

WE ARE

# UNITED

THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF COLCHESTER UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB



vs. Swindon Town

Tuesday 5th February 2013, 7.45pm

npower Football League One

Volume 75, Issue 13 Insert





# TRANSFER UPDATE

**"THE OPENING OF THE TRANSFER WINDOW GAVE JOE DUNNE HIS FIRST CHANCE TO MAKE HIS MARK ON THE SQUAD, WITH 16 DEALS TAKING PLACE"**

**The January 2013 transfer window was arguably one of the busiest in the club's history, with no fewer than SIXTEEN deals involving first team players taking place in the 31 days that started the new year.**

The opening of the transfer window was boss Joe Dunne's first chance to make his mark on the Colchester United squad – and the Irishman had sealed his first deal before the window had even opened on January 1st.

As the U's reflected on a defeat at Walsall, Joe revealed that winger Jack Compton was to join the club from Portsmouth and the speedy wide man was not the only player to arrive from the south coast club during January.

He was followed by defender Josh Thompson who converted his initial loan deal into a permanent move from Fratton Park when the window opened.

Next through the door were two young players, Billy Clifford from Chelsea and Dominic Samuel from Reading. The weather conditions precluded them from seeing too much action in their first month and Dominic has now returned to his parent club.

Sam Walker joined Chelsea teammate Billy at the club as he signed on loan until the end of the season and, as those young players bedded in, Joe continued his search for experience, which came to fruition in the latter part of the month.

Firstly, Jabo Ibehre returned to the U's after his earlier successful loan spell, signing for the club on a permanent basis. The big striker was a popular player during that initial period and so his full time addition to the squad was well received.

Giving further football knowledge to the spine of the team was David Wright, who



left Crystal Palace to join the U's on an eighteen month contract and he made an instant impression on his debut, helping the team to a clean sheet and a win against Walsall.

Of course, the traffic wasn't only one way. Anthony Wordsworth had long been mooted for a move away from the U's with clubs at a higher level looking at him over a period of time. In the end, after a month of speculation, it was Ipswich who got their man and Woody moved up the A12 after 199 games and 35 goals in a Colchester shirt.

His fellow midfielder John-Joe O'Toole had been on the road before Anthony, joining John Ward at Bristol Rovers

**David Wright is amongst the arrivals & made his U's debut in the win over Walsall**

for a loan spell that was later extended into April as he aims to keep Rovers in League Two.

But Joe's most significant action in the outwards direction was to reach mutual agreements to cancel contracts of six of the U's squad.

Ian Henderson and Michael Rose were the most senior players to leave after playing 130 and 40 games respectively, but Carl Pentney, Tom Aldred, Tom Bender and Ben Coker all left the club as the management team shaped the squad for the chase for League One safety. ■

## ARRIVALS

**Josh Thompson** (Portsmouth) – Free  
**Jack Compton** (Portsmouth) – Free  
**Jabo Ibehre** (MK Dons) – Free  
**David Wright** (Crystal Palace) – Free  
**Sam Walker** (Chelsea) – Loan until the end of the season  
**George Porter** (Burnley) – Loan until the end of the season  
**Billy Clifford** (Chelsea) – One month loan  
**Dominic Samuel** (Reading) – One month loan, now back at Reading

## DEPARTURES

**Anthony Wordsworth** (Ipswich Town) – Undisclosed fee  
**John-Joe O'Toole** (Bristol Rovers) – One month loan, extended until April  
**Tom Aldred** – released, now signed for Accrington Stanley  
**Carl Pentney** – released, now signed for Bishop's Cleeve  
**Tom Bender** – released  
**Ian Henderson** – released  
**Michael Rose** – released  
**Ben Coker** – released



# JOE DUNNE



**"YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A HUGE DIFFERENCE SO CONTINUE THE GOOD WORK & BACK THE BOYS AS WE WORK TOWARDS WINNING THOSE THREE POINTS THIS EVENING"**

**Welcome back for this evening's match against a Swindon side who are very much in the hunt for an automatic promotion place.**

They will provide stiff opposition for us but we're fully focussed on getting a positive result against them.

