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2008-09



Coca-Cola LEAGUE 1

vs Swindon town

Saturday 13 December 2008
Kick-Off 3.00pm



PLAYERS ARE WORKING HARD AND GETTING CLOSER

We have worked hard these last few weeks to try and change our results. The Stockport game looked like much of the same. Our game at Leicester gave us some encouragement for our efforts. It was very much a counter attacking team selected and that is how it turned out, I feared the worse when they scored early on, but Calvin Zola's equaliser gave us renewed hope.

After all the good work we had put in it was a blow to concede a soft goal from a corner, headed in direct by a player under 6ft. The defeat was softened by the good reception given to the players by the travelling supporters after the game, and also by the few greeting us when we arrived back home later that night. We carried that confidence into the game at Carlisle and were rewarded with two goals inside seventeen minutes from Shaun Miller. The first was a magnificent strike low to the far post and in off the post. It reminded me of something I wrote in the programme earlier this season. Again it was good to give the supporters something to shout about all evening.

Expectations were higher travelling to Cheltenham. Unfortunately we were unable to produce the performance required. It didn't

help to have Calvin Zola and James Bailey off injured so early in the game, but Tom Pope and Ben Rix have enough appearances between them. Ben having many more than James. We had some chances, especially in the first half, our play was very scrappy in the second half. The game was fairly even and with a bit of luck could have gone our way.

We have been working hard again to ensure we don't need luck. We haven't had much as at the time of writing, Friday morning, we have six players either out injured or ill or doubtful. However, we are not short of players so maybe one or two might get an unexpected chance without us having to play untried youngsters.

Talking of youngsters, congratulations to the Youth team who triumphed 3-1 at Carlisle during the week in the FA Youth Cup. They have now beaten Bury, Stockport and Carlisle with a trip to Birmingham as the next step in the New Year.

A welcome today to Swindon who were in the top league not so many years ago. They have had a tough time in the recent years though it looks as though the worse is behind them, they to are looking for a new Manager and I'm sure they will be decent today.

We will try and produce a performance, which encourages you to get behind the team.

"THE DEFEAT WAS SOFTENED BY THE GOOD RECEPTION GIVEN TO THE PLAYERS BY THE TRAVELLING SUPPORTERS AFTER THE GAME, AND ALSO BY THE FEW GREETING US WHEN WE ARRIVED BACK HOME LATER THAT NIGHT."



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Following a disappointing first half of the season, Crewe Alexandra will be hoping for a vast improvement in the second half. The Railwaymen will need to show some fantastic form to stand any chance of surviving in League One beyond this season, but we have performed Great Escapes before and are capable of doing it again.

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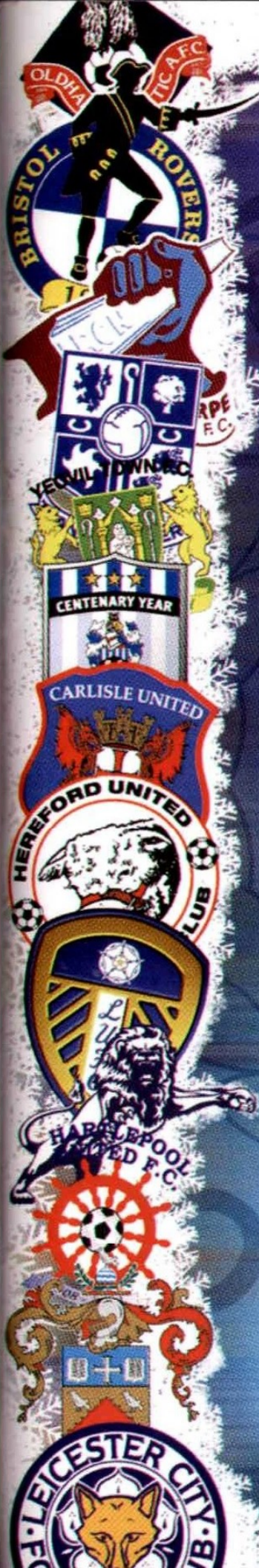
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COLIN DANIEL

A NEW VARNEY ON THE HORIZON?

The short-term appointment of Dario Gradi as the club's caretaker manager has ignited hope into what has developed into a fairly large squad here at the Alexandra Stadium. A summer rebuild at the club saw eight new players arrive for a substantial amount of money and that is before you even consider the wage contribution being invested for loan players such as Dennis Lawrence, Kenny Lunt, the disappointing Stuart Green and the unfortunately injured Jake Livermore. With the club rightly also handing professional contracts to a further six promising Academy graduates you can see why our squad numbers have once again gone over the 30 mark.

With such competition in place, the club hierarchy and supporters entered the season with great optimism, but after an encouraging start that saw famous wins over Championship clubs Barnsley and Bristol City in the Carling Cup, our inability to achieve results on a consistent basis ended Steve Holland's tenure at the club on the 18th November. In a results' driven business, our poor form

ultimately cost Holland his job. It is the first time Crewe had to take such action for 25 years, following such a successful era under Dario Gradi.

With the club needing some necessary time to appoint a successor to Holland, in his interim position Dario has not been afraid to make changes to the starting X1. Following a disappointing second half performance against Stockport County, Dario elected to shuffle his pack. In has come the tried and trusted Kenny Lunt on loan from Sheffield Wednesday and his calmness in possession and experience has already made a difference to our fairly young midfield.

Shaun Miller and Calvin Zola have both been given a chance to show that they can score enough goals to emulate the likes of Nicky Maynard and there was also a change in goal with Stuart Tomlinson replacing Steve Collis for the trip to the Walkers Stadium.

Whilst that change was expected, the introduction of Colin Daniel on the left wing did come as a major surprise. The former Eastwood Town forward has emerged as a real contender following a confidence boosting loan spell at Halifax Town. Alongside another of our former

youngsters Junior Brown, Daniel prospered at the Shay, scoring five goals during his month loan. That impressive tally included a superb hat-trick against Clitheroe.

He returned to Gresty Road full of confidence and promptly scored a brace against Stockport County in the Cheshire Premier Cup. The quality of his goals in that 3-2 win certainly registered with the club's coaching staff, but it took the appointment of Dario to finally give Daniel his opportunity.

He was the surprise inclusion for our recent trip to Leicester City and he certainly didn't look out of place on what was his senior debut for the club. His only other appearances came as a late substitute against Hartlepool United nearly a year ago to the day and a brief outing at Carlisle back in August.

Daniel himself has been surprised by his elevation into the first-team picture: "I was surprised when Dario told me I was going to be in the starting eleven for the Leicester City game. I didn't expect it all and I was a little bit nervous going into the game, but once I was out there I felt all right.

"I did better than I expected because I haven't played for a while and I was worried at my

level of fitness over 90 minutes at this level, but I felt fine and did okay for my first game. I was just disappointed that we couldn't quite pick up a point for our efforts."

Now he has enjoyed a taste for it, Daniel is convinced that he can start to find the net on a regular basis. The 21-year-old has brimming confidence and self-belief and he is determined to be involved as much as possible during Crewe's fight against relegation.

"I will play wherever the manager wants me to play. I will just go out there and try and do my best for the team. I arrived here from Eastwood as a winger, but have played a few game upfront and I've enjoyed it.

"I know I can score some goals. If I get a one-against-one or a foot in the box I will score a goal.

Daniel adds: "It has been a really difficult time for the club but everyone has got to remain together. If we do and the fans get behind us then I think we can still get out of trouble."

And as for the man who discovered Daniel as a promising teenager in the non-league scene, Neil Baker feels there is even more to come from the pacy attacker.

"Like many young players, Colin can be inconsistent with his play but he has come here from non-league and has needed time to settle in and find his feet at a professional level.

"He's similar to Luke Varney in that respect and, if he ends up half as good as him, we'll settle for that. There is more to come from him and he has just got to continue to work hard to improve his all-round game, because he does have a lot of good attributes and he can certainly take a goal."

"IT HAS BEEN A REALLY DIFFICULT TIME FOR THE CLUB BUT EVERYONE HAS GOT TO REMAIN TOGETHER."

Player Interview

07

www.creweindex.net

BILLY JONES

WE HAVE TO KEEP ON BELIEVING

Billy Jones thoroughly enjoyed his time at his former club Exeter City, but Crewe Alexandra's regular left back is desperately trying to avoid a cosy return to the other St James' Park next season! If Crewe don't start picking up points and soon then League Two football will be inevitable and we haven't played at that level since gaining promotion

adrift at the bottom of the table and a further five behind Brighton in 20th place.

Jones and the rest of the Alex lads appreciate they have one almighty struggle on their hands in the second half of the season, but a few positive results over the busy festive period could have us looking more optimistically at 2009. We aren't daft, we know the players will have to show promotion form to have a

be off us a little. You only have to look at the form shown by Bournemouth at the tail end of last season to realise that nothing is impossible.

Kevin Bond's spirited Cherries looked dead and buried following a 2-1 defeat against Gillingham at the end of March, but with pressure seemingly off them they embarked on a terrific run of six wins on the bounce! A 1-0 win over Crewe then had us nervously looking over our shoulders as we contested the final day fixtures. We were awful, losing 4-1 at home to Oldham but thankfully Carlisle did us a favour by holding a rampant Bournemouth at Brunton Park. If it hadn't been for entering administration and receiving a ten-point deduction that accompanies that Bournemouth would have stayed up quite comfortably.

Crewe need to produce a 'Bournemouth like' run as soon as possible to give ourselves a fighting chance of staying up. There will certainly be no giving up and perhaps the arrival of a new manager may provide the spark we need? In the meantime, Jones admits the short-term appointment of Dario Gradi in a caretaker role

"WE KNOW WE ARE THE SIDE THAT NEEDS THE POINTS THE MOST SO IT IS UP TO OURSELVES TO START WINNING AGAIN."

with Shrewsbury and Chester City back in the 1993/94 season.

Crewe have endured a miserable first half of the season, winning just two league matches and following Saturday's disappointing 1-0 defeat to fellow strugglers Cheltenham are now six points

chance of miraculously escaping the drop, but belief in the dressing room remains strong.

Written off by the bookmakers as odds-on favourites to be the first club relegated, and nobody expecting us to mount another great escape, the pressure may

has unleashed a new lease of life.

Billy explains: "Dario has taken over the caretaker role and seems to be enjoying it, and we are enjoying playing under him. From our point of view, we are still excited and looking forward to every game.

"I think the fans can see now that we are trying to play a bit better. That's not necessarily a different way but the confidence is a major part in football and I think we did start to lose that at the end of Steve's (Holland) reign. Dario has come in and given us a new lease of life and we're cracking on at the moment and hopefully it can carry on.

"We are pleased not to be conceding loads of goals in a game and having to score three or four to win a game. It is a start and hopefully we can keep that going. We have a lot of games coming up over Christmas and New Year and it's always a difficult time for all sides. We know we are the side that needs the points the most so it is up to ourselves to start winning again."

Everyone was left deflated by last weekend's 1-0 defeat at Cheltenham, especially after such an encouraging performance at the current league leaders Leicester City and that FA Cup victory at Carlisle. We genuinely thought we would go to Whaddon Road and kick-start our revival. The defeat has left us rooted to the bottom and clinging on by our fingernails to those above us.

"It was so disappointing to lose at Cheltenham, especially after we had played so well against Carlisle just a few days previous. It was a massive game for us and it seems as if that is the case every week now.

We have just got to dig in and keep going. We have been saying it all season, we have been so unlucky in games, and things haven't gone our way - but when you are bottom it does seem that we aren't getting anything.

"It is so tight, you go win three or four games and you can be in the top half the other way as well, you win three or four on the back and you slip back down again. All we can do is win over the games at Christmas and think this is a great chance for us to collect some points in a short space of time. We have got to start making up ground on those above us.

"I hope that the fans can see that we are still putting in 100% effort week in and week out and sometimes the luck isn't going for us and we're conceding goals we shouldn't.

He added: "I don't think we're thinking about relegation at the moment, certainly none of the players, it is different for the fans but as far as we are concerned we are League One players and will continue to be that - we don't want to drop, and there is not one player in there that wants to drop out of the league and we will try our best to make sure we stay in it."



they said what?

"For the goal they got across us again at a corner and that needs changing there because it was too easy. I will have zonal marking because we lose our men far too easily.

We have got to show a lot better quality than that because if we don't then we will be relegated. The players here have got to be doing better and if not then we will have to go out and get better players."

Caretaker boss Dario Gradi annoyed his side lost to Cheltenham due to a lapse at a corner.



"Saturday was a big disappointment because we didn't think there was a lot of quality from both sides. They defended well, had more legs in midfield and had a little bit up front. The disruption at the beginning of the game didn't help us and to lose the game from a set piece was even more disappointing."

Assistant manager Neil Baker felt it was certainly a chance lost at Cheltenham last weekend.

"There is a lot of quality at the club and I still think everyone can beat everyone on their day. We have said that for a few years now, but this season is as close as ever in terms of the teams. We won't change, we will still go out and try and win every game we play in. We have been creating chances lately and now we have to start taking them, because if we do it changes the whole game."

The on loan Kenny Lunt still believes that Crewe are capable of going on a sustained run of results.

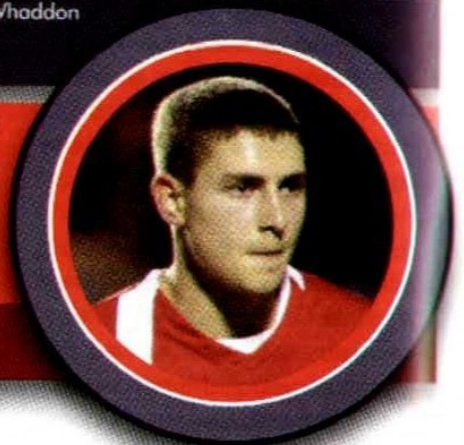


"I spoke to Dario and the things he said to me got me going again. I did consider going out on loan before the deadline because I just want to play games, but nothing materialised and I've been pleased that Dario has given me a chance. I have just got to knuckle down and see where that takes me."

Midfielder Ben Rix was back in the first-team picture at Whaddon Road following James Bailey's early exit.

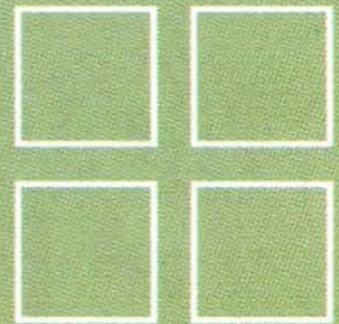
"The first one got underneath my feet a bit, but once I had struck it I knew it was in. The second one, Colin did well and I have picked up on the rebound and managed to stick it in. I was delighted with the goals and they were by far the best I've ever scored for the first-team."

Shaun Miller was back in the scoring groove away at Carlisle in the FA Cup.



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Regardless of who is appointed as the 26th manager of Crewe Alexandra, the club's renowned Football Academy has to remain. Whilst there are some supporters' of the opinion that the Academy should be downgraded thus making more money available for players' wages and transfer fees for the first-team squad, there is thankfully a majority who realise that without a successful Academy, there would have been no Football Club.

It has been our lifeblood ever since Dario Gradi elected to become our manager in 1993 instead of possibly taking up a similar offer from Bristol Rovers. If we hadn't have gone down the Youth development route, firstly with a well-organised Centre of Excellence and then by obtaining FA Premier League status in 1998, then its visionary founder Dario Gradi wouldn't have persisted so diligently as he did in those troubled first ten years.

also fully understand why players have to move on. Without the money generated by transfer sales, we would have made a substantial loss for every season apart when ITV Digital kindly gave us a couple of million for screening Football League matches.

If you consider things to be bad now, you should have been around in 1983 when the board were electing not to include a sell-on clause for David Platt because we desperately needed the £200,000 on offer upfront. Times were desperate then because the club's overall existence was at stake. We could have dropped out of the Football League entirely and gone bankrupt.

That doomsday scenario was only averted due to the hard work of Dario, our former first team coach Steve Holland, Neil Baker and countless others, because the Crewe Alexandra production line has generated over £20 million for the club in transfer sales. No club our size comes anywhere near that

given that opportunity, they are automatically placed in the shop window. Dario and the club have always had our players' best interest at heart. That is why when Arsenal were sniffing around Dean Ashton when he was just 16, we rebuked the idea of him signing for the Londoners because we wanted him to play in our first-team.

