and welcome to today's game against Blackpool. After such a busy Christmas period it has been nice to have a normal week of training to prepare for today's game, without having to travel or stay in a hotel somewhere.

It is going to be an important few weeks for the club now, with games we have got to win if we are to achieve something this season. From a personal point of view the New Year has started well for me with the two starts and two goals and hopefully given the chance I can keep that ratio going.

With it being just after Christmas and having lots of time on the motorways travelling to

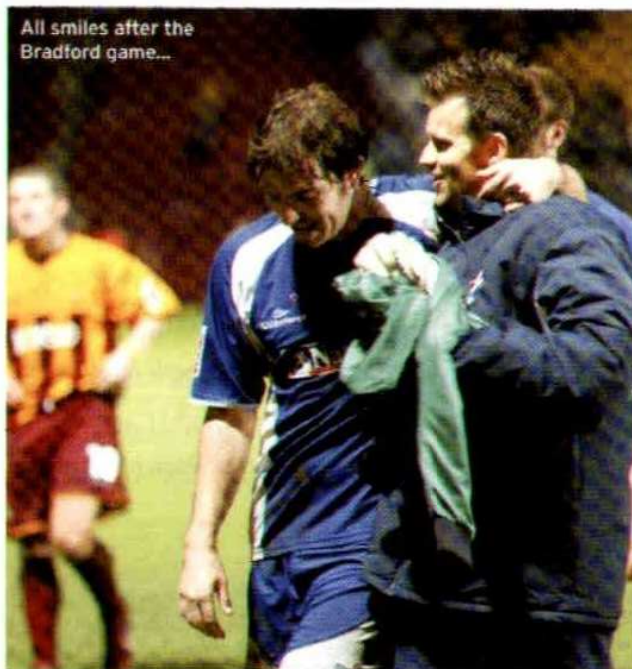
also brought out some new characters in the card school. Before, it was all pretty friendly with just a few of us playing to pass the time away, but now the bus has been turned into a Las Vegas casino with some of the biggest card sharks I have ever seen. The biggest winner though came from Sean O'Hanlon who after watching a few games asked politely if he could join in. Let's just say Sean, or 'Maverick' as he is now known has played the game before. The big test will come on the next long away trip though as some boys have been spotted already buying Poker books and sunglasses. Watch out 'Maverick!'

A special mention this week must go to our

Before, it was all pretty friendly with a few of us playing to pass the time, but now the bus has turned into a Las Vegas casino with some of the biggest card sharks I have ever seen...

games, it has given me a chance to use the poker table my Mum gave me for Christmas. It folds out and is placed on top of any dining table or flat surface. It has

physio Dick who is having a busy time of it. I know Dick doesn't like to be mentioned in columns, as was shown last year when 'Dukesy' said he looked like



Magnum P.I, but I do feel sorry for him right now. Not only has he an ever-increasing casualty list to look after but one of those on the list is Christian Roberts. The fact the physio room isn't the largest place in the world and the fact Christian is the loudest man in the world leaves little to the imagination. Let's hope for Dick's and our sakes he can get Christian back as soon as possible.

Finally to "Nugget of the Week" which this week has a clear winner. One thing to mention about this weeks winner though is he will have

to remain anonymous to save absolute embarrassment. The only clue I can give is to say he is part of the coaching staff. The reason the member of staff in question is being given the award is for sitting in his car waiting for us to arrive at Hillsborough for the game. Nothing wrong with that I know, but when we are all on our way to Bradford and he is at the wrong ground a week early you can see why his identity must remain a secret! The only bonus I can think of is, at least we weren't playing down South. Nugget!



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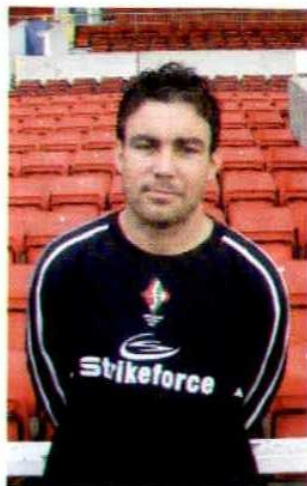
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Football in the Community

Soccer Centre Welcome



Good afternoon and welcome to today's game with Blackpool here at The County Ground.

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself as the new Soccer Centre Co-Ordinator. I have been in the post for nearly two weeks now and have been a coach previously, so know a lot of faces around the various



coaching centres.

Currently we have ten Soccer Centres running at the moment, with a new centre planned at Dorcan for the near future. We have spaces available at various centres around the region with age ranges from 5 - 10 years old. The new centre at Croft is due to open today and I would like to

take this opportunity to welcome all those children on board.

I would like to thank Adam Greaney for all the hard work he has put in over recent weeks and months. If you would like information about availability on our courses, please just give us a call on 01793 617718.

Shane Hewlett



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Community Update

Hello and a warm welcome to this afternoon's fixture.