That welcome is extended to Paulo Di Canio, his players, staff and supporters and I hope that they all have a safe journey back to Wiltshire later tonight.

This game was originally scheduled for the end of December, right in the middle of the festive period, but a waterlogged pitch put paid to it taking place.

Thankfully, a decision was made before any fans from either side, and of course the Swindon squad, had made an unnecessary journey to north Essex.

Swindon had a member of staff present with us when the pitch was inspected and it was disappointing for both of us that it wasn't able to go ahead.

We do battle tonight then and I'm sure that we would all like a repeat of the result down at the County Ground in my first week in charge.

We have to show the same bravery on the ball as we did that night and we also have to be disciplined and focussed when Swindon are in possession.

That was the case against Walsall in our last match here at the Weston Homes Community Stadium and that's what I'll be looking for in the remaining games.

We had conceded a lot of goals through individual mistakes before that game so it was great to see us pick up a much needed clean sheet, along with a very welcome win.



We had a very busy month of January in the transfer market and a number of players have come into the club and moved out of the club.

I wish all the lads who have left the best of luck for the future and I hope that they enjoy a decent career away from the U's.

The most notable departure was obviously Anthony Wordsworth, who I believe should have been playing at a higher level before now because of the talent that he possesses. He has that opportunity now and I for one, hope that he takes it with both hands.

**◆ The U's will have to be as brave tonight as they were in the reverse fixture back in October**

We have to move on and focus on ourselves now and that starts with tonight's match.

Your support makes a huge difference so continue the good work and back the boys as we work towards winning the three points.





**COLCHESTER UNITED**  
Ibehre 79, Sears 89

2



**WALSALL**

0



**MAN OF THE MATCH**  
Freddie SEARS

Saturday 26th January 2013 | Weston Homes Community Stadium | Attendance: 2,865 | Referee: Mr D Whitestone



### The U's rediscovered that winning feeling with a fine second half display against Walsall.

The Saddlers were tidy on the ball, and grew into the game as the midway point of the half arrived. Mantam came closest with a drive from distance that just flicked off Okuonghae's head and curled wide of the far post.

Then, at the other end of some Saddlers pressure, the U's went close again. White launched one forward which saw Ibehre, Drey Wright and visiting keeper McLoughlin converge. Ibehre was brave to get up and win the header, but it was cleared just inside the six yard box.

The U's had a let'off just before the break when, from a home corner, the Saddlers broke and it looked like Baxendale would slot home but he dragged his shot wide of goal.

Wilson was set up by a powerful Ibehre run, checking back inside to fire in a left footed shot that McLoughlin held well.

It was goalless at the break, but it was the visitors who started the brighter after the interval. The best chance of the half came not long afterwards as the Saddlers failed to clear a U's ball in the box and a fierce Ibehre volley on the turn went agonisingly wide of the post.

The U's did get their noses in front with a goal that lifted the tension around the stadium. Substitute Sears chased down a shot back pass and, with McLoughlin out of position, Ibehre was able to slot into the empty net.

Sears almost doubled the advantage with six minutes to go. He cut in from the right and thundered in a superb strike that cannoned back off the crossbar with the keeper beaten.

Massey was next to seek that game clincher, darting from midfield, getting to the edge of the box and driving in a shot that McLoughlin did well to save.

However, they did get the crucial second when Porter got away down the right hand side, looked up to see Sears and squared it to his team-mate. The former West Ham man kept calm and smacked it home into the bottom corner to send the home fans into delirium.

The second goal proved crucial as four additional minutes were announced, but the U's kept firm, defended well and were never truly threatened as they protected Walker superbly.

A crucial win that lifts the pressure off the players' shoulders and takes the U's out of the bottom four. ■







## WHAT YOU TWEETED

Send us your views straight after the game to @CoLU\_Official

**@JackLong\_16**

The best mood now, oh #colu we love you!