Ashton needed the experience and our supporters, who appreciate what this club stands for, deserved to see the talented youngster play for Crewe Alexandra. Despite Ashton almost immediately hitting the headlines, we were able to see a future England centre-forward lead our forward line for the first four and half years of his professional career.

When he was ready to move on, we received close to £4 million rather than the £1 million being touted about by Arsenal at the time. It is imperative that clubs like Crewe fight their corner and prevent the larger clubs from pinching our

ACADEMY REMAINS FUNDAMENTAL CLUB'S SURVIVAL

The man from Milan would have been off and we would never have experienced going to places such as Maine Road, the Stadium of Light or The Riverside. To sell the players we have and to still reach and establish ourselves in the second tier of English football was a remarkable achievement. The 'proper' fans deserve enormous credit too, because they appreciate the importance of patience and support our kids when they are finding their feet in the team. They

amount of money and many lower league clubs have tried to copy our example, but haven't had the patience to see it through.

That is why when our new manager does arrive he will have to appreciate the importance of producing our own young starlets and be prepared to give them a run in our first-team. Our youngsters are primarily groomed to appear in our first-team and as soon as they are deemed good enough to be

better players on the cheap. It may also be the case with Max Clayton, who is an emerging talent in our Academy. Dario will not contemplate selling him because he wants him to play in our first-team in the future and improve our team.

Scrapping the Academy scheme to save £500,000 or so a season

just doesn't make sense to anyone. We have spent close to £800,000 this summer, bringing in outsiders and they have struggled to improve us as a collective unit. With us selling our latest Academy graduate Nicky Maynard in the summer, we had to bring in reinforcements but at the moment none of our strikers look like emulating the goals he or his former striker partner Luke Varney were getting over recent seasons.

You could even argue that the only plus points to pick out of such a disappointing season is the emergence of Academy youngsters Michael O'Connor, James Bailey and more recently Stuart Tomlinson. Perhaps if we had been further up the league table, we could have seen the likes of Ashley Westwood, Josh Thompson, Luke Murphy and Chris Clements mark their debuts for the club. Instead they are having to move out on loan to gain regular football because it would be unfair to throw them into the team in our current predicament.

The Academy system only works in this country, if you are prepared to work hard at it and give youngsters their chance. We reinvest the money we earn from

Players as good as Maynard, Varney, Ashton, Vaughan, Hulse or whoever don't grow on trees. It takes a lot of hard work, to firstly find them and develop them into saleable assets.

As Dario himself said recently: "We rely on our good young players to finance the Academy. Nicky Maynard's sale finances the Academy for two years. That is the best way for us to raise money. But what I am saying to the other coaches is we have to do better with the other young players."

"I'd be surprised if we go away from the Academy model. The quality of kids we have here will make sure we don't fade into obscurity in the future.

"It is important that the boys stay with us and that they are not lured by the bigger clubs by promises and money. We have lost one or two boys, but we have not lost the bulk of our players and that is crucial to the survival of the club.

Dario added: "We have also got to improve as coaches to make our young players even better. If you look at someone like Luke Varney, if we had been able to bring him in at a younger age he could have become a Premiership player. It could have been the same with Rodney Jack, he had the technical ability, but just lacked the no-know you need to succeed in the game."

Crewe Alexandra Football Club may have struggled on the pitch ever since we sold Dean Ashton to Norwich, but we have still been able to produce some good young players and that blueprint

has got to continue in the future. We cannot ill-afford to appoint a manager, who is only interested in improving his own CV and then elects to move on at any given opportunity if the right job comes along.

We need someone who will embrace the need for producing good young players, because if he ignores our own kids or elects to bring in players from outside the club it would be a disaster for the future of his club. Cannot see it happening though because everyone here realises the importance of running a successful Academy. Dario will be pushing them forward anyhow...

MENTAL TO IVAL

transfer sales to improve our chances of finding the next one capable of bringing enough money in keep the club in existence. With that comes its own pressure because the management have to find a player capable of fetching £1 million every two years.

The emergence of JAMES BAILEY has been one plus point from a disappointing season so far for the Alex.





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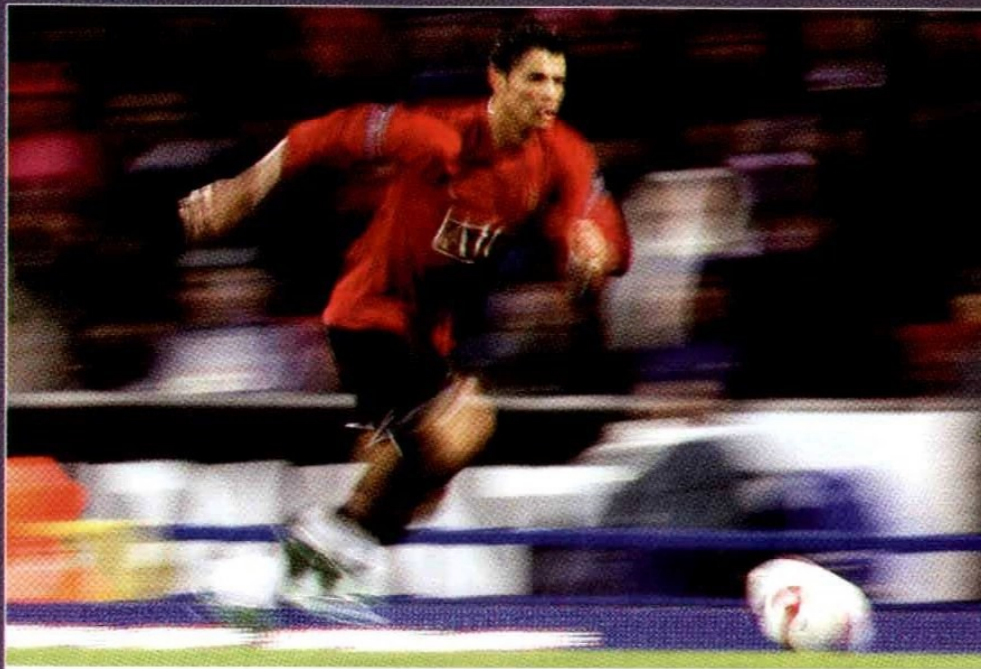
RONALDO'S 'COURAGE' MAKES HIM WORTHY WINNER

The Portuguese winger Cristiano Ronaldo recently joined his fellow countrymen Eusebio and Luis Figo as the winner of the prestigious Ballon d'Or award. There wasn't much doubt that the Manchester United player was the outstanding performer over the last twelve months, but winners from these shores have been few and far between. Sir Stanley Matthews was the recipient of the first ever award in 1956 after the France Football Writer Gabriel Hanot devised the idea to reward consistency and performance.

Ronaldo becomes only the fourth ever Manchester United player to win the Golden Ball, with the 'Holy Trinity' of Law, Best and Charlton all winning the award during the 1960s. Kevin Keegan actually won the award twice in the late 1970s but had to agree to a lucrative move to German side Hamburg to do so. The last British winner was actually Michael Owen in 2001 when his goals helped Liverpool win five trophies over the calendar year.

Other than that, the recipients have usually come from footballers plying their trade in either Italy or Spain. Before 2007 (when the Brazilian Kaka won it) the award was only open to European players playing at European clubs. That explains why the likes of Pele have never claimed the award as he spent his playing career in his native Brazil and over in the United States.

The ruling has now been altered to accommodate every nationality from every club, this in turn has increased the number of journalists permitted to vote. Of the 480 points on offer, Ronaldo received an incredible 446, which made him a comfortable winner over Lionel Messi of Barcelona and Liverpool's Spanish striker Fernando Torres.



RONALDO collected the Ballon D'Or award in Paris this week.

After scoring 42 goals and helping his club to Premier League and Champions League success there was only one winner in Ronaldo. His consistent performances are the essence of what this trophy is there to represent and this particular award is seen to be even more prestigious than the FIFA World Player Of The Year, that Ronaldo is also expected to walk away with.

Ronaldo has certainly become more of a team player at Manchester United and he has erased the dramatic dives that plagued him earlier in his Old Trafford career. He is a positive role model to budding footballers, because although he wants to win, he also wants to entertain the crowds who pay good money to watch him. He is a superb trainer and is dedicated to improve his all-round game. You only have to look at the improvement in his goal tally and his heading ability to see the

difference time spent on the training ground can make.

One of Ronaldo's great assets as a world-class performer is his 'courage'. Cynical defenders try to boot him up into the air to stop him, or cleverly try to block him off as he tries to take them on for pace, but he just dusts himself off and goes again. He knows he can hurt them with the ball and is never afraid to get on it and demonstrate his skill regardless of the hostility surrounding him. Opposition supporters' boo and jeer him because they fear his ability and what he can do to their team.

There are very few occasions, when a player like Ronaldo doesn't fancy it or he is kept totally quiet for 90 minutes. Great players always influence matches and usually save their best when the pressure is really on. That is what makes a true champion and love him or loathe him, Ronaldo is certainly that.

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Alex midfielder JAMES BAILEY tussles with Leicester's Bruno Berner during Crewe's narrow defeat at the Walkers Stadium.



leicester city

2



crewe alexandra

1



turn over for more
match action

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leicester city

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2

Fryatt 15, King 72



1

Zola 30



Above: The Leicester players celebrate Andy King's winning goal.



STUART TOMLINSON tips over a firm header from Steve Howard.

Match Action

18

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Main Pic: CALVIN ZOLA keeps his balance under a challenge from Michel Morrison to fire home a deserved equaliser.



The Walkers Stadium
Date: 25th November 2008
Attendance: 16,961
Referee: G. Ward

team line-ups

leicester city

- 26 David Martin
- 2 Marc Edworthy
- 5 Alek Tunchev
- 15 Michael Morrison
- 23 Joe Mattock
- 31 Bruno Berner
- 8 Matt Oakley
- 24 Andy King
- 11 Lloyd Dyer
- 12 Matt Fyatt
- 10 DJ Campbell

FROM THE BENCH

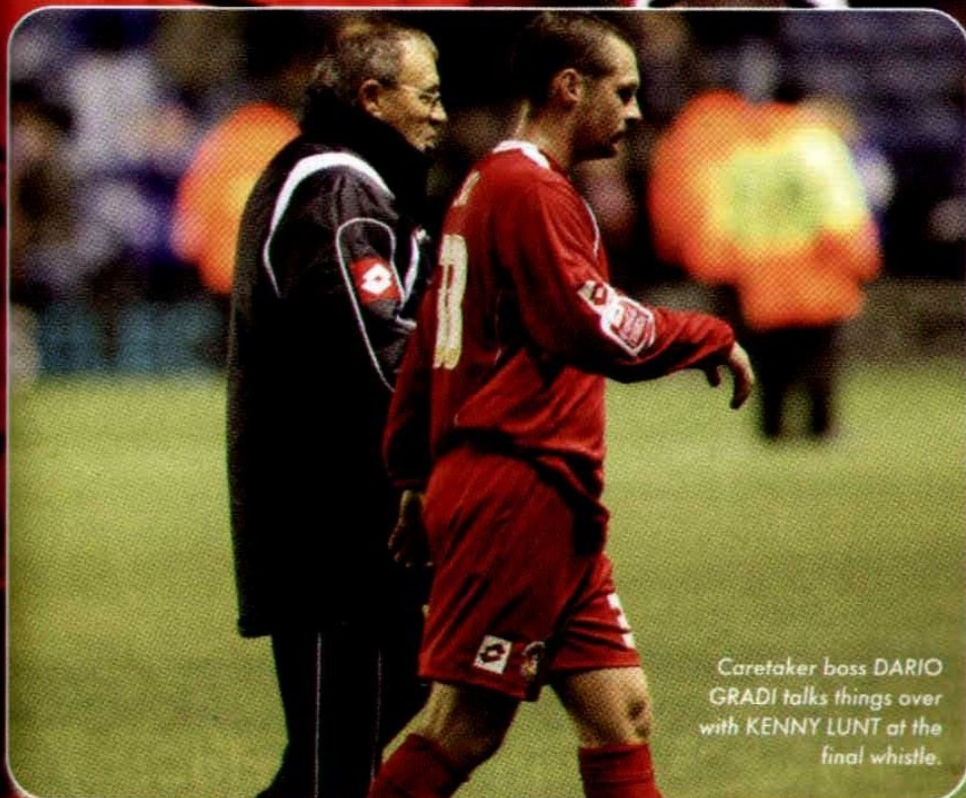
- 9 Steve Howard (10)
- 22 Max Gradel (8)

crewe alexandra

- 21 Stuart Tomlinson
- 2 Danny Woodards
- 3 Billy Jones
- 5 Danny O'Donnell
- 6 Julien Baudet
- 8 Michael O'Connor
- 10 Calvin Zola
- 30 John Brayford
- 22 Colin Daniel
- 33 Kenny Lunt
- 23 James Bailey

FROM THE BENCH

- 20 Shaun Miller (2)
- 27 Clayton Donaldson (10)



Caretaker boss DARIO GRADI talks things over with KENNY LUNT at the final whistle.



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NOT GONE ACCORDING TO PLAN FOR ROBINS



Similarly to life here at Crewe, an indifferent start to the season saw the former Dundee United and Scotland International defender Maurice Malpass lose his job at Swindon. A 1-0 defeat to non-league Histon in the FA Cup following on from some disappointing form in the league ended Malpass' ten-month reign at the club. Although, Swindon have not made the kind of start they would have liked to their League One campaign, they have already shown that on their day they really can defeat anyone at this level.



A 3-1 home win over Tranmere Rovers promised much and they have also won away at MK Dons

back in late August. Oldham and Northampton have also been defeated at the County Ground, but the club's problem this season is that they have drawn too many games they should have won. They have drawn with the likes of Hereford, Hartlepool, Bristol Rovers and Peterborough United and have also lost to the likes of Cheltenham Town, Brighton and Walsall.

With results rather inconsistent, Swindon are looking more relegation battlers than play-off hopefuls. Before his dismissal last month, Malpass had been determined to bring in some more experienced professionals into his squad. Saying that it is their younger players, who have really caught the eye for them this season.

The former Reading youngster Simon Cox has continued to score goals in a struggling side. Following a successful loan spell last season, the Robins paid £200,000 to secure his services on a permanent basis and he has more than proved his worth with his goals.

Crewe supporters will also know all about the threat posed by the former Port Vale striker Billy Paytner and the skilful winger Anthony McNamee spent time on loan with us two seasons ago as he tried to re-ignite his career.

Although the youngsters have grabbed many of the headlines, the experienced pro's such as Jamie Vincent, Lilian Nalis, Jon-Paul McGovern, club captain Hasney Aljofree and Lee Peacock will all have a vital part to play throughout the second half of the season. Sadly, the popular Christian Roberts was forced to retire due to a knee injury earlier in the season.

THE BOSS - DAVID BYRNE

Following the dismissal of Maurice Malpass, the Wiltshire club are at the time of writing currently looking to appoint his long-term successor. Perhaps they will have someone installed for the first time this afternoon?

If not then the club's Assistant Manager David Byrne will take charge of the first-team again after being appointed caretaker boss on 14th November.

As a player, Byrne was a well-travelled winger, who represented a staggering 17 clubs either on loan or as permanent player. He began his early career a Gillingham and Millwall before eventually finishing his professional career at Albion Rovers, where he became a player coach.

He coached the Plymouth Argyle Youth team before briefly assisting Ian Atkins at Torquay in 2006. He moved to Swindon a year later to take charge of the Youth team. His former mentor Paul Strurrock later left to return to Plymouth and he took charge in a caretaker role. The arrival of Malpass saw Byrne promoted to the role of Assistant Manager.