Our Saturday Team Club is back up and running and this afternoon we would like to welcome Pewsey Vale U'8s (right)



who are here with Cameron Livingstone and Mark Herriman. We also welcome Chippenham Town Under 8's (left) who are here with Jamie Chivers.

A big thank you must go to the Wiltshire FA for their kind donation of £1,800 for our Ability Counts Project and in addition a £500 donation was made towards the Twilight Football on Friday nights. Many thanks



to Barry Stephens, Wiltshire County Development Officer, for his ongoing support with both projects.

Kelloggs Frosties will again be sponsoring

our Half-Term Fun week in February, so to book your place just give us a call on 01793 421303.

Enjoy the game,

Clive and Jon

MatchAction



Coca-Cola League One

Monday 3rd January 2005
Valley Parade, 3:00pm

Bradford (0) 1

Swindon (0) 2

Attendance: 8,239

Bradford



(Crimson & amber shirts, crimson shorts)

- 13. Paul Henderson
- 5. David Wetherall
- 6. Mark Bower
- 7. Steven Schmacher
- 9. Nicky Summerbee
- 10. Dean Windass **1**
- 11. Owen Morrison
- 12. Lee Crooks
- 14. Darren Holloway
- 16. Lewis Emanuel
- 32. Zema Abbey

Subs Used

- 21. Danny Forrest (32)
- 15. Ben Muirhead (11)

Subs Not Used

- 1. Donovan Ricketts
- 2. Peter Atherton
- 3. Paul Tierney

Swindon



(Blue shirts, blue shorts)

- 1. Rhys Evans
- 3. Grant Smith **2**
- 4. Matt Hewlett
- 7. Sammy Igoe
- 9. Sam Parkin
- 11. David Duke
- 12. Jerel Ifil **S/OFF**
- 17. Brian Howard
- 19. Matt Heywood
- 21. Lee Holmes
- 23. Luke Garrard

Subs Used

- 16. Steve Robinson (4)
- 8. Rory Fallon (16)
- 18. Alan Reeves (8)

Subs Not Used

- 20. Steve Book
- 5. Jamie Slabber



Photos: Chris Adams



Coca-Cola League One

Saturday 1st January 2005
County Ground, 3:00pm

Swindon (0) **0**

Colchester (2) **3**

Attendance: 6,468

Swindon



(red shirts, white shorts)

- 1. Rhys Evans
- 4. Matt Hewlett
- 7. Sammy Igoe
- 9. Sam Parkin
- 11. David Duke
- 12. Jerel Ifil
- 16. Steve Robinson
- 17. Brian Howard
- 19. Matt Heywood
- 21. Lee Holmes
- 23. Luke Garrard

Subs Used

- 5. Jamie Slabber (16)
- 15. Andy Nicholas (17)

Subs Not Used

- 20. Steve Book
- 8. Rory Fallon
- 18. Alan Reeves

Colchester



(blue & white shirts, blue shorts)

- 13. Dean Gerken
- 2. Greg Halford
- 4. Gavin Johnson **1**
- 5. Wayne Brown
- 6. Kevin Watson
- 9. Craig Fagan
- 12. Pat Baldwin
- 18. Liam Chilvers
- 25. Sam Stockley
- 26. Neil Danns **1**
- 28. Richard Garcia **1**

Subs Used

- 23. John White (28)
- 14. Stephen Hunt (4)