**@gwillyb93**

Great win for the U's! Good to see Freddie Sears on the scoresheet!

**@nat\_bell91**

Yesss! Great result U's, now lets start to turn this around! Can't wait for Portsmouth next week now!

**@sgrlou**

We only went and won! Love my team.

**@MDesborough92**

Get in there! I'm so happy for Joe Dunne, that was needed.



## STAT ATTACK



### COLCHESTER (4-3-3)

44 Walker, 20 Wilson, 4 Okuonghae, 40 Thompson (Eastman 46), 25 White, 15 Bean (Sears 75), 2 David Wright, 41 Clifford, 21 Massey, 17 Ibehre, 30 Drey Wright (Porter 62)

### JOE DUNNE

I thought we did well, especially second half. We had to be competitive. It was a good game to win. We dug in and produced a good performance. Our fans have been so patient. They have stuck with us. And that win is for all the fans, chairman and playing staff.





# KEM IZZET



**"ANY TEAM ON THEIR DAY CAN BEAT ANY OTHER TEAM, SO WE HAVE TO BE ON OUR DAY MORE OFTEN THAN NOT DURING THE REST OF THIS SEASON"**

**Welcome back for tonight's match, as we take on Swindon in a game that was originally meant to take place over the Christmas period.**

Swindon want points to get themselves nearer the top two and we want points to get us away from the bottom of the table so it should be an exciting game.

Our last game here at the Weston Homes Community Stadium came against a Walsall side who had won six of their previous seven and all of their previous four.

I'm sure that no-one, other than U's fans, who was putting on a bet would have put us down for a win so it was great to see us take the three points.

In the game at their place in December, they had been sixteen games without a win and this time round we had been nine games without a win.

It shows what an unpredictable league we're in this season and how even all the teams are. Any team on their day can beat any other team, we have to be 'on our day' more often than not between now and the end of the season.

Including tonight's fixture, we have seventeen games to go until the end of the season, plenty of points still to be won. We aren't going to win many without putting one hundred percent into every game and as it has been for the whole season, that's the aim for the remaining games. The squad might have changed a fair bit since the beginning of the season but the will to win has stayed the same.

A lot of the changes in the squad have come during the January transfer window, with the Gaffer being extremely busy reshaping the squad for the push up the table in the final third of the season. It has



meant a few players being moved on and I wish them all well at whatever clubs they find themselves at having left here.

I would like to also wish good luck to all the players that have joined the club during the past few weeks and hope they enjoy themselves.

Enjoyment will be much easier to find if we are winning matches and I'm sure you all enjoyed your Saturday night and Sunday much more after the Walsall win than you have done recently.

As always, your support for us is greatly appreciated and I want to hear more of the same this evening.

**Anthony Wordsworth is amongst the players who have departed this January**

Get behind the lads and make as much noise as you can.

I heard that Swindon took a lot of fans to their game at Orient so I'm sure they'll do the same tonight.

Make sure you out sing them and let's see if we can make it two home wins on the spin.

**Enjoy the game**



# U'S VIEWS

## SAM'S REWARD



**U's goalkeeper Sam Walker has been rewarded for his performance against Walsall last weekend with a place in the League One Team of the Week.**

The young Chelsea shot stopper was not called upon to do too much during the course of the 2-0 win over the Saddlers, but his

assured command of the back line in front of him was enough to get him into the week's select XI.

Also in the side was Walsall left back Malvind Benning, who had been an important player for the visitors early on, before George Porter came on and gave him a tough test in the last half hour of the match. ■

## LOOK THE PART

**U's boss Joe Dunne wore one of our new look Colchester United jackets as the U's ran out 2-0 winners against Walsall ten days ago, before repeating the winning feeling in the 3-2 victory over Portsmouth at the weekend.**

The black jacket features a tonal, embroidered eagle and has been requested by many after seeing Joe don it in the dugouts in those two games.

There are restricted quantities in each size, so if you like the look of the jacket, get involved soon!