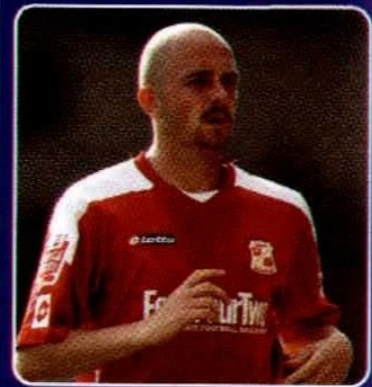
KEY PERSONNEL

phil smith



Date of Birth: 14/12/1979
Nationality: English
Position: Goalkeeper

jack smith



Date of Birth: 14/10/1983
Nationality: English
Position: Defender

patrick konyuka



Date of Birth: 19/07/1987
Nationality: English
Position: Defender

hasney aljofree



Date of Birth: 11/07/1978
Nationality: English
Position: Defender

michael timlin



Date of Birth: 19/03/1985
Nationality: English
Position: Defender

jerrel ifil



Date of Birth: 27/06/1982
Nationality: English
Position: Defender

kevin amankwaah



Date of Birth: 19/05/1982
Nationality: English
Position: Defender

hilian nolis



Date of Birth: 29/09/1971
Nationality: French
Position: Midfielder

craig easton



Date of Birth: 26/02/1979
Nationality: Scottish
Position: Midfielder

anthony mcnamee



Date of Birth: 13/07/1984
Nationality: English
Position: Midfielder

michael rook



Date of Birth: 24/06/1986
Nationality: English
Position: Midfielder

jon-paul mcgovern



Date of Birth: 03/10/1980
Nationality: Scottish
Position: Midfielder

lee peacock



Date of Birth: 09/10/1976
Nationality: Scottish
Position: Midfielder

billy paynter



Date of Birth: 13/07/1984
Nationality: English
Position: Striker

simon cox



Date of Birth: 28/04/1987
Nationality: English
Position: Striker

blair sturrock



Date of Birth: 25/08/1981
Nationality: English
Position: Striker

ben joyce



Date of Birth: 08/03/1990
Nationality: English
Position: Striker

Meet The Opposition



www.crewalex.net

star man - simon cox

'I'M ONE FOR SCORING GOALS.'

Swindon Town may not have started this season as well as they would have liked but things could not be going any better for their leading goalscorer Simon Cox. The former Reading youngster is battling it out with Bristol Rovers' combative target man Rickie Lambert, the prolific Matty Fryatt of Leicester and Jermaine Beckford of Leeds for the League One Golden Boot. It looks like being an intriguing race for the accolade and whoever emerges as the winner will have to score close to 30 goals in all competitions to stand a chance.

Due to their patchy league form it's no exaggeration to suggest that Cox's prolific scoring rate has kept Swindon out of the relegation places this season. His fantastic form in October saw him awarded the PFA Player of the Month Award and his impressive goal tally of 16 thus far also includes two hat-trick's against Scunthorpe United and Hartlepool United. Not that Cox is looking for personal awards, he will be disappointed that Swindon are looking downwards at the clubs beneath them rather than the teams trying to secure a top six finish.

"My expectations have always been high. I have come here to score goals and take Swindon back into the Championship and for the club to stabilise themselves at that level. That remains very much my ambition and I always demand the best from myself and my team-mates in every match we play," says Simon.

"We are all disappointed not to be higher than we are in the league but I have been relatively pleased with the way things have gone for me in terms of goals. I am one for scoring goals. My record proves that and I always feel I will score goals when I play consistently."

Cox has certainly been amongst the goals again this season and his former club Reading may be cursing the day they allowed one of their local lads to walk away from the club. Cox's only involvement for his boyhood club came as substitute in the Cola-Cola Championship, and the domestic cup competitions. He never got a sustained run in the side under Steve Coppell and was loaned out to both Brentford and Northampton before agreeing a £200,000 switch to Swindon in January 2008, following a successful loan stint at the County Ground.



Cox explains: "I was a little bit disappointed to leave Reading because I had been there for eleven years and they were my boyhood club. I never really got a chance there and I knew I had to leave to benefit my career.

"I came to Swindon on loan last season and did well. I scored 9 goals and felt good, but when I went back to Reading nothing had changed. No-one spoke to me about my future and I was a little deflated by that. If I'm honest, I just wanted to get back to Swindon and start playing again.

"I was glad to leave in the end and start to play regular first-team football at Swindon. The Reading era is behind me now and now I'm looking forward to some good times ahead.

"I came here from a Premiership club and my standards have remained high. I always demand the best from myself and the team and we know we should be doing better this season."

a view from the opposition

McNAMEE TRYING TO RESURRECT HIS CAREER WITH THE ROBINS

There is no more pleasing sight in football than to witness a winger taking on his opposite number. For me it doesn't happen enough in the modern game. In the past, the likes of George Best, Sir Stanley Matthews, Tom Finney, Stan Bowles, John Barnes and Chris Waddle had supporters flocking to Stadiums to see their full repertoire of tricks and flicks. A talented winger was normally the most entertaining and threatening player on the pitch.

Thankfully, the brilliance of Cristiano Ronaldo of Manchester United and Lionel Messi of Barcelona has restored coaches faith in having a creative wide man. Those two individuals alongside perhaps Kaka and a fit Ronaldinho are comfortably the finest players on the planet.

It doesn't matter what league you are in or whatever level you play at, everyone loves to see skill and adventure. This afternoon two former Watford team-mates Anthony McNamee and our own Joel Grant may go head-to-head for the first time. Both struggled to earn the trust of their former manager Aidy Boothroyd at Vicarage Road. It seems that Boothroyd placed his coaching philosophy more on workmanlike resilience rather than relying on flamboyant, potential match winners. McNamee made just 34 league starts over his six years as a pro at Watford and was

loaned out to both Barnet and Crewe Alexandra.

Crewe supporters will fondly remember McNamee's short spell at Gresty Road. He joined in late March 2007, and made five appearances for the club before returning to much of the same at Watford. He knew he would have to leave to finally secure regular first-team football. In doing so, he has instantly put-to-bed the myth that he couldn't play the entire 90 minutes. At Watford, he had been brought on as a substitute an amazing 60 times. The diminutive winger has already featured in 41 games for the club since signing in January and has quickly become a popular figure with the Swindon fans.

Anthony said: "I'm really enjoying it at Swindon. I signed a two-and-half year deal in January and my main aim when I came here was to play as many games as I could for the club.

"I never really established myself in the first-team at Watford, so I thought it was about time I had a change and a new challenge. I was pleased to be offered a chance by Swindon and now I want to help the club move up the league.

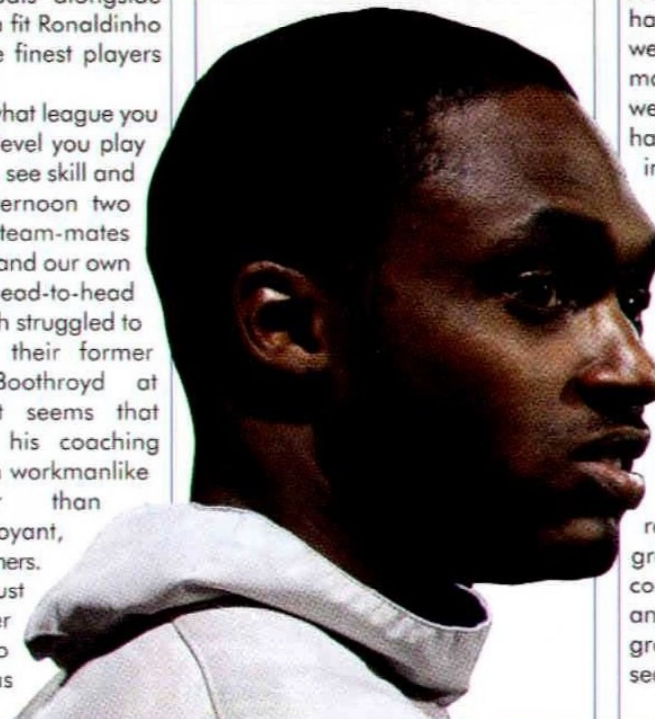
"We have had a difficult season, but there are a lot of good players here and we feel we have the ability to turn things around."

Swindon have endured a very similar season to that as Crewe Alexandra, although they are currently 11 points better off than us. Saying that Yeovil in 19th place are just a point behind both Swindon and Brighton. It is still awfully tight and if Swindon can win this afternoon they could see themselves move up at least three places. Despite making their own disappointing start to the season, McNamee says the spirit remains high in the Swindon camp.

"We haven't performed as well as we have liked and we should have picked up more points than we have done. We have drawn too many games for our liking and if we can change that in the second half of the season then we could be in with a chance of being close to the top six.

"We cannot see any reason why not because we were in contention for a large part of last season and finished the season strongly enough. There was a lot of optimism around the club going into the new season but for whatever reason it hasn't quite happened for us.

"The spirit in the dressing room is still good and the lads are great. The new players that have come in have settled in really well and we feel we will improve as a group over the second half of the season."



"THERE WAS A LOT OF OPTIMISM AROUND THE CLUB GOING INTO THE NEW SEASON BUT FOR WHATEVER REASON IT HASN'T QUITE HAPPENED FOR US." Anthony McNamee

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LAST FIVE OUTINGS THE ROBINS





 VS 	Saturday 6th December 2008
SWINDON 1 CARLISLE 1	
<p>SCORERS: Murphy (Carlisle) 06 50, Thirlwell (Carlisle) 87 SWINDON: Phil Smith, Jack Smith, Ifil, Aljofree, Kennedy (Amankwaah 82), McGovern (Sturrock 90), Pook, Peacock, McNamee, Paynter, Cox. CARLISLE: Krul, Raven, Murphy, Keogh, Liddle, Taylor (Birchall 60), Bridge-Wilkinson (Bridges 60), Thirlwell, Kavanagh, Jeff Smith, Graham (Madine 79).</p>	



 VS 	Saturday 29th November 2008
WALSALL 2 SWINDON 1	
<p>SCORERS: Ricketts (Walsall) 17, Nicholls (Walsall) 90, Paynter (Swindon) 90 WALSALL: Gilmartin, Weston, Roberts (Smith 75), Gerrard, Boertien, Nicholls, Bradley, Hughes, Deeney, Reich (Taundry 61), Ricketts (Zaaboub 46). SWINDON: Phil Smith, Jack Smith, Kanyuka, Aljofree, Timlin (Halis 86), Easton (McNamee 67), Peacock, Pook, McGovern, Paynter, Cox.</p>	



 VS 	Tuesday 25th November 2008
SWINDON 2 PETERBOROUGH 2	
<p>SCORERS: Jack Smith (Swindon) 10, McGovern (Peterborough) 20 ag, Cox (Swindon) 81, Batt (Peterborough) 90 SWINDON: Phil Smith, Jack Smith, Aljofree, Kanyuka, Timlin, McGovern, Pook, Peacock, McNamee, Paynter (Halis 61), Cox PETERBOROUGH: Lewis, Martin, Morgan, Zakuani (Westwood 11), Williams, Torres (Batt 61), Keates, Crofts, Boyd, Mackail-Smith, Mclean.</p>	



 VS 	Saturday 22nd November 2008
BRISTOL ROVERS 2 SWINDON 2	
<p>SCORERS: Lambert (Bristol Rovers) 26, Kanyuka (Swindon) 39, Corr (Swindon) 53, Lines (Bristol Rovers) 90 BRISTOL ROVERS: Phillips, Ryan Green, Hinton, Elliott, Lescott, Lines, Disley (Duffy 83), Campbell, Hughes (Rigg 64), Lambert, Kuffour SWINDON: Phil Smith, Jack Smith, Morrison, Kanyuka, Timlin, Joyce (McGovern 34), Pook, Nalis, McNamee (Aljofree 80), Paynter, Corr.</p>	



 VS 	Saturday 15th November 2008
SWINDON 2 LEICESTER 2	
<p>SCORERS: Oakley (Leicester) 57, Fryatt (Leicester) 74, Cox (Swindon) 84, Corr (Swindon) 86 SWINDON: Phil Smith, Jack Smith, Kanyuka, Morrison, Timlin, Pook, Nalis, Peacock, McNamee (Cox 76), Paynter, Cox. LEICESTER: Henderson, Edworthy, Tunchev, Morrison, Mattock, Dyer, Oakley, Berner, Andy King, Howard, Fryatt (Campbell 90).</p>	

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IN THE NET!



RAMADA

OFFICIAL SITE SIGNS PARTNERSHIP DEAL WITH RAMADA

Crewe Alexandra's official website is delighted that the new Ramada Encore hotel has agreed to be another official partner of the Football Club. This stylish hotel is an exciting new concept, that works on a style that is simple, stylish, vibrant and up beat and has comfortable and contemporary accommodation that uses an innovative design.

Located just off Electra Way off the A534 just outside the town centre it is situated in a good position between junctions 16 and 17 of the M6.

It's features include 112 guest rooms, 6 meeting and event rooms, The Hub lounge, bar and restaurant and ample free parking.

Rooms start from just £49, so if you are in need of somewhere stylish and modern to stay while you visit Crewe, be it on a trip or if you're coming to see the Alex in action, why not book yourself a room at Ramada Encore Crewe.

Book your rooms online now at www.encorecrewe.co.uk or by calling **01270 506620**.

REASEHEATH PLAYER OF THE MONTH

It was a short time to vote this time around, but you have managed to pick out your Reaseheath College Sports Performance & Excellence Player of The Month for November.

Results didn't go our last in November, but there were some good performances, particularly as the month progressed. We would like

to thank everyone that sent in a text to cast your vote, we now have our overall winner Calvin Zola and they will be collecting their trophy this afternoon from a Reaseheath representative. You voted for Zola ahead of Michael O'Connor and Danny O'Donnell.

Voting for December will be opening in the coming days so please keep your eyes open on www.crewealex.net for the top 10 and all the information on casting your vote.

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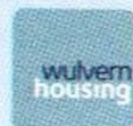


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TOPICAL TALKING POINTS

With just over a couple of weeks to go to the reopening of the transfer window, it has been noticeable that names have been appearing in the press as possible targets, either to or from the Premier League clubs. At West Ham United, it would appear that a reduction in the playing strength will definitely be taking place. Our former player, Dean Ashton is one of the names mentioned. Since his move from Norwich City to West Ham, his progress has been beset with various ups and downs.

After being selected as a member of the England squad, he was to sustain an injury during a training session prior to a game and had to withdraw. He has played in one full international game against Trinidad & Tobago, but whether he is able to win any more International call-ups will depend on how he recovers from his latest injury and then getting through a run of games to gain full fitness once more. One highlight for him was his appearance in the 2006 FA Cup Final against Liverpool. He scored in that game but it was Liverpool who finally won after a penalty shootout.

Joe Kinnear, the present occupant as caretaker manager at Newcastle, will be staying on to the end of the season but another club in that area is seeking a new manager following the resignation of Roy Keane at Sunderland. It just goes to show how much stress us put on managers in the top flight.

The Carling Cup survivors from the quarter finals proved to be two from the Premier League and two from the Championship. Last years winners Tottenham Hotspur will be hoping to win for the second successive year. However, with Manchester United still in the running you can never discount them. From the Championship, Derby County left

it really late in their tie with Stoke City, it was a penalty in injury time that ended the hopes of the Potters.

The surprise team of the tournament as far has proved to be Burnley, their nail biting win in the penalty shootout against Chelsea then pitted them against Arsenal. The Gunners despite the talent available to them from their reserve strength were beaten 2-0 by the Clarets. Should Burnley get through to the final, it would revive memories from past years and they would be guaranteed excellent support.

After the enforced delay through the Grays v Carlisle replay being halted through a floodlight failure, on Saturday the 29th November the Cumbrian side finally won through to give them the home tie against the Alex on the following Wednesday. With weather conditions proving something of a difficulty the second round tie did go ahead on it's scheduled date.

Some supporters may have been unaware that Crewe Alexandra had had to visit Brunton Park on three previous occasions in the FA Cup. Firstly, in a 5th qualifying

round replay on the 8th December 1910, Crewe had triumphed 4-3 after extra time. Then, on the 1st December 1929 it was a second round game at Carlisle and on that occasion Carlisle won the game by a 4-2 victory.

There was then a long gap until the 16th November 1991, when a goal by Craig Hignett helped us to draw 1-1 at Brunton Park. In the replay the result was a 5-3 win for Crewe after extra time. Our latest 2-0 win up at Carlisle gave the team a boost, the two goals from Shaun Miller proving to be decisive.

When we go to the New Den at Millwall for the third round tie early in January it will be just over 60 years since we last played them in the FA Cup. That game took place at Gresty Road on the 11th December 1948 and, after a hard fought game, Crewe ran out narrow winners 3-2. The goals came from Mitcheson 2 and McCormack. Our reward that time was another home tie against Sunderland, could it be another good reward if we can triumph once more?