Subs Not Used

- 35. Mark Cousins
- 3. Joey Keith
- 8. Gareth Williams

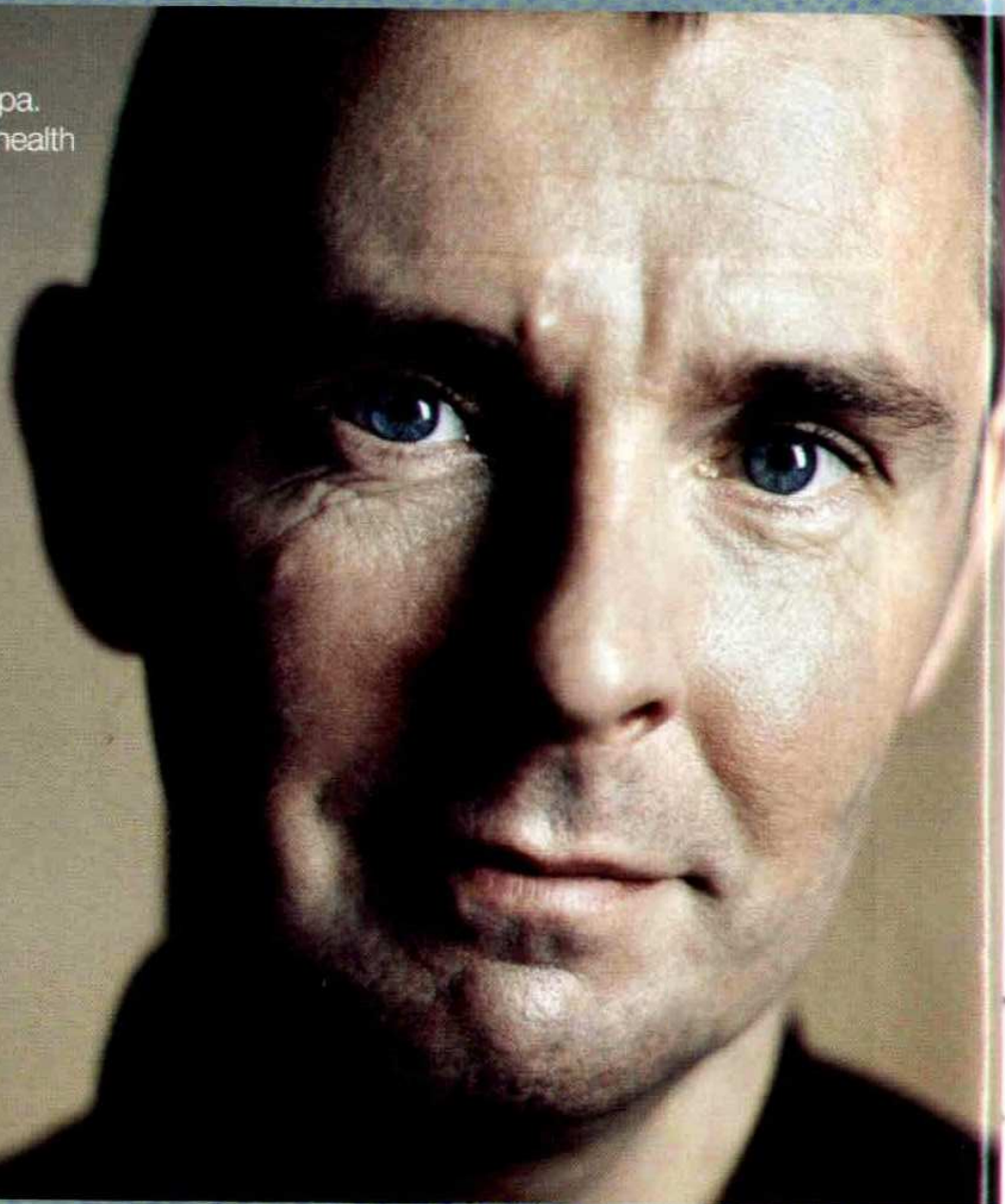
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League Review

08.01.05



With the FA Cup taking precedence last weekend, we only have five games to catch up on in Coca-Cola League One...

 Swindon Town suffered their seventh away defeat of the season at Sheffield Wednesday as the Owls continued their fine recent run with a comfortable home win.

Paul Sturrock's side went ahead five minutes before the break when Joey O'Brien, on loan from Bolton, scored from the edge of the area after a poor defensive clearance.

Another loan star, Kenwyne Jones, made the game safe on sixty-nine minutes with his seventh goal in six games since joining from Southampton.

That result means Wednesday stay fourth despite the win, but have moved to within three points of Tranmere




Paul Green

Rovers in third place. Town stay in tenth, just a single point ahead of Doncaster Rovers who took advantage of the Cup schedule and leapt up three places.

 Rovers saw off Port Vale by two goals to nil at Belle Vue. Tim Ryan returned from suspension to smash in from twenty-five yards and give his side the lead on the stroke of half time.

Despite some heavy second half pressure from the visitors, Rovers made the game safe in injury time when Paul Green finished neatly after a Jermaine McSparran cross.

Port Vale now drop to seventeenth in the league standings, but look safe with a ten point gap between them and the relegation zone.


 Huddersfield and Torquay shared the spoils at the Galpharm Stadium in a 1-1 draw.

Efe Sodje moved the Terriers ahead on twenty five minutes when he nodded home for his first goal of the season.


However, the lead proved short-lived as

just eleven minutes after the interval Kevin Hill lashed in a twenty-yard strike to earn The Gulls a point.

Huddersfield stay in mid table after failing to take advantage of the home fixture, and Torquay pick up a much needed point as they attempt to distance themselves from the bottom four.

 On Monday night Tranmere Rovers entertained Bristol City at Prenton Park, with the game ending in a 1-0 win for the away side.

A 10th minute strike from Leroy Lita was enough to see off Rovers, who remain in third place in League One, 5 points adrift of second placed Luton. Bristol City move up to 5th place.

 Finally, Peterborough and Wrexham fought out a 2-2 draw at London Road on Tuesday night.

Posh were 2-0 up inside twelve minutes with goals from Callum Willock & on-loan Guy Branston. A win would have seen them move out of the

relegation zone, but a second half strike from Juan Ugarte and a Branston own-goal earned Wrexham a share of the spoils. Both teams remain in the bottom four.