## STICKERS ARE BACK IN STOCK



**Stickers for the Colchester United sticker book are now back on sale in the Club Shop.**

Since its launch in the Autumn, the sticker book has proven a popular purchase for young fans looking to back their side.

After a brief break, there are now stickers available for fans to buy and move closer to completing their book in the coming months.

Just pop in and see us at the Club Shop at the stadium and we'll be happy to help you grab your stickers! ■

## ADDITIONAL SHIRT SPONSORSHIPS

**The following players have been sponsored since the U's were due to take on Swindon in December.**

**2. DAVID WRIGHT**  
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**40. JOSH THOMPSON**  
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**41. BILLY CLIFFORD**  
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**12. JABO IBEHRE**  
Home: TEasyCall  
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01621 854280





## COLCHESTER UNITED

Manager: Joe Dunne

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>01</b>	Mark Cousins
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>02</b>	David Wright
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>04</b>	Magnus Okuonghae
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>06</b>	Matt Heath
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>07</b>	Karl Duguid
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>08</b>	John-Joe O'Toole
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>09</b>	Clinton Morrison
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>10</b>	Kemal Izzet
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>11</b>	Freddie Sears
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>14</b>	Andy Bond
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>15</b>	Marcus Bean
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>17</b>	Jabo Ibehre
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>18</b>	Tom Eastman
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>20</b>	Brian Wilson
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>21</b>	Gavin Massey
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>25</b>	John White
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>33</b>	Jack Compton
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>39</b>	George Porter
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>40</b>	Josh Thompson
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>41</b>	Billy Clifford
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>44</b>	Sam Walker

### DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>19</b>	Freddie Ladapo
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>23</b>	Jackson Ramm
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>26</b>	Ryan Melaugh
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>27</b>	Tosin Olufemi
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>28</b>	Alex Gilbey
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>29</b>	Shaun Phillips
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>30</b>	Drey Wright
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>31</b>	Bradley Hamilton
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>32</b>	Jordan Sanderson
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>42</b>	Macauley Bonne
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>43</b>	Tom Lapslie

### LATEST RESULTS



**01/01** Crawley (A) L 0-3  
**05/01** Doncaster (A) L 0-1  
**12/01** Scunthorpe (H) L 1-2  
**26/01** Walsall (H) W 2-0  
**02/02** Portsmouth (A) W 3-2



**05/01** Carlisle (H) W 4-0  
**12/01** Bournemouth (A) D 1-1  
**19/01** Shrewsbury (H) W 2-0  
**29/01** Leyton Orient (A) D 0-0  
**02/02** Crawley (A) D 1-1



## SWINDON TOWN

Manager: Paolo Di Canio

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>01</b>	Wes Foderingham
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>02</b>	Troy Archibald-Henville
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>03</b>	James McEveley
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>04</b>	Aden Flint
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>05</b>	Joe Devera
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>06</b>	Alan Navarro
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>07</b>	Luke Rooney
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>08</b>	Simon Ferry
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>09</b>	James Collins
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>11</b>	Gary Roberts
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>12</b>	Alan McCormack
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>14</b>	Paul Benson
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>15</b>	Nathan Thompson
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>16</b>	Andy Williams
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>17</b>	Paul Caddis
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>18</b>	Tommy Miller
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>19</b>	Louis Thompson
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>20</b>	Miles Storey
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>22</b>	Darren Ward
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>23</b>	Raffaele De Vita
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>28</b>	Adam Rooney
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>30</b>	Leigh Bedwell
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>31</b>	Aaron Oakley

### LATEST LEAGUE TABLE

	P	GD	PTS
1	Tranmere	30	+19 56
2	Doncaster	29	+16 56
3	Bournemouth	30	+14 52
4	<b>SWINDON</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>+30 51</b>
5	Brentford	29	+11 50
6	Sheff Utd	29	+12 48
7	Yeovil	29	+9 48
8	Coventry	31	+12 47
9	Walsall	31	-3 44
10	Notts County	29	+11 43
11	MK Dons	28	+8 43
12	Crewe	29	-1 43
13	Leyton Orient	30	-3 43
14	Crawley	28	-3 42
15	Stevenage	27	-3 40
16	Carlisle	29	-14 36
17	Preston	29	0 35
18	Shrewsbury	31	-5 34
19	<b>COLCHESTER</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>-16 29</b>
20	Oldham	30	-15 27
21	Bury	29	-13 26
22	Scunthorpe	29	-20 26
23	Portsmouth	29	-20 21
24	Hartlepool	29	-26 19

## MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee:

Mr T Robinson (West Sussex)

Assistants:

Mr S Rubery  
Mr M Webb

Fourth Official:

Mr I Cooper

## LEAGUE 1 FIXTURES

### Tonight

U's v Swindon  
 Oldham v Yeovil  
 Scunthorpe v Portsmouth  
 Sheff Utd v Crawley  
 Stevenage v Notts County

### Saturday 9th January 2013

Bournemouth v Portsmouth  
 Brentford v Bury  
 Carlisle v Stevenage  
 U's v Preston  
 Coventry v Yeovil  
 Doncaster v Walsall  
 Leyton Orient v Tranmere  
 Notts County v Crewe  
 Oldham v MK Dons  
 Scunthorpe v Crawley  
 Shrewsbury v Sheff Utd  
 Swindon v Hartlepool

## NEXT HERE



### Preston North End

Saturday 9th January 2013  
 Kick-off: 3.00pm  
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# UNITED

THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF COLCHESTER UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB



vs. Swindon Town

Saturday 29th December 2012, 3.00pm

npower Football League One

Volume 75, Issue 13, £3.00



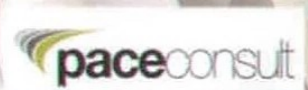
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## Colchester United FC

Weston Homes Community Stadium  
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Switchboard: 01206 755 100

**Patron:** The Mayor of Colchester  
**Executive Chairman:** Robbie Cowling  
**Vice Chairman:** Richard Cowling  
**Directors:** John Cowling, Kevin Bull  
**Life President:** P. J. Heard  
**General Manager:** Tim Waddington  
**First Team Manager:** Joe Dunne  
**Assistant Manager:** Mark Kinsella  
**Sports Scientist:** Dave Carolan  
**First Team Physio:** Tony Flynn  
**Academy Manager:** Tony Hurnes  
**Development Coach:** Richard Hall  
**Goalkeeper Coach:** Ademola Bankole  
**Performance Analyst:** Jonathan Duckett  
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**Laundry Manager:** Martyn Cardy  
**Academy Secretary:** Jennifer Aves  
**Operations Manager:** Sean McQuaid  
**Media Manager:** Matt Hudson  
**Communications & PR Officer:** David Gregory  
**Sales Team Leader:** Michelle Tricker  
**Ticket Office Team Leader:** Chris Saward  
**Finance Administrator:** Tony Newsham  
**Lottery Development Officer:** Paul Dickinson  
**Head Groundsman:** David Blackhall  
**Club Photographer:** Richard Blaxall

## HONOURS

League One Runners-Up: 2005/06  
Division Three Play-Off Winners: 1997/98  
Fourth Division Runners-Up: 1961/62  
FA Trophy Winners: 1991/92  
Football Conference Champions: 1991/92  
Football Conference Runners-Up: 1990/91  
Football League Trophy Runners-Up: 1996/97  
Southern League Cup Winners: 1937/38, 1949/50  
Watney Cup Winners: 1970/71  
Essex Senior Cup Winners: 2009/10

## MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

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# WHAT'S INSIDE



## 26

### Half-Term

With the season now over half way through and today the final game in 2012, 'We Are United' chats to Tom Eastman, Marcus Bean and Jabo Ibehre to summarise the season to date.



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# JOE DUNNE



**"I WANT THEM TO HAVE THE SELF-CONFIDENCE TO GO OUT & IMPOSE THEMSELVES ONTO THE OPPOSITION, BUT ALSO DIG IN & FIGHT WHEN THAT NEED ARISES"**

**Welcome back for today's match, as we play host to Swindon Town in our latest League One fixture.**

We are in the middle of our Christmas holiday fixtures, having played Brentford on Boxing Day and still having to travel to Crawley for the game on New Year's Day.