Although currently unfit Dean Ashton has been linked with a move in the January transfer window.



marketing matters

WITH BUSINESS OPERATIONS MANAGER, ALISON BOWLER



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS

It is a warm welcome back to the Alexandra Stadium for this afternoon's encounter with Swindon Town. With the situation we find ourselves in at the bottom of League One, we know how vitally important every one of our remaining games is going to be. Following such a disappointing defeat at Cheltenham, we now find ourselves six points adrift at the bottom and everyone here knows that our results this season have been far than acceptable. It has been a difficult 2008 and our poor form resulted in Steve

Holland departing the club last month. Now we are on the hunt for a successor, who we hope will change our fortunes around in 2009.

Whilst we try and find the right candidate for our club, we have the vastly experienced Dario Gradi in temporary charge and hopefully we can record that elusive first win since September this afternoon. It has been a tough year for everyone with Crewe Alex in the blood and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those supporters who have continued to support the club through thick and thin. I would also like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and I hope to see you here again for the Boxing Day match with Oldham.

MAN-OF-THE-MATCH - DANNY WOODARDS

Congratulations to the versatile Danny Woodards who was voted Cheshire County Council Road Safety Man-of-the-Match for our clash with Stockport County. Woody was used in a midfield role against Jim Gannon's Hatters and performed admirably despite our 3-0 defeat to our north west neighbours.

Make sure you listen out for our Man-of-the-Match award this afternoon.



MATCHBALL SPONSORS

A very special thanks to our matchball sponsors McKenzie Goldberg Johnston Ltd and Manor House Services who were our special guests for the visit of Stockport County on 22nd November.

They received their signed match ball from captain Julien Baudet and James Bailey before our home game with Stockport at Gresty Road. If you are interested in any form of sponsorship, advertising or room hire then please feel free to contact me at the Football Club on 01270 213014 ext 113.

We still have pre-match hospitality for the visit of Oldham Athletic on Boxing Day. The club are offering a special festive price of just £35. This fantastic offer includes seats in the Directors' Box, complimentary wine with your three-course meal, full waitress service, tea, coffee and light refreshments and usage bar facilities in the Carlsberg Lounge. Contact me as soon as possible on 01270 213014 ext 113 to book your place.



CHARLTON MAKES AN APPEARANCE AT THE ALEX

You may have spotted a famous face in the Alex crowd for the visit of Stockport County! Sir Bobby Charlton was in attendance at the Alexandra



Stadium over two days in order to film the latest Actimel Probiotic advert. We would like to thank everyone involved in the publication and I'm sure everyone will be looking to see the advert on its release.

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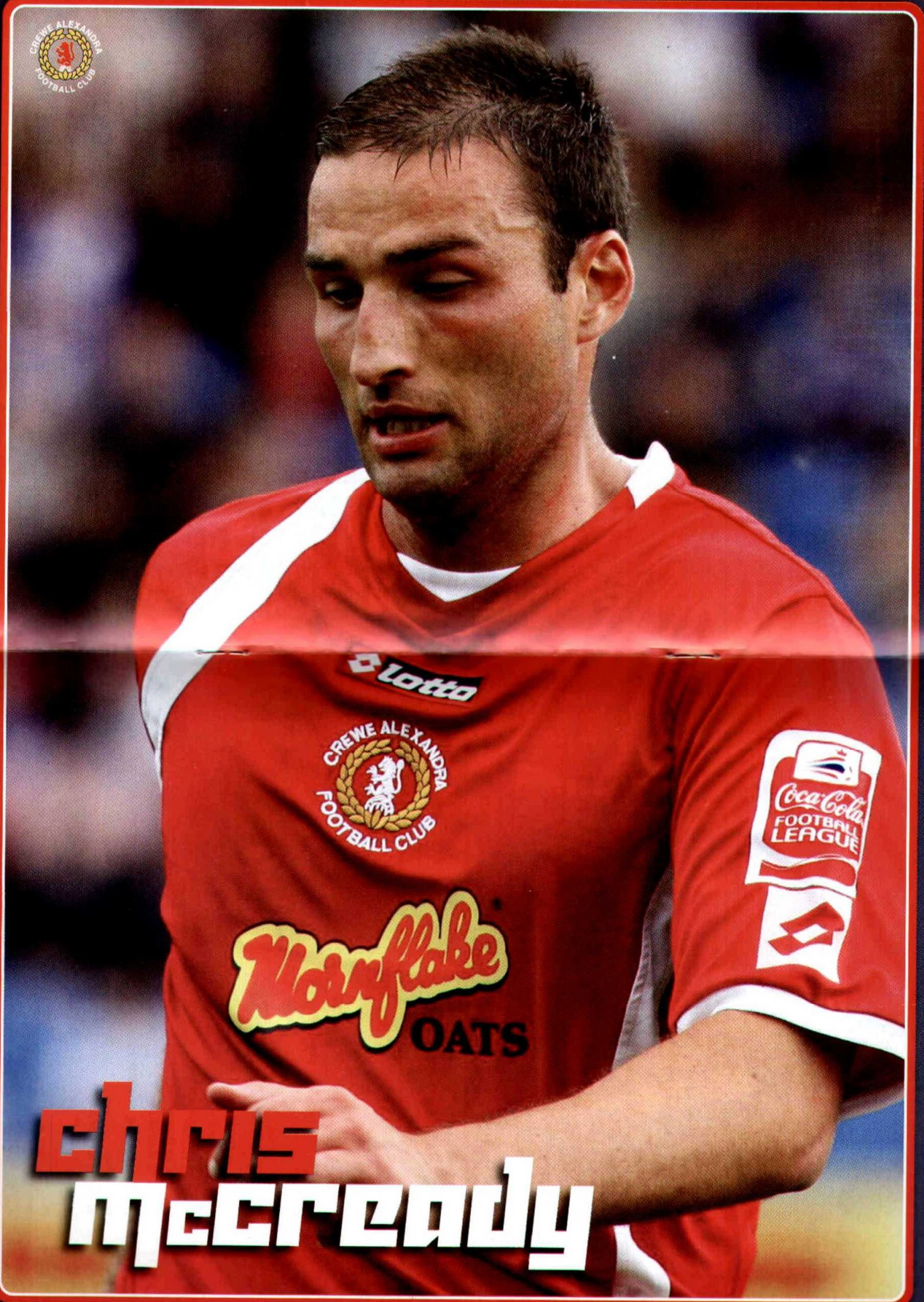
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THE QUICK ONES

What is your karaoke song?

Jay Z, Girls

What car do you drive? A Corsa

Last DVD you bought? Wanted

Where do you live? I live in Nantwich

Where did you go on holiday? Egypt

Last famous person you met? Bails

(James Bailey)

The funniest guy in the dressing

room? Got to be Popey

AS A BOY

When did you decide you wanted to be a professional footballer? Around

the age of 8

First school you attended? St. Marys'

Primary

Favourite subject? Maths

The team you supported as a boy?

Nottingham Forest

The first game you attended?

Nottingham Forest Vs Manchester. They

lost 8-1!

Your first best friend? Jamie Mullen

What were you like as a pupil at

school? Quiet

THIS OR THAT?

Cinema or DVD? DVD

McDonalds or KFC? KFC

Night in or night out? Night in

Blondes or Brunettes? Brunettes

Dome or Astroturf? Dome

Long sleeve top or short

sleeve top? Long Sleeve

Weights or Cardio? Weights

WHO...?

Who do you travel in to training

with? Ajay (Leitch-Smith) and Josh

Thompson

Who do you room with on away

trips? Byron Moore

Who's results do you look for first?

Eastwood Town's

Who is your best mate at the club?

Gerald (Parton), The video technician

Who has been your toughest

opponent? There has been a few since I

got into the first-team to be honest...

Who has the best tricks in training?

Joel, Riky and Boppy

UP CLOSE

What paper do you read? I don't

read them

What do you try not to miss on TV?

Prison Break

What do you like to do outside

football? Relax

If money was no object what would

be the first thing you would buy?

Sort my mum out and a new pair of

trainers!

What is your best football memory?

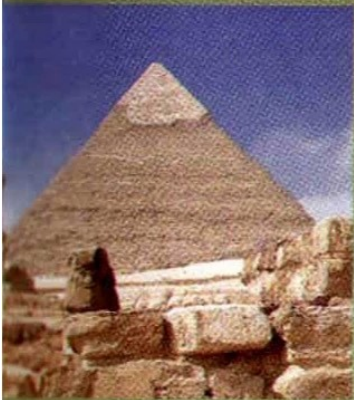
Probably my full debut against Leicester

Do you have a nickname? Junior

Two things you couldn't live

without? Money. That's the only thing.





JUNIOR DANIEL

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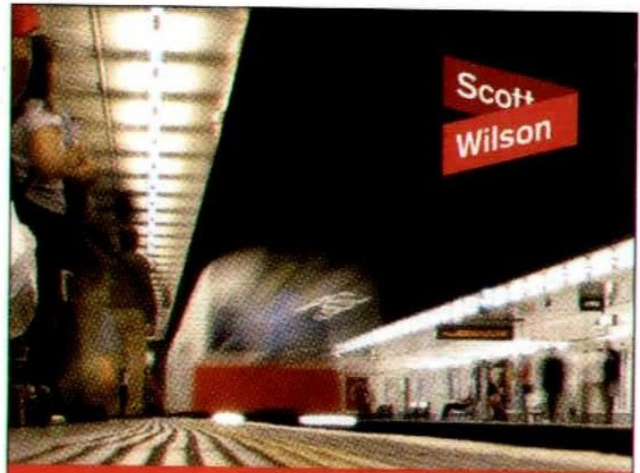
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CREWE
Chronicle

THE PAPER YOU CAN COUNT ON

AMONG MY SOUVENIRS

There are a great many items, which come to light concerning football in general and clubs in particular. Just how they came to light can be a story in themselves. Possibly some items could realise good prices should they find their way on to an auction list, by comparison, some have no relative value at all. At this juncture, it would be as well to admit that in many ways, I could be classed as a hoarder, but whatever bits and pieces come my way are never viewed on a monetary basis.

Take a look at your chequebook and look at its design, quite honestly they hardly deserve a second look. However, the copy of a cheque which was issued by Crewe Alexandra tells just part of a story. The design, although not necessarily appealing to everyone's taste of design, to me it is an example of what things used to look like at that particular point in our clubs history.

Sadly, none of those whose signatures are on the cheque are still alive. It reveals Neville Morrey, John McHugh and the then secretary of the club, Tom Garnett. Tom later left Crewe Alexandra to take up a similar role at Doncaster Rovers.

We now turn to the connection with Accrington Stanley. In December 1960, Crewe Alexandra signed a player from Accrington Stanley - Terry Tighe. A wing half, he was born in Edinburgh and had joined Dunfermline before moving to Accrington Stanley. By the time he joined Crewe, he had played in over 100 league games for

Accrington and scored 20 goals. At that time, Accrington had signed a number of players from Scotland, their manager, Walter Galbraith had a good eye for a bargain.

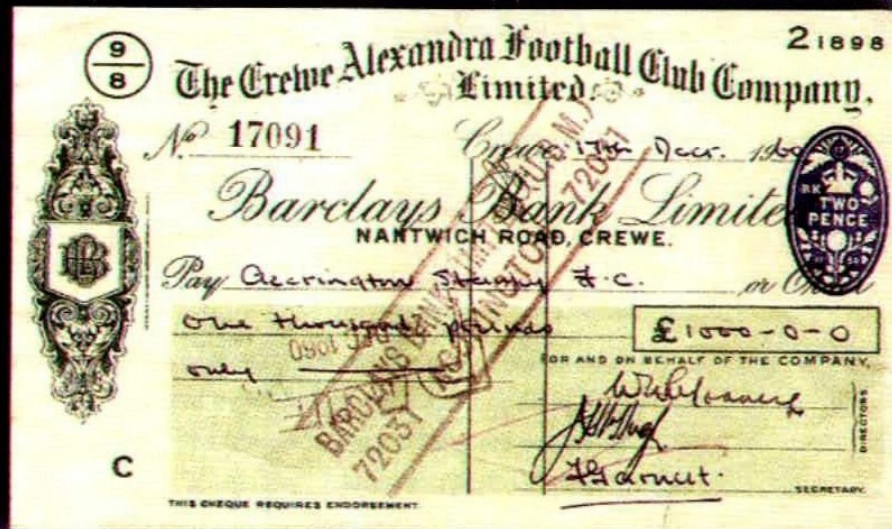
Just two days after his signing, 17th December 1960, Terry made his Crewe Alexandra debut at Holker Street, Barrow, he returned at No.10, Crewe won 4-3, Alan Foster claiming a hat-trick and Billy Stark getting the other goal. Then, on Boxing Day 1960, Terry scored his first goal for Crewe in the 2-1 home win against Aldershot.

At this time it was an interesting period for Crewe Alexandra as, on

scored for Crewe and finally won 2-1. The Chelsea line up included our former player Frank Blunstone and Jimmy Greaves.

It was to be back to league action and on the 14th January it was a return visit to Peel Park, Terry did not score but Crewe won 3-1 with Alan Foster scoring a hat-trick for Crewe. Terry was always a very popular member of the Crewe team and although not very tall he was able to cope well in the wing half role.

Prior to the game at White Hart Lane, it was revealed that Terry and Dave Mackay of Spurs, when ten years of age were both in the same



Saturday 28th January 1961 Crewe had an important cup tie. Having beaten Rochdale after a replay, in round two it was a trip to Halifax, another draw and then a replay at Gresty Road, which they won. Next stop it was at Stamford Bridge to take on Chelsea and it was also a cup debut for Terry in a line up which read; Williamson, McGill, Campbell, Keery, Barnes, Shepherd, Stark, Tighe, Foster and Wheatley. Billy Stark and Foster

class at school and both in that school team, Terry was a right half and Dave Mackay at left half. Both signed for professional clubs Mackay at Hearts and Terry for Hibernian. Terry moved to Dunfermline and then to Accrington and Dave Mackay went to Spurs. Both were then in opposition for the Cup game and a bet was made that Terry would not score against Spurs, but Terry did score our only goal and so won the bet.

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Playing for Success



gresty

merry christmas to all supporters

I would like to wish all football supporters a very Merry Christmas from everyone at Crewe Alexandra Football Club. We hope you have a very enjoyable festive period and we hope you will be with us again for the visit of Oldham on Boxing Day.

For all those fans who are making the long trip to Millwall on December 20th, can we wish you a very safe journey south and we would like to thank you for your continued support of your club on the road.

Feed a child for a fiver for the 12 days of christmas

Railway Children, a charity based in Sandbach are embarking on a Christmas campaign to raise much-needed funds for their work in the UK India, Kenya, and Tanzania.

The appropriately named 'Feed a Child for a Fiver' campaign encourages people to donate or raise just £5. This is all it costs to feed a street child in India three times a day for the twelve days of Christmas.

Senior Fundraiser Ian Watson said: "Our appeal this year is really simple. If we can get as many people as possible to raise just £5, we can help so many children. It's as easy as taking something out of your trolley at the supermarket or foregoing a treat such as a bottle of wine. We really need as many people as possible to help spread the word. Donating is really easy online".

Railway Children has made it extremely simple for people to support the appeal. As well as donating online, there is also a great 'Secret Santa' gift for those taking part in the festive office activity.

Watson also added: "Many of our supporters are co-ordinating activities at their places of work to make the fundraising fun in the run up to Christmas".

Railway Children works to support children alone and at risk on the streets by contacting them at the earliest opportunity, preventing them from dangers such as physical, emotional and sexual abuse, drugs and alcohol misuse and child trafficking.

Last year they helped over 25,000 children worldwide, 15,697 of whom were in India and of these 4215 were safely reunited with their families.

Full campaign details are available at www.feedachild.org.uk, where you can donate and circulate the campaign to your friends & family.

crewe mascots

Name: CHELSEA ELDING

Age: 5

Favourite Player: Calvin Zola, Tom Pope and daddy

Hobbies: Loves reading, playing on her computer and watching Lazy Town



Name: OWEN ELDING

Age: 2

Favourite Player: James Bailey and his daddy!

Hobbies: Loves playing football with his big sister and he loves Gresty...he never shuts up about him!



swindon mascot

Name: JAKE EYLES

Age: 9

Favourite town player:

Anthony McNamee

Additional info: Jake is pictured with his sister Vicki.