Efe Sodje



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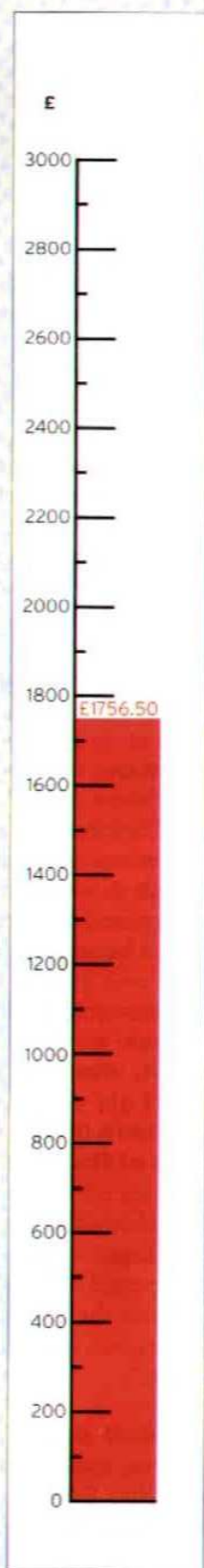
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Dave Spurling	£3.00

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Half-Time Draw

We have a couple of winners to catch up with today from the Christmas and New Year period. **Brentford:** R.Fisher from Swindon who won £404 with ticket number 657
Colchester: V.Austin from Blunston whose prize was £422 for holding ticket number 699.

the M4 next week so why not join us for...

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We are pleased to announce that we are donating two new stretchers to the Football Club that will be available at The County Ground on match days should there be a case of emergency, either on or off the pitch.

Whilst we hope their use will be very limited they will be re-assurance that should an incident occur then help will be at hand, whether required by player or fan.

We hope that we will be able to present them to the club at today's match.

Pounds4Points

Nine points over the Christmas period has helped to swell our fund for youth development to over £1750 on this initiative alone.

We would really like to push the amount for each point earned by the team to over £50 and if just 4 fans or groups of fans would pledge just 50p per point, for the rest of the season, we would make it. Can you help?

Contact Mavis Knight
C/O The County Ground, County Road, Swindon SN1 2ED
or visit our website (above) to download the form on which to supply your details.

Away Travel

There is a short trip up



Jamie Cullum

Wiltshire Jazz sensation Jamie Cullum was at The County Ground over the festive period to watch his favourite team in action.

It was the first opportunity for Cullum, Britain's fastest-selling jazz artist, to see the Town play since being at University and what a busy post-student life it has been! With his first major label album selling over a million copies, making it double-platinum, these certainly are the days for this twentysomething.

Having recovered from meeting the Queen and performing all over the world, he took time out to take in the League One encounter between the Town and Brentford on Tuesday 28th December. Chris Tanner spoke to the 25-year old and found out a little more about one of Town's now celebrity supporters.

What were your thoughts on the performance against Brentford?

"It was a cracking game. Obviously I haven't had the opportunity to watch many Swindon

games because I have been away but my Dad has been keeping me informed. It was a good game of football and I thought they played fantastically well."

Firstly, tell us a little about your history of following the team...

"We moved to Swindon

My Dad sends me texts after the games and keeps me in touch if I am out of the country. I get half-time scores and things like that...

when I was four or five and we have always kept up with the local teams. My Dad then became involved through his company, PHH, with sponsoring the club and I have been coming to games on and off since I was about 13, before I left for University."

What was the last Town game you saw?

"That would have been when I was still at University, probably when Steve McMahon was in charge."

How do you follow the results when you are away performing?

"It's not actually too difficult because my Dad sends me texts after the games and keeps me in touch if I am out of the country. I get half-time scores and things like that so I get to know the results wherever I am in the world."

You played at The Apartment in 2004,

any plans to play in Swindon again?

"I started playing all over the place from the Moles Club in Bath to the Pizza Express here in Old Town. I played a lot of other small venues in Swindon and I think the last gig I played here was at The Apartment."

"We are at the end of our gigging schedule at the moment as we are making a new record, so when June arrives I will be doing some more concerts and would love to do another one in Swindon."

What are your New Years Resolutions, to

drink less booze and spend less money on shoes?

"Actually, my News Years resolution this year is just to make another record and to try and to spend some more time at home with my family. That would be nice too."

What was your best and worst Christmas present?

"The best one was just being at home and having a great Christmas lunch. The worst one was a glass with loads of wax and sweets inside. However, when you burnt it you couldn't even get the sweets out - rubbish!"

In 2004, what was the best gig you played both in and outside of the UK?

"Glastonbury festival was my favourite in this country. The best one outside the UK was in Amsterdam at the Paradiso."

If you could play anywhere, apart from The County Ground, where would it be?

"I would love to play The Royal Opera House, except I would rip all

the seats out and have everyone standing."

You recently played at Celtic Manor, what were your thoughts on the night, being such an intimate venue?