I extend that welcome to Paolo Di Canio, his Swindon players, staff and supporters and hope they all have a safe trip back to Wiltshire this evening.

For the second time in three days, we are here at the Weston Homes Community Stadium, and I'm sure that Swindon will provide us with stiff opposition.

That was the case in my second game in charge, when we won narrowly at the County Ground back at the beginning of October.

The lads were still adapting to the style of play that I had asked them to play and it was a very professional performance that night.

We need to show that level of skill and bravery on the ball again this afternoon, coupled with a steely determination and will to win.

We haven't had the best run of results lately and we've all had to look at ourselves and ask what has been different to those first few weeks I took over.

Some of the matches have produced defeats that maybe we didn't deserve and some have seen performances drop below the required standards.

You would have witnessed both but we have watched the lads every day in training working their socks off to put things right.

They have been as disappointed and



frustrated as you and I have been and they're a determined group.

That will certainly help us turn the corner and what else will help is the fact that they have the quality to win games, they've proved that already.

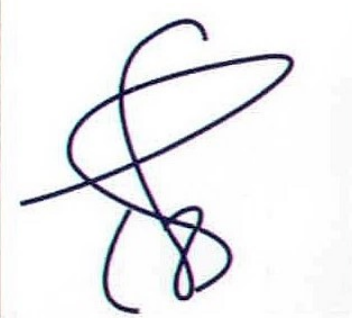
I said when I was first appointed that I wanted the players to believe that they can win any game at any stadium – that hasn't changed.

I want them to have the self confidence to go out and impose our game onto the opposition. What I also want is for them to dig in and fight when the need arises.

**It was a very professional performance back in October when we last took on Swindon**

This group of players are capable of both and we need both in the next few months.

We all appreciate your support so dig in with us and let's see how far up the table we can get.







# SADDLERS SEAL ALL THREE POINTS AGAINST THE U'S





**WALSALL**  
Brandy 61



**COLCHESTER UNITED**

1

0



**MAN OF THE MATCH**

Kem IZZET

Saturday 22nd December 2012 | The Bescot Stadium | Attendance: 3,006 | Referee: Mr A Madley



**A single goal was enough to separate the two sides as the U's and Walsall came head to head last Saturday afternoon.**

The first real chance of the game came on eleven minutes. The Saddlers hit the U's on the counter and Brandy darted towards goal, firing in a shot that clipped Eastman on the chest and went just past the near post with Cousins wrong-footed.

The U's then put together the best move of the match on nineteen minutes, with the ball being moved quickly from right to left and back again, for Wilson to sidefoot a volley over the crossbar.

Despite the rain, the surface was playing well, although Rose lost his footing midway through the half and Brandy snapped up the loose ball. It eventually found its way to Chambers, whose shot was bravely blocked by the flying White.

The U's stood strong and had a great chance of their own just before the half hour mark. A lovely clipped ball down the line from White was brought down with a fine first touch from Ibehre and his second was even better as an audacious chip beat the keeper but came back off the face of the bar.

Next, Sears went close as he stood up his full back Purkiss and opted to take the shot early, it curling past the far post with keeper McCarey scrambling across.

Cousins kept the U's level three minutes after the break, with a sensational double save. First he dived full length to stop Grigg's shot, before Brandy was denied on the follow-up.

The home side got their noses in front just after the hour mark. The ball was played forward and **Brandy's** first touch got him away from Thompson and his diagonal run opened up the goal to stroke home a shot past the onrushing Cousins.