Club Mascot



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DAILY MIRROR - THE TICKET - 5/5
'FIFA 09 MIGHT HAVE JUST NICKED
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TOXIC - 10/10
'BACK OF THE NET!'



MATCH! MAGAZINE - 10/10
'WE CAN'T STOP PLAYING FIFA 09!'

OFFICIAL XBOX 360 MAGAZINE - 9/10
'EA UPS ITS GAME AGAIN. WATCH OUT
PRO EVOLUTION SOCCER...'

OFFICIAL PLAYSTATION MAGAZINE - 9/10
'A BRILLIANTLY PRESENTED, FLUIDLY
PLAYABLE GAME OF FOOTBALL OVER-
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VIDEOGAMES.COM - 9/10
'... THE MOST REALISTIC REPRESENTATION
OF THE GAME OF FOOTBALL THE INDUSTRY
HAS TO OFFER. AND IT IS THE BEST FIFA
GAME EVER MADE.'

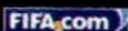
ZNO - 5/5
'IT'S GIMMICK-FREE, ULTRA-REALISTIC
AND THE BEST FIFA YET BY SOME
DISTANCE. ACE.'

360 - 5/5
'FIFA 09 IS THE FOOTBALL GAME
THAT DREAMS ARE MADE OF.'

OUT NOW

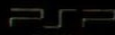


FIFA09.EA.COM



PlayStation 2

PLAYSTATION 3



ANTHONY ELDING

ELDING HOPING FOR FRESH START

With timing running out at Cheltenham Town last weekend and with two substitutes already been used following early head injuries to James Bailey and Calvin Zola, it would have been something of a morale boost for Anthony Elding that Dario Gradi elected to give him the chance to salvage something from such a vital game rather than use Joel Grant or Clayton Donaldson.

Elding has had to wait patiently for an opportunity for much of the season and with Gradi introducing a more flexible 4-3-3 or 4-5-1 formation or whatever way you choose to interpret it, it has left a number of our strikers battling it out for really one position.

The extra height provided by Zola has seen him steal a march on his rivals, with Shaun Miller and Colin Daniel currently the wide men with licence to break forward and support the lone striker. It

has certainly resulted in an improvement in an attacking sense, with Crewe creating a number of chances against Elding's former club Stockport County, Leicester and even on Saturday at Cheltenham. If we had been able to have converted a few more, then we could have been enjoying more points on the board than we currently have. That has been the case for much of the season and Elding is hoping his chance to start a game will not be too far off.

Firstly, Elds could be asked to make a similar impact to that he and Byron Moore did at Yeovil back in October when their introduction as substitutes sparked a remarkable late fight back from 2-0 down. Elding was exceptional that night, laying on the then equaliser for Miller with a wonderful far post cross. When they both then started at Tranmere in the following game, the two wingers were pinned back in their own half trying to assist

the full-backs, and Elding resembled an isolated figure at Prenton Park.

If we can get the wingers buzzing around the opposition penalty area in a more 4-3-3 formation, then the system could really suit Elding because he is a box predator, who has scored most of his goals in his career with instinct finishes. Elding is a striker, who thrives on a good service and in fairness when he has been in the team that has been few and far between. With Dario intent on having a go in attack, regardless of who we are playing, this could serve as a new lease of life for Elding.

Elding told the match day magazine: "It was good to be involved again. I've not played in a while so it was nice to get on although the result wasn't right for us. It was good on a personal note to have played a part.

"Of course, it is difficult with the formation at the moment

"THERE IS NO WAY WE ARE GOING TO GIVE UP, WE ARE PROFESSIONALS AND WE WILL GO OUT THERE AND FIGHT. WE ARE GETTING PAID GOOD MONEY; THE LEAST WE CAN DO IS GIVE 100% EVERY WEEK." Anthony Elding

because there is really only one main striker position up for grabs. Having said that I have played in those roles before. At Stockport I played on the left and come in on the back stick and scored a few goals from there, so there is the possibility that I can play those roles if I'm asked. I am ready and just hoping to get a chance.

"As a professional I have to try to stay on top of my fitness and when I'm not involved, and that's what I try to do. I can only do what I can, and there are some points where I'm not involved so it is up to me to keep fit and stay positive."

Although you are always going to have direct 'rivals' for your place in any side, Elding has been a superb team-player, so much so that in his caretaker role, Dario, has praised the player for the role he has played in the dressing room. With so many young players in the side, Elding is always available for advice and a confidence boost.

Elding is also pleased to be working with the vastly experienced Gradi, although only for a short time.

Anthony said: "It is good working with Dario. He has different ideas to different managers that I have worked with before. It is a pleasure to work with him. He is such a big name in the game.

"All we can do is to remain positive, try and do the right things and hopefully they will come off and we'll get our share of the luck sooner rather than later.

"There is no way we are going to give up, we are professionals and we will go out there and fight. We are getting paid good money; the least we can do is give 100% every week. If we do that then we won't have a problem. We are down there though, and us as players need to look at

ourselves and see if we can give a little bit more to the cause, starting against Swindon on Saturday.

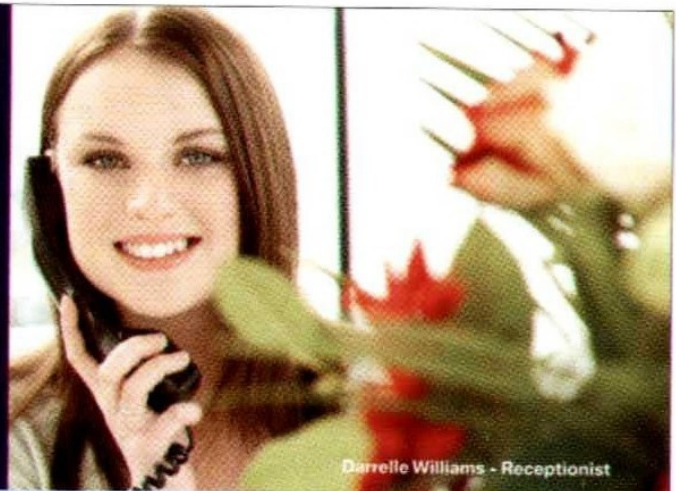
Elds concluded: "It would be a massive disappointment if we went down. I have played in League Two. People say that the two aren't much different, but believe me League one is far better than League Two. There are a lot of players fighting for contracts and their futures really, so it is important that everyone takes a good look at themselves."



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CREWE ASi

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL FOOTBALL FANS



Although our league position and points tally remains unchanged since Dario stepped into the breach, performances have improved and we have progressed in the FA Cup. Not quite the Third Round glamour tie we were hoping for, but we're sure you'll travel in your numbers and get behind the team at The New Den on Saturday, 3rd Jan 2009. We will of course be running a coach(es). Due credit to the 50 die-hards that travelled to Carlisle on a cold Wednesday night and were suitably rewarded with a 2-0 win. Oh for a repeat today!

Today's visitors, Swindon, are of course in a similar position to ourselves, and to be honest, their Chairman's "short-list" probably mirrors John Bowlers'. Once again, the proverbial "six-pointer," but realistically, anything less than a win today, and to paraphrase, Private Frazier "We're doomed, doomed!" Of course the Warmingham-on-Sea Home Guard never were, and whilst it's mathematically possible to avoid relegation everyone needs to get behind the team. Look at how close Bournemouth came to achieving the impossible last year.

Who is your "Money" on to become our next manager? There's been loads of speculation and debate, especially during a Crewe "special" on Radio Stoke on Tuesday night. ASi members, Scott Kynnersley, Trevor Griffiths and Colin Higginson provided the "fans voice" in live discussions with Graham McGarry. Didn't they do well? If you disagreed with their views, or believe you could do better, new local radio station Focal Radio, which broadcasts on the internet and DAB is looking for a Crewe fan to act as a resident pundit on their Friday night preview show. Broadcast between 6pm and 8pm, every Friday, it's more of a studio debate than a 'phone in, and the Crewe fan will have the opportunity to discuss the forthcoming game, previous week's events and Focal's Manager interview with the show's presenter in a light hearted and fun format. If you think you have the knowledge, skill and confidence to meet this challenge, contact the station direct by e-mail sport@focalradio.com or call one of the sports team on **01782 574580**.

A topic you might want to discuss is the increasing use by police of "Section 27" of the Violent Crime Reduction Act

2006, which provides the police with the power to issue a direction to an individual aged 16 years or over who is in a public place to leave a locality.

The direction will prohibit their return to that locality for a specified period not exceeding 48 hours. Whilst the aim of the new power is to minimise the likelihood of alcohol-related crime or disorder taking place, the Football Supporters' Federation (FSF) believe police forces across the country are using these powers to unfairly target football fans.

Recent incidents include over 80 Stoke fans being taken back to Stoke in a convoy of buses ahead of their fixture at Old Trafford, South Yorkshire Police using the Act to prevent Plymouth fans attending Argyle's Championship game with Doncaster Rovers last Saturday, and even Southend fans being served with the order ahead of their game at the Alex! If you've been served a Section 27 order, they want to hear about it simply by e-mail section27@fsf.org.uk.

Sincere apologies if you've recently called our

"published" contact number of **07913 638591** and failed to get through! A technical "glitch" has now been resolved and normal service has been resumed. So do give us a call about Section 27 or anything else that concerns you as a fan.

Sold out! No, not the Boxing Day fixture against Oldham - although it would be nice to have a bumper festive crowd, especially if it's to

welcome the new manager. If not, simply "barrack" long time nemesis, Lee Hughes - but our Kiddies Christmas Party. Fortunately raffle tickets for our prize draw are still on sale. Priced at just a £1, prizes include a Nintendo Wii, "tea for two" at Crewe Hall, a DAB radio and many more...get yours at today's match from any of the committee members or at the club shop. You have to be in it to win it!

And finally... we've joined the Facebook revolution. Visit our group at "Crewe Alexandra Supporters'initiative" and while you're there, post some 'photos! Enjoy the game!

But today it's all about Crewe and Dario's 1,245th game in charge! Once again we implore everyone to get behind the players, manager, et al, and roar them on to a much-needed win in this Cheshire derby. Enjoy the game!



The Alex players celebrate Shaun Miller's early opener at Carlisle in front of 50 or so die-hards.

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Danny Woodard's Dream Team

Danny Woodards has followed most of his team-mates choice by selecting the consistent Cafu as the outstanding right-back in his Dream Team. Woodards has been used in a midfield role in recent weeks; with new recruit John Brayford holding down the right-back spot and it is evident from his selection that our former Chelsea trainee can spot a skilful midfielder when he sees one.

peter schmeichel
(Ex-Man Utd and Denmark)



Always a difficult goalkeeper to get past. He had a massive presence for whoever he played for during his career.

He has selected a foursome of Maradona, Zidane, Messi and Ronaldo and they will certainly provide the creativity and goals any teams need to win tight games. The only problem they could have is fighting over free-kicks, especially with Pele and Alan Shearer always on the pitch!

You can see Woody's Chelsea influence with John Terry making his perfect X1 alongside the legendary England captain Bobby Moore.

GOALKEEPER

cafu
(Ex-Brazil)



The Brazilian was just the best at getting forward and reliable in defence.

RIGHT BACK

john terry
(Chelsea and England)



A good leader for both club and country.

bobby moore
(Ex-West ham and England)



The former England captain always read the game so well.

LEFT BACK

paolo malдини
(AC Milan)



He has won nearly everything you can win in the game and he is still going strong for AC Milan.

CENTRE BACK

zinedine zidane
(Ex-Juventus and France)



He had the ability to do anything. A real genius.

CENTRE BACK

cristiano ronaldo
(Man Utd and Portugal)



So many skills and has scored countless goals.

CENTRE MIDFIELD

diego maradona
(Ex-Napoli and Argentina)



Just had world class ability.

CENTRE MIDFIELD

lionel messi
(Barca and Argentina)



Skilful and neat in possession.

RIGHT WING

pele
(Ex-Brazil)



A truly great goalscorer.

FORWARD

alan shearer
(Ex-England)



Great in the air and a great goalscorer.

FORWARD

LEFT WING



crewe alexandra 0



stockport county 3

Davies 48, Pilkington 66, Thompson 90 + 4

Below: JOEL GRANT is foiled by our former goalkeeper Owain Iwan Williams.



Above: Up In The Air. Stockport stand firm under pressure.

Below: JOHN BRAYFORD fires a shot over the bar in the later stages.



Match Action

50

www.crewealex.net

Main Pic: CLAYTON DONALDSON appeals for a penalty but to no avail.



The Alexandra Stadium
Date: 22nd November 2008
Attendance: 5,337
Referee: Mr. K Wright

team line-ups

crewe alexandra

- 1 Steve Collis
- 2 Danny Woodards
- 3 Billy Jones
- 5 Danny O'Donnell
- 6 Julien Baudet
- 11 Joel Grant
- 20 Shaun Miller
- 23 James Bailey
- 27 Clayton Donaldson
- 30 John Brayford
- 32 Stuart Green

FROM THE BENCH

- 33 Kenny Lunt (32)
- 18 Byron Moore (27)

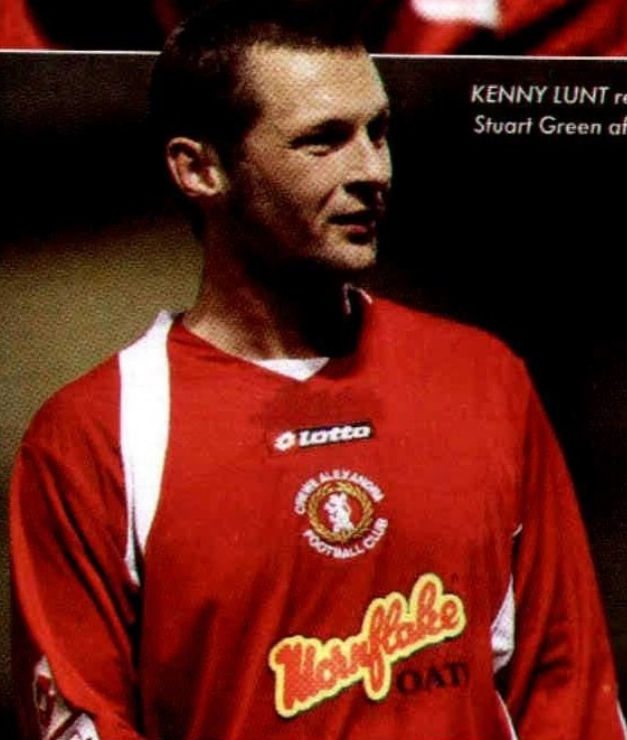
stockport county

- 1 Owain fon Williams
- 2 John Mullins
- 3 Michael Rose
- 7 Anthony Pilkington
- 11 Tommy Rowe
- 15 Michael Raynes
- 16 James Tunnidiffe
- 14 Jason Taylor
- 19 Matty McNeil
- 35 Craig Davies
- 4 Dominic Blizzard

FROM THE BENCH

- 20 Leon McSweeney (2)
- 8 Gary Dicker (11)
- 9 Peter Thompson (35)

KENNY LUNT replaced the injured Stuart Green after just 17 minutes.



HEADLINE MAKERS

LEIGH EDWARDS selects a post-war headline stories concerning the Railwaymen from the month of December.

1951 - catterick takes charge

Centre-forward Harry Catterick became Crewe Alexandra's player-manager in December 1951. Previously with Everton, he had taken time to learn from secretary Theo Kelly all about the administrative aspects of running a football club. He replaced Arthur Turner in charge at Gresty Road and made his debut in Crewe's 1-0 victory at Darlington. Scoring 11 goals in 25 Third Division (North) games, he remained player-boss until resigning in June 1953. He managed Rochdale before guiding Sheffield Wednesday to the Second Division title in 1958-59, then led Everton to two League Championship successes and FA Cup final glory.