"It was a great night and really good fun. It was a little more sedate than I am used to with people sitting down and being very sophisticated. I prefer it a bit more sweaty and packed.

"We were all looked after so well and it was such a great place. It was just good to be near home and doing a gig."

Where will Swindon finish in the league this season?

"I would like to see them in the Play-Offs and then who knows? On the basis of what I saw against Brentford, I could see it happening..."





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STFC Photo Gallery

Tangerine Dreams

Bragging rights will be at stake in the Smith household for today's match between Town and Blackpool. The picture far right (top) shows 'Pool fans Rachel Smith, boyfriend Lee Thomas, his brother Joel and their Grandad Mick Keen after last season's match which ended up 2-2 at Bloomfield Road.

Rachel is the daughter of avid Town fan Adrian Smith who helps out with match reporting on the official Club website and Adrian says that nothing less than a Town victory will keep the peace in the Smith household!

Home & Away

Pictured bottom right are members of the House family who have recently returned to Salisbury after living in Australia for the past 3 years.

Dad Russell House is in the middle of the picture, with son Ben (1) to the left and daughter Ashleigh (5) to the right. They are pictured of course outside the Sydney Opera House.

View from Afar

Pictured below are Town fans Thomas and Jacob Lodge. The twins are aged 6 1/2 years old and live in Yeppoon in Queensland, Australia. They follow the Town's fortunes from afar week by week and are pictured here showing off their replica kits which they received at Christmas.



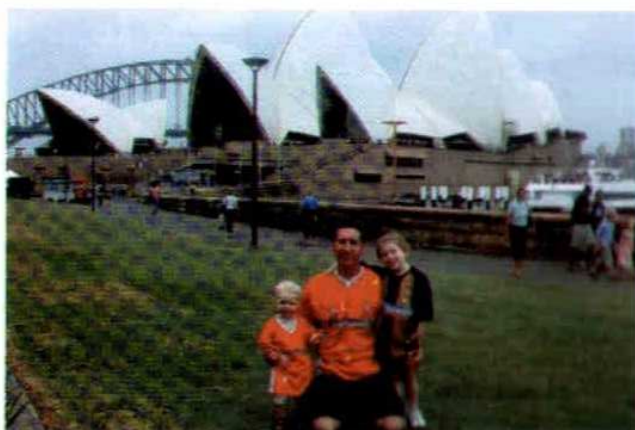
Flashback

Town vs. Blackpool 95/96

Finney Wonderland

The photo below shows striker Steve Finney slotting the ball under visiting keeper Steve Banks as Town secure a 1-1 draw on their way to winning the Second Division Championship in September 1995.

James Quinn equalized for the Tangerines in front of a healthy crowd of 12,470.



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JUNIOR ROBINS



A warm welcome to all Junior Robins here this afternoon and I have some exciting news about our next trip.

On Monday 14th February (first day of Half-Term) I have arranged a trip to St. Mary's Stadium - the home of Southampton FC. The Club joined the Southern League in 1894 and won the championship for three years running between 1897 - 1899 and again in 1901, 1903 and 1904. They spent 103 years at The Dell before moving to their new home in 2001 at a cost of around £32 million. In 1966 Southampton were



promoted as runners-up into Division One led by Ted Bates but were then relegated in 1974. They were FA Cup winners in 1976 beating the favourites Manchester United 1-0. In 1978 the Saints regained promotion to Division 1.

We will be traveling to Beaulieu Motor Museum, the ancestral home of the Montagues since 1538 and which houses 250 vehicles, some legendary record breakers, vintage, veteran and classic motorbikes and cars.



Prices for the trip are £20 for Junior Robins and £25 for Adults. For further information please contact me on any of the details below.