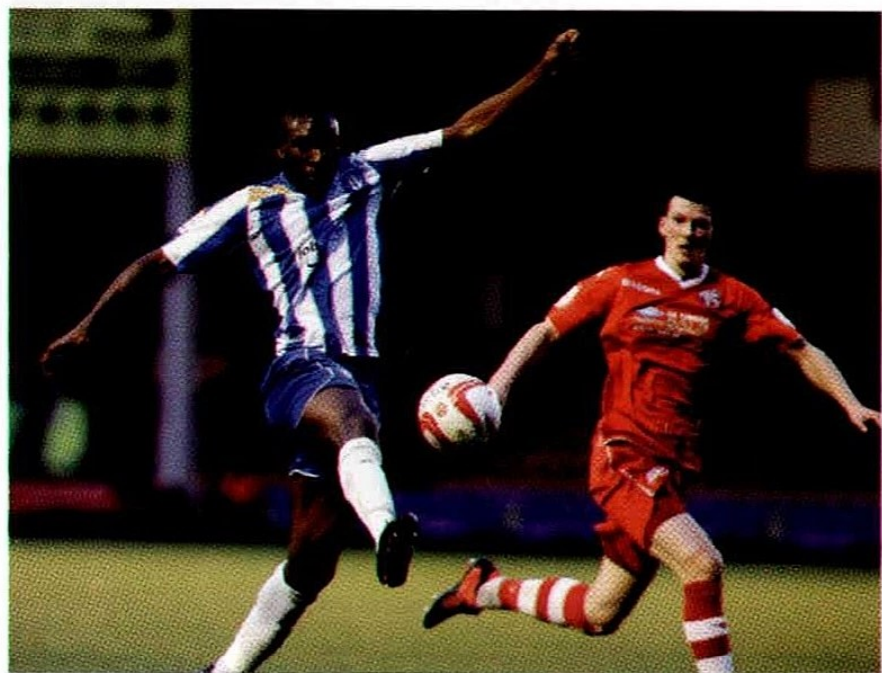
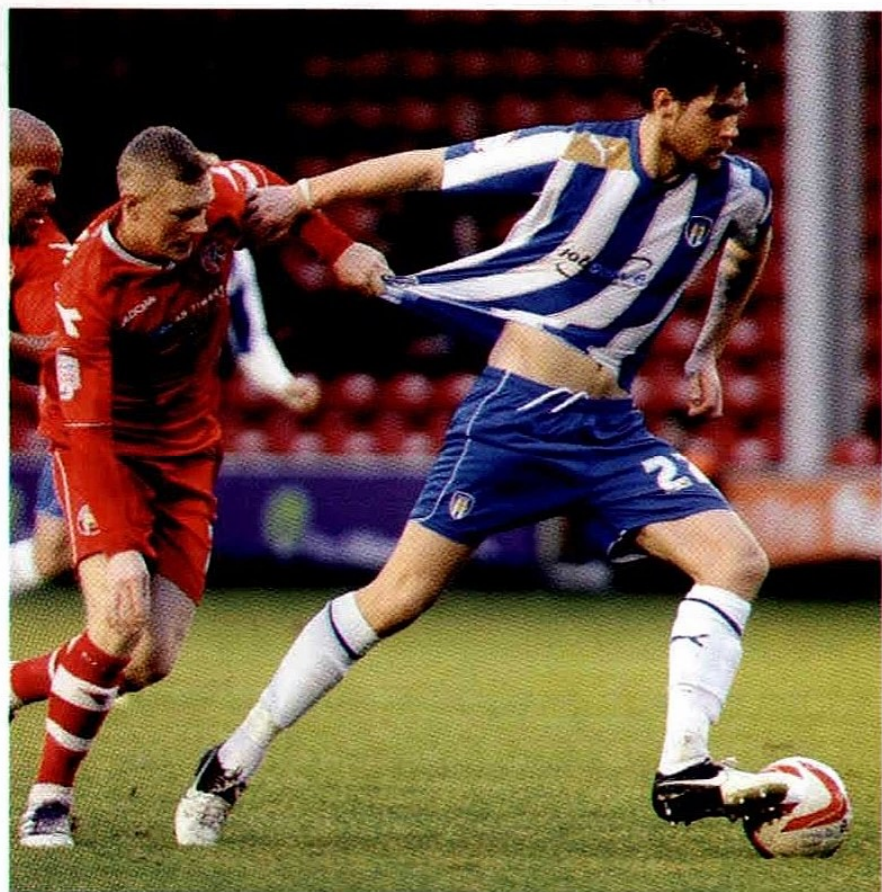
Without a win in a fair while, the Saddlers were starting to drop deeper and happy to hit on the counter attack against a U's side seeking the leveller. But the U's were struggling to find the pass or combination to unlock the door as the clock ran down into the final ten minutes.