1961 - tranmere hit for six

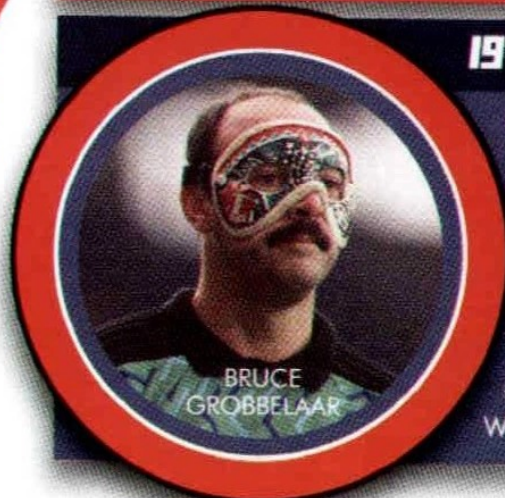
Frank Lord's hat-trick plus strikes by Billy Haydock, Jimmy Shepherd and an own goal gave Crewe Alexandra a thrilling 6-1 Fourth Division victory over Tranmere Rovers in front of 6,684 at Prenton Park on 9th December 1961: Brian Williamson, Jimmy McGill, Don Campbell, Stan Keery, Eric Barnes, Terry Tighe, Billy Haydock, Jimmy Shepherd, Frank Lord, Felix Reilly, Barry Wheatley. It was Crewe's biggest League win since the 5-0 demolition of Oldham Athletic in April 1959. Frank Lord netted another hat-trick in the following month's 3-1 victory at home to Southport and was top scorer with 30 goals that season.

1964 - harkin scores four

Four goals by Terry Harkin plus others from Peter Gowans and Peter Kane gave Crewe Alexandra an exciting 6-2 Fourth Division victory over Barrow in front of 3,995 at Gresty Road on Boxing Day 1964: Geoff Hickson, Dave Whelan, Peter Leigh, Stan Keery, Eric Barnes, Mick Gannon, Peter Gowans, Peter Kane, Johnny King, Terry Harkin, Barry Wheatley. It was the first occasion a Crewe player had scored four times in a League match since Frank Lord in the 5-1 victory at home to Darlington in October 1961. Ernie Tagg's side completed a Christmas double over Barrow with a 2-1 win at Holker Street the following day.

1979 - grobbelaar signed

Colourful goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar joined Crewe Alexandra from Vancouver Whitecaps in December 1979. Following a lengthy legal battle with Government departments to allow the South African to play League football, he made his Crewe debut in that month's 2-0 defeat at Wigan Athletic. He quickly became a favourite and wore comic masks prior to games, entertaining the young fans behind his goal. Making 24 League appearances for the Alex, he memorably scored a penalty in his final match at home to York City in May 1980. He had another spell with Vancouver Whitecaps before winning many honours with Liverpool.



1982 - *cliss follows morris*

Winger Tony Cliss moved from Fourth Division rivals Peterborough United to Crewe Alexandra in December 1982. Signing professional for Posh in August 1977, he had featured in their 1980-81 FA Cup run and reunited with his former manager Peter Morris at Gresty Road. He made his Crewe debut in that month's 1-1 draw at home to Torquay United, in the wake of the FA Cup first round defeat at non-League side Boston United. Destined to miss the entire 1985-86 campaign through injury, he scored 11 goals in 113 League outings for the Alex until forced to retire in May 1987 and was given a testimonial match.

1987 - *posh performance*

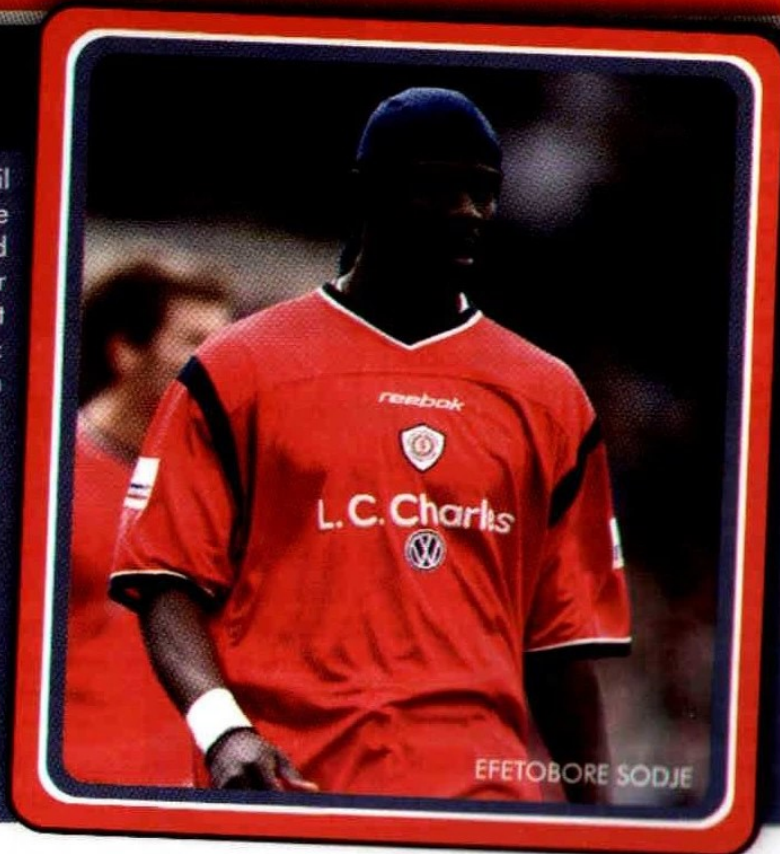
Goals by Rob Edwards, David Platt, Vernon Allatt and Mick Halsall's own goal gave Crewe Alexandra an emphatic 4-0 Fourth Division victory over Peterborough United in front of 2,540 at London Road on 18th December 1987: Dean Greygoose, Wayne Goodison, Ian Macowat, Neil Morton, Peter Billing, Steve Wright, David Platt, Vernon Allatt, Roger Eli, Terry Milligan, Rob Edwards (Stuart Ritchie). It was Crewe's biggest away win since the 5-0 triumph at Hartlepool in October 1986. Dario Gradi's side also scored four goals at Colchester two months later but lost 1-0 in the return match at home to Peterborough.

1996 - *crewe annihilate tigers*

Strikes by Steve Garvey, Danny Murphy, Dele Adebola, Shaun Smith and Tony Brien's own goal gave Crewe Alexandra a stunning 5-1 FA Cup second round victory over Hull City in front of 3,756 at Boothferry Park on 7th December 1996: Jason Kearon, Billy Barr, Shaun Smith, Ashley Westwood (Peter Billing), Steve Macauley, Gareth Whalley, Mark Rivers (Dele Adebola), Robbie Savage, Jamie Moralee, Danny Murphy, Steve Garvey. It was Crewe's biggest away victory in the FA Cup since the 6-1 victory against Accrington Stanley in December 1992. The Alex lost 2-0 at Wimbledon in the third round replay.

2001 - *pompey chimes silenced*

Goals from Rob Hulse, Efe Sodje, Phil Charnock and Kenny Lunt gave struggling Crewe Alexandra a splendid 4-2 First Division victory over Portsmouth watched by 14,430 at Fratton Park on 8th December 2001: Clayton Ince, David Wright, Shaun Smith, Steve Foster, Efe Sodje, Phil Charnock, Rob Hulse, Kenny Lunt, Dean Ashton (Rodney Jack), Dave Brammer, Geoff Thomas. Crewe had won only one of their previous ten First Division games. Pompey were spearheaded by Peter Crouch, who scored their second goal. Crewe were held to a 1-1 draw in the return fixture and destined for relegation that season.



Headline Makers

ES

www.crewealex.net



MANAGERIAL MERRY-GO-ROUND KEEPS ON SPINNING

With a sequence of managerial departures, especially at League One level, the magical merry-go-round continues to spin quite merrily. Those managers who may have found themselves out of a job following a succession of poor results can usually find themselves back on the payroll at another club soon enough.

Crewe Alexandra are currently on the look out for another manager/first team coach after Steve Holland was relieved of his first team duties after failing to win enough matches in his 16 months in charge. The club, like a collection of others clubs will not be rushed into an appointment for the sake of it. Whoever replaces Holland at Gresty Road would have to work a miracle to get Crewe out of our current predicament. With just two League wins all season, we are odds on favourites for relegation to League Two.

Today's visitors Swindon Town are also on the lookout for a new manager after the dismissal of Maurice Malpass following their FA Cup exit to Histon. The Scot had been in charge at the County Ground for just ten months following his success at Motherwell.

Similarly to ourselves the names of Ward, Money, Holloway and Cotterill have all been linked with the vacant position.

One League One club who have appointed a new manager is Carlisle United. They have rewarded their previous caretaker manager Greg Abbott for his work following the departure of John

their manager this season and the situation doesn't seem likely to improve with expectations going through the roof.

You could argue that the introduction of the transfer window has caused the pressure on managers to increase because without multi-million transfers to speculate on, the media have quickly switched their focus onto the vulnerability of a manager. With the window closing in late August and not reopening until the New Year, the newspaper editors need something to fill their pages.


Managers are being judged after every result, especially in the Premier League where the intensive pressure recently saw Roy Keane leave Sunderland. In fact, other than perhaps Sir Alex Ferguson, Harry Redknapp, Tony Pullis and Phil Brown, every manager in the Premier League is one defeat away from absolute disaster! The knives are currently being sharpened for Paul Ince at Blackburn Rovers, but it is still too early to judge the former Macclesfield and MK Dons boss at the top level. It is a great shame that we are losing ambitious British managers before they have been given an opportunity to shuffle their feet under the tables at their new clubs.



PAUL INCE has come under considerable pressure at Blackburn Rovers.


Ward with a new 18-month contract. Abbott must have feared the worst when Crewe knocked his Carlisle United side out of the FA Cup, but the board had seen enough to give Abbott his chance at the helm.

Amazingly, six League One clubs have already changed




1. Steve Collis

HOME KIT	JEAN PARRY
AWAY KIT	
BOOTS	DARREN BULLOCK, Happy 20th Birthday, Love Louise xx
SOCKS	JOSHUA WHALLEY




2. Danny Woodards

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AWAY KIT	
BOOTS	
SOCKS	




3. Billy Jones

HOME KIT	GAIL TOMLIN AUTOMATIC & MANUAL DRIVING TUITION
AWAY KIT	
BOOTS	GARY PEARSON & ANNE VERRALL
SOCKS	ABIGAIL WATSON



6. Julien Boudet

HOME KIT	GAIL TOMLIN AUTOMATIC & MANUAL DRIVING TUITION
AWAY KIT	
BOOTS	KARAH PROUDLOVE
SOCKS	EVE ALLEN




7. Eugen Bopp

HOME KIT	
AWAY KIT	MELTON MOWBRAY TRAVELLING ALEX
BOOTS	
SOCKS	




8. Michael O'Connor

HOME KIT	
AWAY KIT	
BOOTS	WEBSTER FAMILY
SOCKS	NATHANIEL HOLLAND



9. Anthony Elding

HOME KIT	
AWAY KIT	
BOOTS	ANNA XIOROUPPA, JEANETTE EDWARDS & TERRY EDWARDS
SOCKS	LES LEWIS




10. Calvin Zola

HOME KIT	FRAN HALL, I LOVE YOU
AWAY KIT	
BOOTS	RACHEL BRETLAND & STEPHEN SUTTON
SOCKS	HAYDEN WHALLEY



11. Joel Grant

HOME KIT	CREWE ASI
AWAY KIT	
BOOTS	MAX & ANNA GALIERO
SOCKS	HAYDEN WHALLEY




17. Byron Moore

HOME KIT	
AWAY KIT	
BOOTS	
SOCKS	NATHANIEL HOLLAND




18. Mark Carrington

HOME KIT	
AWAY KIT	
BOOTS	
SOCKS	




19. Tom Pope

HOME KIT	
AWAY KIT	
BOOTS	LES LEWIS
SOCKS	CONNOR DAVIDSON



20. Shaun Miller

HOME KIT	R&M WELDING SUPPLIES
AWAY KIT	R&M WELDING SUPPLIES
BOOTS	
SOCKS	




29. Ashley Westwood

HOME KIT	PETE WARBURTON
AWAY KIT	PETE WARBURTON
BOOTS	
SOCKS	



01 Leitch Smith

HOME KIT	COOPER BUCKLEY LTD
AWAY KIT	COOPER BUCKLEY LTD
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Josh Thompson

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SOCKS	

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bronze award for the alex

Crewe Alexandra's Alexandra Soccer Centre has been awarded Bronze status by The Football League Trust for our work in the Community.

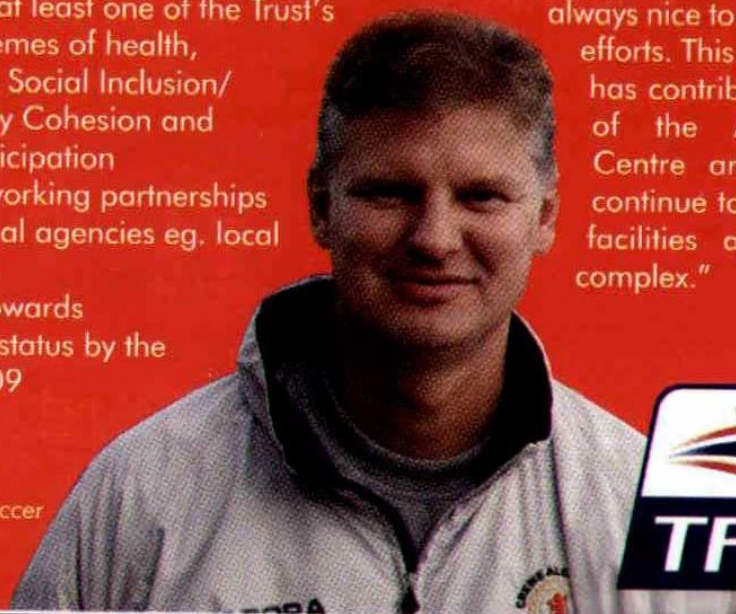
The club will now receive £24k, which will be invested into Community activities.

The Alex staff were recently assessed by the Trust Regional Management team, who found that the club's Community work met the required standard for a Bronze award.

In addition to fulfilling the Trust's Minimum Charter standard, the club's Community staff demonstrated the following:

- A coach to child ratio of 1:16 for all activity
- All activity led by an FA Level 2 qualified coach or above
- Publish a business plan with Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- Deliver to at least one of the Trust's 4 main themes of health, Education, Social Inclusion/Community Cohesion and Sports Participation
- Establish working partnerships with external agencies eg. local authorities
- Working towards charitable status by the end of 2009

The Alexandra Soccer Centre Manager, RAY WALKER.



Bronze awards have been made to 20 Championship clubs, 19 in League 1 and 17 in League 2.

Football League Trust General Manager Dave Edmundson said: "We have been extremely impressed with the standard of community work across the country.

"We are sure the investment will benefit the many thousands who participate in Community activities with Football League clubs."

The Alexandra Soccer Centre Manager Ray Walker was equally delighted with the club's bronze award: "We are delighted to have been given the bronze award from the Football League Trust as we feel it reflects the hard work the staff have continued to produce over many years.

"We try to offer a high standard of coaching, regardless of ability and it is always nice to be awarded for our efforts. This is for everyone who has contributed to the success of the Alexandra Soccer Centre and for those who continue to come and use the facilities at our Shavington complex."



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millwall v crewe alexandra

coca-cola league one

20th december 2008 | kick off 3.00pm

	Prices
Adults	£20.00
Senior Citizens (Over 65's)	£13.00
Juniors 12-16	£11.00
Under 12's	£8.00*

*Any Under 12's tickets purchased with a full paying adult are £1.00

Coaches will depart at **8.15am** and are priced at
 Season Ticket Holders and Members **£22.00**
 Non Season ticket holders and members **£23.00**



crewe alexandra v oldham athletic

coca-cola league one

26th december 2008 | kick off 3pm

	Match Day	Members
Adults	£18.60	£15.70
12-16yrs	£8.40	£6.40
Under 11's	£4.40	£3.40
Senior Citizens	£14.70	£12.20
Disabled	£14.70	£12.20
*Student		£8.40
17-19 years		£10.30
**Family Ticket	£18.60	£15.70

* Student tickets are only available upon purchase of a £10 student membership. This can be acquired through production of a valid student ID and recent passport sized photograph.