Andrea Langham
01793 525619
andrea.juniorrobins@tiscali.co.uk



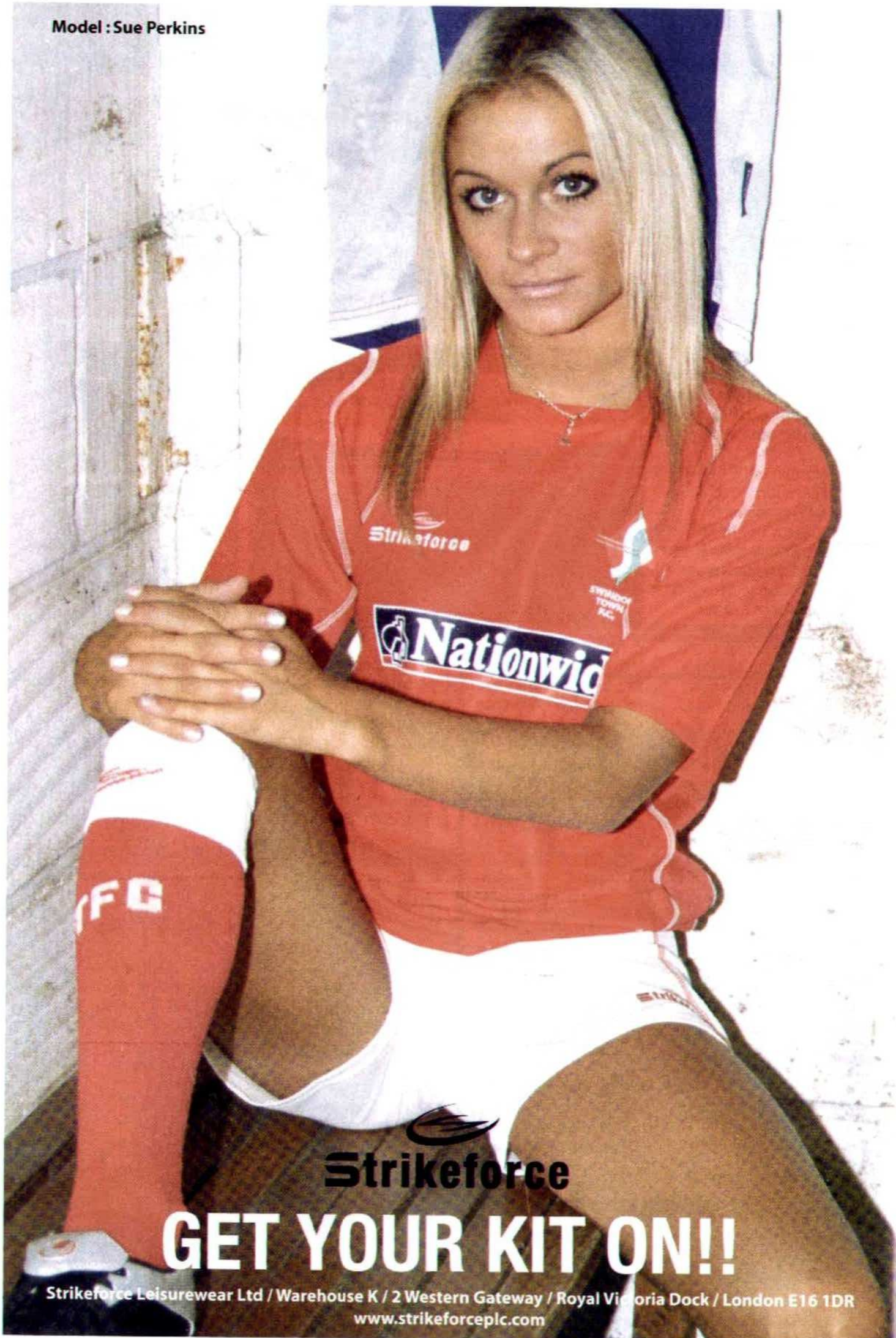
HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

Megan Maskelyne
Luke Kuczynski
Perry Harris
Tom Parker
Matthew Wilkins
Luke Edwards
Steven Wedge
Rhys Merriman
Dean Sprules
Daniella Fiore
Charlie Rowde
Ziam O'Flynn
Scott Wyllie

Farrell Copp
Jonathan Martin
Liam Wiltshire
Samuel Chamberlain
Christopher Ward
Daniel Hunt
Michael Lees
Jamie Duggan
Christopher Akrill
Sam Toll
Louis Bouwers
K Bevan
Aaron Compson

Steven Chapple
Philip Hardy
Adam Devine
Christopher Forster
Tyler Hyde
Chelsea Jones
Ashley Peart
Stephen Tamkin
Graham Smith
Alexander Veale
Niall Walsh
Georgia Wyatt
Alex Thomson

Model : Sue Perkins



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Oh What Fun it is to see Swindon win Away...

... at Brentford, Saturday 22nd January, Griffin Park

Words: Richard Keast



Getting there:

By car: This is by far the easiest option, Brentford is virtually a local derby. Leave the M4 at junction 2 and take the A4, going around Chiswick Roundabout so that you end up coming back on yourself. Continue along the A4 and at the first roundabout take a

left onto Ealing Road. The ground is located about half a mile down this road on your right. Street Parking.

Pubs:

If you like a pint of Fullers, this is the place for you! Brentford is famous for being the only ground in England that has a pub at every corner of the ground. The surrounding land was formerly owned by the Griffin Brewery, hence Griffin Park. If you are feeling thirsty, get there early and have a

pint in all four. They are the Royal Oak (a small locals pub), The Griffin (serves Fullers real ale), The Princess Royal & The New Inn. The New Inn is the favoured pub for away supporters.

Ground:

Going to Brentford is like watching football as it used to be, open to the elements and close to the pitch. That said the majority of the ground is seated and covered, and there are plans to move to a new home in the not too distant future.

Fave game:

Has to be the 2-0 demolition early in the 95-96 division 2 Championship season. We played Brentford off the park that day and it set the tone for glorious promotion season. The 0-0 in 92-93 was memorable for the fact that we gained an away point having had both our strikers (Dave Mitchell and Chalkie White) sent off in the first half but even then, our nine men almost snatched victory when Paul 'Zippy' Bodin shaved the bar late on.

... at Southend, Tuesday 25th Jan, Roots Hall, LDV Area Semi-Final

Getting there:

By car: From M25 take Junction 29 and follow the A127 to Southend. Continue towards the town centre, through the lights near to the Bell Pub. At the next roundabout turn right (3rd turning), continuing on the A127. The ground is on the right just past the next traffic lights. If you turn right as you reach the ground, this will put you behind the away end. Give yourself loads of time as I am sure we all know what the M25, the original 'road to hell' can be

like! If you get there late parking can be a complete nightmare as well so LEAVE EARLY.

By train: If you go by train, get off at Prittlewell, the station before Southend Victoria as this is a much shorter walk to the ground. If you are going back to Swindon or beyond however, you will never make it back that night unless you leave at half time!

Pubs:

The Spread Eagle & Golden Lion pubs are

only yards apart, on the A127, just up from the car park entrance to the Main Stand. A little further away are The Bell which you pass on your way into Southend on the A127 and the Nelson in North Road.

Ground:

Plastic seats bolted on to terracing make it rather cramped and the obligatory pillars block your view unless you are right at the front. It is under cover and you can make some noise. Let's hope we have something to shout about!

Fave game:

Errr...struggling a bit on this one, I will go for the 3-1 win at the CG in March '92. This was when my all time favourite Town player, 'Deadly' Duncan Shearer played his last game and scored his last goal (His 32nd of the season no less!) for the club before being sold to promotion rivals Blackburn. We hardly won again that season. Blackburn were promoted and the rest is history. Oh dear... I could say much more but I won't!



	in advance	matchday
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Junior	£7.00	£9.00
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Junior	£7.00	£9.00
Wheelchair Enclosure / Helper	£10.00	£10.00
Family Enclosure** (Arkells)		
Adult	£19.00	£19.00
OAP & Student	£12.00	£12.00*
Junior	£4.00	£4.00
Town End		
Adult	£15.00	£15.00
OAP / Student	£12.00	£12.00*
Junior	£9.00	£9.00
Wheelchair Enclosure / Helper	£10.00	£10.00

* Please note NO student tickets are available on matchdays
 ** Maximum 3 children per adult in Family Enclosure

Bookinginfo

Opening Hours

The Box Office is open from 9:00am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday, Matchday Saturdays from 9am to Half-Time, and Full-Time to 5:30pm. Non matchday Saturdays from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Midweek matches from 9:00am to 8:30pm and full-time to 10:00pm.

Call - 0870 443 1894

Have your credit or debit card details at the ready.

Fax - 01793 333 780

Please state clearly the game(s) you wish to buy tickets for, the number of tickets you want, what type of ticket (Adult, OAP, Student or Junior) the value and your credit or Debit Card details including your name and address. State if you wish to collect the tickets or have them posted.

Email -

enquiries@swindontownfc.co.uk
 Enquires only.

Payment

Payment can be made by cash, cheque (made payable to Swindon Town Football Club - no later than five days before travel) or by credit/debit card. All bookings must be paid for by 9:00pm on the Thursday prior to the match.

Away Travel - 01793 536 757

SAS Travel organise coach trips for all away games. Their County Ground Booking Office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10:00am & 2:00pm and on Thursday evenings between 7:00pm & 9:00pm and before all Home games until 15 minutes before kick off. The SAS Travel Club 24-hour answer phone info service is 01793-825935.

ComingUp...

STFC vs. Brentford

Saturday 22nd January, KO 3:00pm

at Griffin Park

The same prices will be available on matchday, but no student discounts...

Terrace

Adult £12
 OAP/Student £6
 Child £3

Seating

Adult £17
 OAP/Student £12
 Child £3



STFC vs. Southend United

Tuesday 25th January, KO 7:45pm

at Roots Hall

All tickets are pay on the day...

Prices

Adult £12
 OAP/Student £6
 Child £6



STFC vs. Stockport County

Saturday 29th January, KO 3:00pm

at The County Ground

Tickets are now on sale from the ticket office...



STFC vs. Oldham Athletic

Saturday 5th February, KO 3:00pm

at Boundary Park

All tickets are pay on the day...

Prices

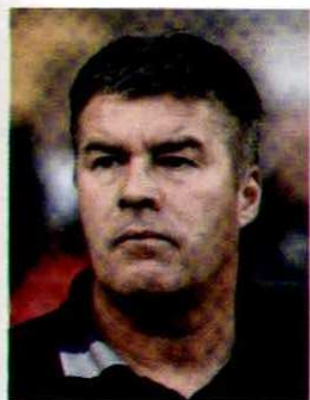
Adult £18
 OAP/Student £9
 Child 13-16 £9
 Child Under 12 £3



UpNext...