** (1 Adult & 1 Under 11 in the Family Stand)



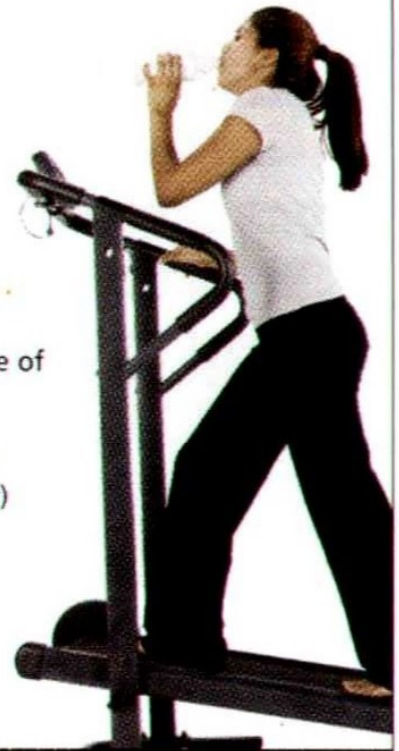


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WHOPPER IN OVERDRIVE AT WHADDON ROAD

WITH GRAHAM MCGARRY



In all the years that I have reported on the Alex games for BBC Radio Stoke I witnessed something at Whaddon Road that I hope never happens again while I'm commentating behind the mic - the sight of two Crewe players suffering facial injuries inside the first ten minutes of the game against Cheltenham.

The club's physio Steve Walker must have thought he'd upset someone when he first treated James Bailey and then within a minute of getting James off the pitch, he saw Calvin Zola flat out after he was knocked unconscious by a clash of heads with the Cheltenham defender Drisso Diallo.

While both players didn't take any further part in the game, full credit has to go to Steve for his swift response in treating both players, and his expertise in treating the players saved them from any serious problems.

He is a real unsung hero.

This week BBC Radio Stoke's Midweek Sport programme was a dedicated one hour

phone-in for Crewe fans.

Three guests from the ASI group were invited into the studios of Hanley to be part of the programme, which discussed many topics about the club.

The main chat of course surrounded who is to become Crewe's next manager.



Crewe physio STEVE WALKER was called into action early at Cheltenham

The panel had plenty of good candidates, and it will be interesting over the next couple of weeks to see if any of them got the man they wanted.

Of course, the panel were also very gracious of the work that former boss Steve Holland did during his lengthy spell at the club, and as these are my final programme notes before

Christmas I would like to wish Steve and his family an enjoyable festive period and hopefully the New Year will see him back in football.

At this week's press conference Dario Gradi told the local media that he was preparing for life at Gresty Road without the former first-team coach.

Gradi feels that the man he worked with for over 18 years will seek pastures new after being relieved of first team duties last month.

Dario told the official website crewealex.net: "I have accepted that it is unlikely that Steve will come back as a coach after all that has gone on. We would like him too, but I don't think it would sit easy with the ones who wanted him out in the first place."

Don't forget you can call Praise and Grumble have your say on the Alex after today's game against Swindon call **01782 208008**.

Enjoy the game and a Merry Christmas to all our Crewe listeners.

Graham



LESSONS NEED TO BE LEARNT FROM HUME'S HEAD INJURY

Injuries have been and always will be part and parcel of football but the seriousness of them can differ greatly. A slight muscle strain may keep a player out for a few weeks or a broken leg between 4-6 months. Recently, the unfortunate Everton striker Ayegbeni Yakubu ruptured his Achilles tendon muscle and that has prematurely ended his season.

Even Yakubu's particularly nasty injury has been surpassed by that obtained by the Barnsley striker Iain Hume. The Canadian suffered a fractured skull after being caught with a solid elbow from Sheffield United's Chris Morgan. Due to Morgan's extra height over his opponent, he struck the top of his head and caused severe damage. It was so horrific that Hume's life was thought to be in danger once he returned to the dressing room. The player spent a worrying time in intensive care, needed brain surgery and a further 14 stitches following lengthy surgery.

If Morgan actually intended to harm Hume is debatable and only the player involved will truly know if he set himself to inflict such damage. Sadly, on the replay of the incident, the robust Morgan adjusts his feet to securely plant himself in the ground before making solid contact with the top of Hume's head. He then heads the ball clear of danger.

When a player is left fighting for his life, it puts football firmly into perspective and Hume was lucky. Morgan was only shown a yellow card following the incident and strangely escaped

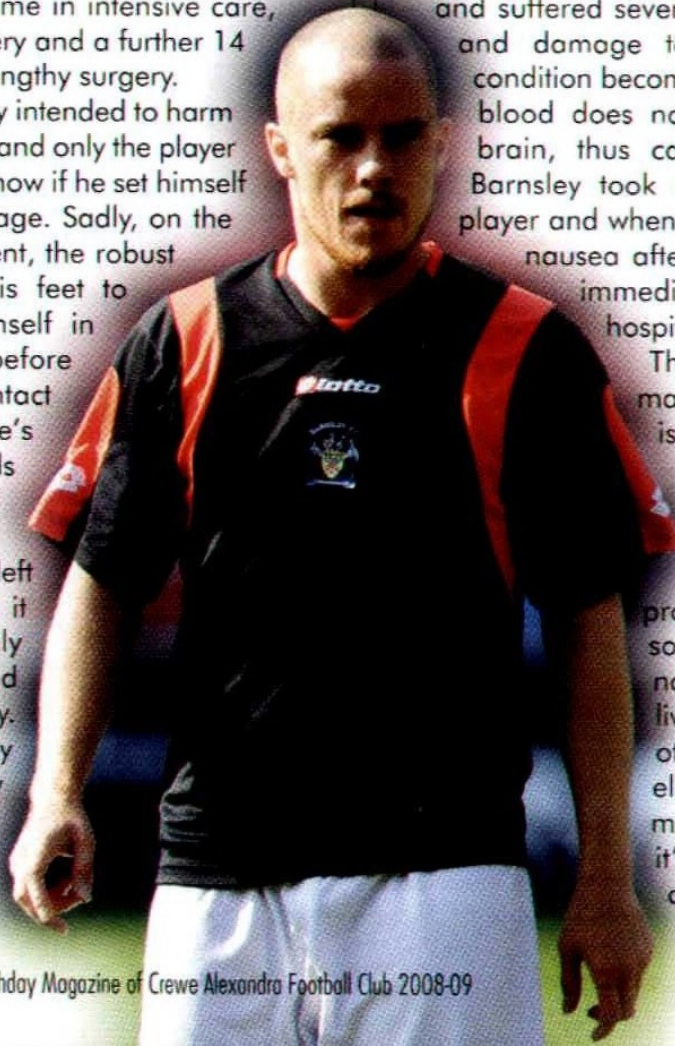
any further punishment from the Football Association. The rules actually state that the FA cannot upgrade a yellow card to a red one and they didn't feel it necessary to charge the Sheffield United defender with a more severe charge.

When managers are being dragged in front of disciplinary panels for disagreeing with decisions made by match officials, or others being cautioned for taking their shirt off when celebrating a goal, it does make you wonder.

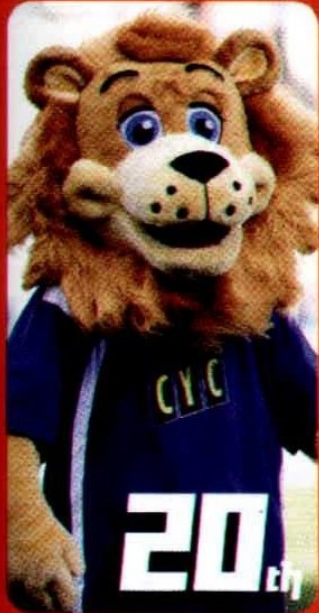
Morgan committed a life-threatening act that went way above the line of decency out on a football pitch. Morgan's whole game is based on his aggressive nature and his combative nature has seen him in trouble in the past but only he will know if he over-stepped the mark intentionally.

Hume suffered a broken bone in the skull and suffered severe bruising of the brain and damage to blood vessels. The condition becomes immensely serious if blood does not flow through to the brain, thus causing brain damage. Barnsley took no chances with their player and when he later complained of nausea after being discharged he immediately returned to hospital for further tests.

Thankfully, Hume will make a full recovery but it is unlikely he will play again this season. In hindsight, the FA really need to look at their disciplinary procedure because these sort of incidents should not be threatening the lives of footballers or any other sportsman. The elbow is a footballers most potent weapon and it's usage needs to be outlawed completely.



December



Saturday 20th

Crewe Alexandra travel to the New Den to take on Kenny Jackett's high-flying Millwall side.



Sunday 21st

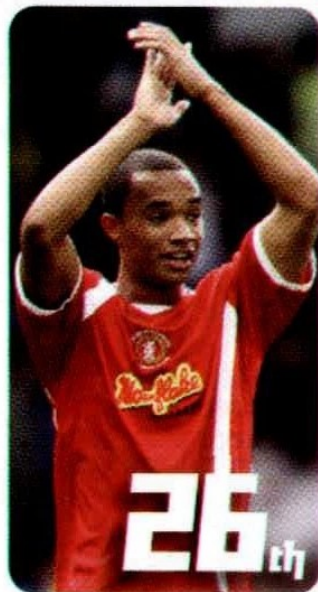
The big Premiership matches continue with Arsenal hosting Liverpool at the Emirates Stadium.

Monday 22nd

More great festive footie with Everton playing host to title contenders Chelsea.

Thursday 25th

Merry Christmas to all Alex fans.



Friday 26th

Boxing Day bonanza as Crewe host our North West rivals Oldham Athletic. Kick off is 3pm at the Alexandra Stadium.

Sunday 28th

A hectic Christmas period continues with a trip to Hartlepool United. Make sure you pack your winter warmers for this one!

Monday 29th

The Christmas period is always a key moment in the season. Manchester United entertain Middlesbrough at Old Trafford.



Wednesday 31st

Calvin Zola's birthday, so many happy returns to our Congolese striker.





MILLWALL

SATURDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2008

STADIUM: THE NEW DEN | KICK OFF: 3.00PM

FORM GUIDE...

Kenny Jackett's Millwall are flying in League One this season after just managing to stay up last year when they finished just two points above the Railwaymen.

It did take them four games to get their first win this season. Having lost out to Oldham on the opening day, they followed that up with draws against Southend and Northampton. Their first three points came at home against Huddersfield with a hard fought 2-1 win. That was the victory they were looking for to kick start a run of form, as the Lions went on to win their next four League games before a 4-0 reverse against MK Dons.

They bounced back well winning a further three games before losing out to Scunthorpe towards the end of October. They have just ended a run of three consecutive home games and travel to Walsall this afternoon.

LAST 3 GAMES...

MILLWALL 3-2 Bristol Rovers
MILLWALL 3-0 Aldershot Town
MILLWALL 1-0 Carlisle

LAST TIME OUT...

Final Score: 2-0
Stadium: The New Den
Date: 29/12/2007

Our last trip to The New Den continued a poor run of form for the Alex as they fell to a sixth consecutive away defeat, and it was all changed by the first goal converted from the penalty spot by Neil Harris for Millwall. It was an exciting first half prior to



kenny jackett

that penalty, and despite Crewe looking the most likely to net first, with chances falling to Byron Moore, the on loan Simon Church and Chris McCready, that first goal improved Millwall's confidence and they came out the better side in the second half. They added a killer second goal on 53 minutes after our former skipper Dave Brammer found Ahmet Brkovic with a quickly taken free-kick.

DID HE REALLY? JOHN FASHANU

Now carving out a career as a TV presenter, did you know that John Fashanu once played for Millwall? It was quite late on in his career, having started out at Norwich but it proved to be the catalyst for his successful move to Wimbledon for whom he helped win the FA Cup in 1988 with a 1-0 win over Liverpool. Fash also went on to claim 2 caps for England.

He joined Millwall in 1984 and stayed there for two years before leaving for Plough Lane in 1986. He featured for the Lions 65 times overall and netted 19 goals.

LOOK OUT FOR... LEWIS GRABBAN

Grabban is a promising young striker who signed as a professional

in 2006 with Crystal Palace, but is currently Millwall's top scorer at the age of 20. He joined Palace in the 2004/2005 season, and scored a very impressive 28 goals for the under 18's and reserve sides. He was rewarded with appearances against Walsall and Coventry in the Carling Cup, almost scoring against Walsall within a second of being on the pitch!

The youngster scored his first League goal against West Bromich Albion, who at the time were chasing promotion. He scored in the 94th minute to give Palace a 3-2 win.

Grabban signed for Millwall in January 2008 for £150,000, and a month later had scored his first goal against Port Vale in Millwall's 3-0 win. Days later and he followed that up with another, and then a third against Swansea in the opening minute of the game. This season he has netted some vital goals, including the winning goal over Hereford recently that at the time saw Millwall go level on points with Scunthorpe at the top of the League.






admission

	PRICES
ADULTS	£20.00
SENIOR CITIZENS	£13.00 (OVER 65'S)
JUNIORS 12-16	£11.00
UNDER 12'S	£8.00**

**Any Under 12's tickets purchased with a full paying adult are £1.00.

LAST FIVE OUTINGS THE ALEX








VS

Saturday 6th December 2008

CHELTHENHAM 1 CREWE ALEXANDRA 0

SCORER: Diallo (Cheltenham) 48
CHELTHENHAM: Brown, Gallinagh, Kenton, Diallo, Ridley, Finnigan (Russell 76), Payne, Westlake, Vincent (Spencer 64), Hayles, Murray
CREWE: Tomlinson, Brayford, O'Donnell, Baudet, Jones, Lunt, Bailey (Pope 8), Woodards, Miller, Zola (Rix 8), Daniel (Elding, 68)








VS

Wednesday 3rd December 2008

CARLISLE UNITED 0 CREWE ALEXANDRA 2

SCORER: Miller (Crewe) 2, 12
CARLISLE: Howarth, Raven, Livesey (Dobie 84), Keogh, Liddle, Taylor, Bridge-Wilkinson, Kavanagh, Smith, Graham (Bridges 57), Madine
CREWE: Tomlinson, Brayford, O'Donnell, Baudet, Jones, Miller (Rix 88), O'Connor (Woodard's 71), Lunt, Bailey, Zola, Daniel







VS

Tuesday 25th November 2008

LEICESTER CITY 2 CREWE ALEXANDRA 1

SCORERS: Fryatt (Leicester) 15, Zola (Crewe) 30, King (Leicester) 72
LEICESTER: Martin, Edworthy (Hobbs 86), Morrison, Iunchev, Mattock, Oakley (Gradel 59) Berner, King, Dyer, Fryatt, Campbell (Howard 59)
CREWE: Tomlinson, Brayford, O'Donnell, Baudet, Jones, Woodards (Miller 81), Lunt, O'Connor, Bailey, Daniel, Zola (Donaldson 69)





VS

Saturday 22nd November 2008

CREWE ALEXANDRA 0 STOCKPORT COUNTY 3

SCORERS: Davies (Stockport) 48, Pilkington (Stockport) 66, Thompson (Stockport 90)
CREWE: Callis, Woodards, O'Donnell, Baudet, Jones, Brayford, Green (Lunt 18), Bailey, Grant (Pope 72), Donaldson (Moore 72), Miller
STOCKPORT: Ian Williams, Mullins (McSweeney 42), Raynes, Tunnicliffe, Rose, Anthony Pilkington, Taylor, Blizzard, Rowe (Dicker 72), McNeil, Davies (Thompson 89)





VS

Saturday 15th November 2008

CREWE ALEXANDRA 0 LEYTON ORIENT 2

SCORERS: Mkandawire (Leyton Orient) 55, Boyd (Leyton Orient) 74
CREWE: Callis, Brayford, Lawrence, Baudet, Jones, Green, Bailey, O'Connor, Grant, Donaldson (Miller 75), Pope (Elding 75)
LEYTON ORIENT: Morris, Purchase, Mkandawire, Soah (Thewell 28), Granville, Melligan, Chambers, Thornton, Boyd, Demetriou, Parkin