Gazette & Herald

Dave Wallis of the Gazette and Herald previews the next visitors to The County Ground...



 **Coca-Cola LEAGUE 1**

Saturday 29th January '05
KickOff 3.00pm

The next game at the County Ground is on Saturday 29th January when Stockport County are in town.

The Hatters have hit the bottom of the League One table and as January entered its second week County had claimed just 17 points in the first 26 games of the season, leaving the club already five points adrift of MK Dons immediately above them.

Directors rarely allow that sort of record go unpunished, and after little more than a year Sammy McIlroy was relieved of his managerial duties in December to be replaced by former Sheffield Wednesday boss Chris Turner.



Earlier in the season Town travelled to Edgeley Park and returned with a point. An away draw is usually considered a good outcome, but Town had been 3-0 up and cruising with little more than 15 minutes to go.

Goals from Luke Beckett and Stuart Barlow cancelled out a brace from Rory Fallon and a strike from Jamie McMaster, so there's a lesson to be learned there for all those who leave a ground early.

October 2003 saw the

most recent visit of County to Wiltshire and the visitors left with all the points after recording a 2-1 win. Tommy Mooney opened the scoring for Town before Stuart Barlow equalised. Aaron Wilbraham's 87th minute winner claimed what was only Stockport's second win in 13 League attempts.

So, despite County's lowly position, Town have not had the happiest times against them in the recent past and there's more reason to take the game against the Hatters

seriously. The last time Stockport ventured to the West Country they grabbed a 2-1 win at Torquay on New Year's Day. Then, last season's top scorer Rickie Lambert notched a brace.

Stockport are fighting for their League One lives while Town will want to put the disappointment of the defeat at Sheffield Wednesday behind them and continue to press for a play-off place. The County Ground will be the place to be as the first month of 2005 draws to a close.



Next-Up

at the County Ground



Stockport County • Coca-Cola League One
Sat 29th Jan 05 • Kick-Off 3.00pm

Tickets are on sale now! Contact the Ticket Office on **0870 443 1894**

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Swindon Town



M	ANDY KING	played	scored
1	RHYS EVANS		
2	SEAN O'HANLON		
3	GRANT SMITH		
4	MATTHEW HEWLETT		
5	JAMIE SLABBER		
6	STEVE JENKINS		
7	SAMMY IGOE		
8	RORY FALLON		
9	SAM PARKIN		
10	STEFANI MIGLIORANZI		
11	DAVID DUKE		
12	JEREL IFIL		
13	MATT BULMAN		
14	CHRISTIAN ROBERTS		
15	ANDREW NICHOLAS		
16	STEVE ROBINSON		
17	BRIAN HOWARD		
18	ALAN REEVES		
19	MATT HEYWOOD		
20	STEVE BOOK		
21	LEE HOLMES		
22	MICHAEL POOK		
23	LUKE GARRARD		
24	ANDY CATON		
25	BEN WELLS		



K P Stroud

• Referee



I Harris

• Assistant 1



J Farries

• Assistant 2



D J Hine

• 4th Official

STFC PREVIOUS LINE-UP

Sheffield Wednesday 2-0 Swindon Town
Coca-Cola League One • 08.01.05



BFC PREVIOUS LINE-UP

Leicester City 2-2 Blackpool
FA Cup Third Round • 08.01.05



Blackpool



M	COLIN HENDRY	played	scored
1	LEE JONES		
2	LEAM RICHARDSON		
3	GARETH EVANS		
4	KEITH SOUTHERN		
5	PAUL WARHURST		
6	SIMON GRAYSON		
7	RICHARD WELLENS		
8	KEIGAN PARKER		
9	JOHN MURPHY		
11	MARTIN BULLOCK		
12	DANNY COID		
14	MATTHEW BLINKHORN		
15	STEPHEN MCMAHON		
16	JAMIE BURNS		
17	SIMON WILES		
18	ROBERT EDWARDS		
19	PHIL DOUGHTY		
20	ROB CLARE		
21	KEVIN STUHR-ELLEGAARD		
22	MARK MCGREGOR		
23	SIMON LYNCH		
24	PETER CLARKE		
25	LEWIS EDGE		
26	PAUL EDWARDS		
28	DANNY WHITTAKER		
29	SEAN PATERSON		
30	ANDREW MANGAN		
31	BRADLEY JONES		
33	MATTHEW SHAW		

Today's Fixtures

Barnsley vs Huddersfield
Bournemouth vs Sheff Wed
Bristol City vs Bradford
Hull City vs Peterborough
Luton vs Stockport
Milton Keynes vs Colchester
Oldham vs Doncaster
Port Vale vs Brentford
Swindon vs Blackpool
Torquay vs Hartlepool
Walsall vs Chesterfield
Wrexham vs Tranmere



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