Recent Form
65
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DATE	OPPONENTS	H/A	KICK-OFF	RESULT	ATTENDANCE	FIRST XI
august						
Saturday 9	Brighton and Hove Albion	H	15:00	L 2-1	4,557	Collis Woodards Jones Boudet Bopp (13) O'Connor Zako 1 Grant (17) McCreehy
Tuesday 12	Barnsley (CC1)	H	19:45	W 2-0	2,492	Collis Woodards Jones Boudet O'Connor 1 Elding 1 Grant (4) McCreehy Moore
Saturday 16	Carlisle United	A	15:00	L 4-2	6,919	Collis Woodards Jones Boudet O'Connor Elding (26) Grant McCreehy (15) Moore
Saturday 23	Walsall	H	15:00	W 2-1	4,160	Collis Woodards Jones O'Donnell Boudet O'Connor Elding 1 (27) Grant 1 Moore
Tuesday 26	Bristol City (CC2)	H	19:45	W 2-0	3,227	Collis Woodards O'Donnell Boudet O'Connor Grant (27) Moore 1 Pope
Saturday 30	Hereford United	A	15:00	L 2-0	2,894	Collis Woodards Jones O'Donnell Boudet O'Connor (4) Elding (10) Grant Moore
september						
Tuesday 2	Macclesfield Town	H	19:45	W 3-0	2,463	Collis Woodards Jones 1 Schumacher 1 O'Donnell 1 Boudet Bopp Elding (27) Zako
Saturday 6	Leeds United	A	15:00	L 2-5	20,075	Collis Woodards Jones 1 Schumacher O'Donnell Boudet Elding (27) Zako Rita
Saturday 13	Colchester United	H	15:00	W 2-0	3,510	Collis Woodards Jones O'Donnell Boudet O'Connor 1 Elding (19) Zako Grant
Saturday 20	Southern United	H	15:00	L 3-4	3,574	Collis Woodards Jones O'Donnell Boudet O'Connor 1 Zako 1 (27) Grant (20) Moore
Tuesday 23	Liverpool (CC3)	A	20:00	L 1-2	28,951	Collis Woodards Jones O'Donnell Boudet O'Connor 1 Zako (26) Pope (9) Bailey
Saturday 27	Bristol Rovers	A	15:00	D 0-0	5,870	Collis Woodards O'Donnell Boudet Jones Moore Bailey O'Connor Carrington
october						
Saturday 4	Northampton Town	H	15:00	L 1-3	3,977	Collis Woodards Jones O'Donnell O'Connor Elding (10) Moore (30) Carrington Pope
Monday 6	Tranmere Rovers (JPT2)	A	19:00	L 0-1	2,676	Collis Woodards Jones Schumacher O'Donnell (27) O'Connor Zako (9) Carrington (7) Pope
Saturday 11	Scunthorpe United	A	15:00	L 0-3	4,790	Collis Woodards Jones Schumacher O'Donnell Zako (27) Carrington (7) Pope Miller
Saturday 18	Milton Keynes Dons	H	15:00	D 2-2	4,855	Collis Woodards Jones Boudet O'Connor Zako (19) Carrington Miller 1 Bailey
Tuesday 21	Yeovil Town	A	19:45	L 2-3	3,536	Collis Woodards Jones Boudet (30) O'Connor Zako (9) Carrington (17) Miller 1 Bailey
Friday 24	Tranmere Rovers	A	19:45	L 0-2	5,790	Collis Woodards (26) Jones Schumacher O'Donnell O'Connor Elding Moore (27) Miller
Tuesday 28	Peterborough United	H	19:45	D 1-1	3,699	Collis O'Donnell O'Connor (4) Grant Abbey (18) Moore Miller (19) Bailey Donohue
november						
Saturday 1	Huddersfield Town	A	15:00	L 2-3	11,679	Collis Jones Schumacher O'Donnell Boudet Grant Moore Miller Bailey
Saturday 8	Ebbwfleet United (EA. Cup 1)	H	15:00	W 1-0	2,593	Collis Jones O'Donnell Boudet O'Connor Grant (10) Moore Miller (18) Bailey
Saturday 15	Leyton Orient	H	15:00	L 0-2	3,872	Collis Jones Boudet O'Connor Grant Pope (9) Bailey Donohue (20) Brayford
Saturday 22	Stockport County	H	15:00	L 0-3	5,337	Collis Woodards Jones O'Donnell Boudet Grant (17) Miller Bailey Donohue
Tuesday 25	Leicester City	A	19:45	L 1-2	16,691	Tomlinson Woodards (20) O'Donnell Boudet Jones O'Connor Bailey Brayford Dore
december						
Wednesday 3	Carlisle United (FA. Cup 2)	A	19:45	W 2-0	2,755	Tomlinson Jones O'Donnell Boudet O'Connor Zako (19) Miller (12) Daniel Bailey
Saturday 6	Cheltenham Town	A	15:00	L 0-1	4,052	Tomlinson Woodards Jones O'Donnell Boudet Zako (19) Miller Daniel (7) Bailey
Saturday 13	Swindon Town	H	15:00			
Saturday 20	Millwall	A	15:00			
Friday 26	Oldham Athletic	H	15:00			
Sunday 28	Hartlepool United	A	15:00			
january						
Saturday 3	Millwall (FAC3)	A	15:00			
Tuesday 6	Bristol Rovers	H	19:45			
Saturday 10	Southern United	A	15:00			
Saturday 17	Scunthorpe United	H	15:00			
Saturday 24	Northampton Town / (FAC4)	A	15:00			
Tuesday 27	Peterborough United	A	19:45			
Saturday 31	Tranmere Rovers	H	15:00			
february						
Tuesday 3	Yeovil Town	H	19:45			
Saturday 7	Milton Keynes Dons	A	15:00			
Saturday 14	Leyton Orient / (FAC5)	A	15:00			
Saturday 21	Huddersfield Town	H	15:00			
Saturday 28	Brighton and Hove Albion	A	15:00			
march						
Tuesday 3	Carlisle United	H	19:45			
Saturday 7	Hereford United / (FAC6)	H	15:00			
Tuesday 10	Walsall	A	19:45			
Saturday 14	Colchester United	A	15:00			
Saturday 21	Leeds United	H	15:00			
Saturday 28	Millwall	H	15:00			
april						
Saturday 4	Swindon Town	A	15:00			
Saturday 11	Hartlepool United	H	15:00			
Monday 13	Oldham Athletic	A	19:45			
Saturday 18	Cheltenham Town / (FAC SF)	H	15:00			
Friday 24	Stockport County	A	19:45			
may						
Saturday 2	Leicester City	H	15:00			
Saturday 30	F.A. Cup Final					

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SUBSTITUTES

15	Bailey	Elding (20)	Pope	Rix (7)	Moore (11)	Abbey					
16	Bailey	Legzdins	Schumacher (11)	O'Donnell	Abbey	Miller	Daniel	Claments			
17	Bailey	Rix	Abbey (14)	Miller (9)	Daniel (17)	Claments					
18	Bailey	Schumacher	Carrington	Miller	Donaldson (9)	Westwood					
19	Rix (4)	Legzdins	Schumacher (12)	Carrington (9)	Miller	Donaldson (11)	McManus	Westwood			
20	Bailey	Zola (9)	Donaldson (19)	Rix	Schumacher (8)	Miller					
21											
22	Moore	Legzdins	Carrington	Miller (10)	Donaldson (9)	Bailey					
23	Bailey	Bopp 1 (12)	Abbey	Pope	Miller	Donaldson (1)					
24	Bailey	Miller	Pope 1 (9)	Donaldson	Abbey	Carrington (11)					
25	Bailey	Elding	Carrington (17)	Miller (11)	Donaldson (10)						
26	Carrington (11)	Elding (19)	Miller (10)	Abbey	Grant (18)	Tomlinson	Rix	Schumacher			
27	Pope (20)	Elding (10)	Miller (19)	Brayford	Schumacher (18)	Grant					
28											
29	Lawrence	Miller (17)	Zola (9)	Grant (23)	Schumacher	Brayford					
30	Lawrence	Donaldson (5)	Brayford	Elding (10)	Bopp (18)	Tomlinson					
31	Brayford	Bopp (18)	Elding	Grant (20)	Donaldson (10)	Abbey					
32	Lawrence	Schumacher	Moore (27)	Grant	Pope (10)	Brayford					
33	Lawrence	Schumacher	Elding (10)	Grant	Moore 1 (18)	Brayford (8)					
34	Lawrence	Zola	Donaldson (17)	Grant (23)	Rix	Brayford (1)					
35	Lawrence	Elding	Zola	Pope 1 (20)	Carrington (11)	Schumacher (8)					
36											
37	Brayford	Zola (22)	Pope (27)	Abbey	Woodards	Carrington					
38	Brayford	Woodards	Zola (11)	Tomlinson	Murphy	Pope	Elding	Carrington (20)			
39	Green	Woodards	O'Donnell	Elding (19)	Miller (27)	Murphy					
40	Green (33)	Tomlinson	Elding	Moore (11)	Pope (27)	Lee (14)					
41	Zola 1 (27)	Miller (2)	Rix	Lawrence	Grant	Donaldson (10)					
42											
43	Lunt	Collis	Woodards (8)	Elding	Grant	Rix (20)	Pope (10)	Tomlinson			
44	Lunt	Elding (22)	Grant	Rix (22)	Pope (10)	Donaldson					

coca-cola football league 1 current standings

Pos	Team	Home					Away					GD	Pts	
		P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L			F
1	LEICESTER	19	7	2	1	18	6	5	3	1	18	10	18	41
2	MILLWALL	19	8	1	1	18	9	4	2	3	14	14	7	39
3	MK DONS	19	6	0	4	17	10	6	1	2	20	9	18	37
4	PETERBOROUGH	19	6	2	1	21	9	4	4	2	15	12	15	36
5	SCUNTHORPE	19	5	2	2	17	11	6	1	3	18	13	11	36
6	OLDHAM	19	6	3	1	23	10	4	2	3	12	13	12	35
7	LEEDS UNITED	19	6	1	2	21	11	4	1	5	12	13	9	32
8	STOCKPORT	19	3	4	3	12	11	5	3	1	14	6	9	31
9	TRANMERE	19	6	1	3	19	12	3	2	4	9	12	4	30
10	WALSALL	19	5	0	4	17	16	3	3	4	13	14	0	27
11	SOUTHEND	19	5	2	2	13	9	2	4	4	15	22	-3	27
12	HULLERSFIELD	19	3	3	4	14	16	4	2	3	13	15	-4	26
13	HARTLEPOOL	19	4	4	2	22	17	3	0	6	7	13	-1	25
14	NORTHAMPTON	19	4	4	2	15	10	2	2	5	11	15	1	24
15	BRISTOL ROVERS	19	4	2	3	20	14	1	5	4	16	19	3	22
16	COLCHESTER	19	2	2	6	10	13	4	1	4	20	21	-4	21
17	CARLISLE	19	5	1	3	18	13	1	2	7	7	20	-8	21
18	LEYTON ORIENT	19	2	3	4	7	12	3	3	4	8	11	-8	21
19	SWINDON	19	3	3	4	16	18	1	5	3	14	17	-5	20
20	BRIGHTON	19	2	4	3	12	13	2	4	4	10	14	-5	20
21	YEovil	19	2	5	2	10	10	2	2	6	5	15	-10	19
22	HEREFORD	19	3	2	4	9	8	1	1	8	4	21	-16	15
23	CHELTENHAM	19	4	2	4	13	15	0	1	8	7	26	-21	15
24	CREWE	19	2	2	5	12	18	0	1	9	9	25	-22	9

1st team appearances and goalscorers

PLAYER	APPEARANCES					Tot	GOALS					Tot
	Lge	CC	JPT	FAC			Lge	CC	JPT	FAC		
15 George Abbey	1+1	-	-	-	-	1+1	-	-	-	-	-	-
23 James Bailey	19	3	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 Julian Baudet	16	3	1	2	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7 Eugen Bopp	1+2	-	1+1	-	-	2+3	1	-	-	-	-	1
30 John Brayford	7+2	-	-	-	-	9+2	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 Chris Claments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18 Mark Carrington	5+3	1+1	1	-	-	7+5	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 Steve Collis	17	3	2	1	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8 Michael O'Connor	13	3	1	2	19	2	2	-	-	-	-	4
Luke Danville	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22 Gain Daniel	2+1	-	-	-	-	3+1	-	-	-	-	-	-
27 Clayton Donaldson	6+7	+1	+2	1	-	7+10	2	-	-	-	-	1
5 Daniel O'Donnell	15	2	2	2	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9 Anthony Elding	7+4	2+1	1+1	-	-	10+6	1	2	-	-	-	3
11 Joel Grant	10+4	2+1	-	-	-	13+5	1	-	-	-	-	1
32 Stuart Green	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 Billy James	18	2	2	2	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31 Dennis Lawrence	5	-	1	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13 Adam Legzdins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 Jake Livermore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33 Kenny Lunt	2+1	-	-	-	-	3+1	-	-	-	-	-	-
14 Chris McCready	2	1	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	1
28 Scott McManus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 Shaun Miller	9+6	+1	+1	2	-	12+8	2	-	-	-	-	2
17 Byron Moore	11+4	3	1	1	-	16+4	1	1	-	-	-	1
24 Luke Murphy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19 Tom Pope	8+7	3	1	-	-	12+8	5	-	-	-	-	5
12 Ben Rix	1+1	1+1	1	-	-	3+3	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 Steven Schumacher	4+3	+2	2	-	-	6+5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Josh Thompson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21 Stuart Tomlinson	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
A.J. Leitch-Smith	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29 Ashley Westwood	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 Dan Woodards	16	3	2	-	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 Calvin Zola	10+3	1	2	1+1	-	14+4	4	-	-	-	-	4
							Opponents	1	-	-	-	1
							TOTAL GOALS	21	5	3	3	32

match officials

REFEREE	Mr N. D. Swarbrick
ASST REFEREE	Mr I. A. Dudley
ASST REFEREE	Mr P. C. Wright
4TH OFFICIAL	Mr G. S. Stretton

match stats

	THE ALEX	THE ROBINS
HALF-TIME	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
FULL-TIME	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
ATTENDANCE	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
MAN OF THE MATCH	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

today's other league 1 fixtures

Bristol Rovers v Tranmere	15:00
Carlisle v Leicester	15:00
Hereford v Hartlepool	15:00
Leeds United v Colchester	15:00
Leyton Orient v Cheltenham	15:00
Peterborough v Oldham	15:00
Scunthorpe v Northampton	15:00
Southend v Huddersfield	15:00
Walsall v Millwall	15:00
Yeovil v Stockport	15:00

next home game

vs **OLDHAM ATHLETIC**
Coca-Cola League One
Friday 26th December
Kick off 3pm



match squads

crewe alexandra

Caretaker Manager: **Dario Gradi**

NO.	NAME (Position)	PLD	SUB	GLS	Y	R
1	Steve Collis (Goalkeeper)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2	Dan Woodards (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
3	Billy Jones (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
4	Steven Schumacher (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5	Daniel O'Donnell (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
6	Julien Baudet (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
7	Eugen Bopp (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
8	Michael O'Connor (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
9	Anthony Elding (Striker)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
10	Calvin Zola (Striker)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
11	Joel Grant (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
12	Ben Rix (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
13	Adam Legzdins (Goalkeeper)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
14	Chris McCready (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
15	George Abbey (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
17	Byron Moore (Striker)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

swindon town

Caretaker Manager: **David Byrne**

NO.	NAME (Position)	PLD	SUB	GLS	Y	R
1	Phil Smith (Goalkeeper)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2	Jack Smith (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
3	Jamie Vincent (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
4	Michael Timlin (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5	Jerel Ifil (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
6	Hasney Aljofree (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
7	Christian Roberts (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
8	Craig Easton (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
9	Barry Corr (Striker)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
10	Jon-Paul McGovern (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
11	Anthony McNamee (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
12	Peter Brezovan (Goalkeeper)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
13	Mark Scott (Goalkeeper)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
14	Patrick Kanyuka (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
15	Kevin Amankwaah (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

NO.	NAME (Position)	PLD	SUB	GLS	Y	R
18	Mark Carrington (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
19	Tom Pope (Striker)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
20	Shaun Miller (Striker)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
21	Stuart Tomlinson (Goalkeeper)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
22	Colin Daniel (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
23	James Bailey (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
24	Luke Murphy (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
26	Chris Clements (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
27	Clayton Donaldson (Striker)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
28	Scott McManus (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
29	Ashley Westwood (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
30	John Brayford (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
31	Dennis Lawrence (Defender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
33	Kenny Lunt (Midfielder)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>



Home kit: Red shirt, white shorts, red socks
Away kit: Blue shirt, white shorts, blue socks



Home kit: Red shirt, red shorts, red socks
Away kit: Blue shirt, white shorts, blue socks