Thompson was pushed into the front line of the team as the U's looked for a way back into the game, but time was running out. That almost paid instant dividends as Wilson threw a free kick to the edge of the box and his looping header beat the keeper, but came off the top of the crossbar.

The U's went into injury time with seven players pushing up, and bombarded the Saddlers goal in the quest to get back into the game. But it was not to be and the wait for a win goes on. ■







## WHAT YOU TWEETED

Send us your views straight after the game to @ColU\_Official

### @Laitty

#colu stat: Tom Eastman's 50th Football League appearance for the U's today

### @OliBoylan1989

Dunne deserves his chance and he's here to win us games whether it's his team or not

### @RCroke1

I like JD's tactic of keeping us in the game first half then attacking in the second half, much needed after being too open recently.

### @ReecePoolinho

HUGE fixtures in Jan though v Scun, Hart, Port, Walsall. Must win!

## STAT ATTACK

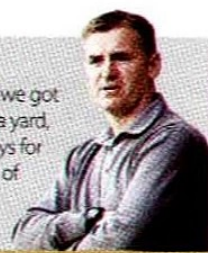


### WALSALL (4-4-2)

32 McCarey, 4 Butler, 14 Purkiss, 22 Downing, 26 Taylor, 7 A Chambers, 27 Mantom, 9 Grigg (Bowerman, 59), 10 Paterson (Cavelier, 77), 12 Brandy, 29 Westcarr

### DEAN SMITH

I think we deserved to win and thankfully we got across the line. Febian always has the extra yard, but I thought it would be one of those days for him in the first half. He's energetic and full of enthusiasm, but doesn't live off the fact he was at Manchester United.







**COLCHESTER (4-4-2)**

1 Cousins, 3 Rose (*Wright, 46*), 18 Eastman,  
 20 Wilson, 25 White, 40 Thompson, 10 Izzet,  
 22 Wardsworth, 9 Morrison, 11 Sears (*O'Toole, 72*),  
 12 Ibehre (*Henderson, 60*)

**JOE DUNNE**

It's a while since we were still in a game at half-time, we've been chasing games, and if Jabo's shot had hit the underside of the bar and gone in... we've hit the bar twice, but I was disappointed with the way we conceded, first through losing possession.





# Join us for a great night out!

Weston Homes Community Stadium, Colchester

**11**  
JAN

## Disco Night

Looking to get your dancing shoes on? Fully licensed bar & DJ playing party classics all night long!  
Free entry (ticket only event)



**18**  
JAN

## Boxing Dinner

A black tie evening including 4-course dining and amateur boxing in conjunction with Harwich ABC.  
£65 per person or £600 for a table of 10



**25**  
JAN

## Robbie Williams Tribute

Let Maximum Robbie entertain you with all of Robbie's greatest hits at the Weston Homes Community Stadium.  
£5 early bird tickets / £12 standard entry / £25 with a 2-course meal



**31**  
JAN

## Quiz Night in Aid of Teenage Cancer Trust

Test your general knowledge and compete with the other teams for fantastic prizes!  
£3 per person – teams of 2 – 6



**7**  
FEB

## Comedy Club

Brand new for 2013: Big Cheese Comedy comes to Colchester. 4 top quality comedians guaranteed to make you laugh! Full line-up on our website.  
£10 per person / £8 season ticket holders & Col U Comedy Club members



**22**  
FEB

## Elton John Tribute

The Elton Experience, back by popular demand with his uncanny resemblance to the man himself, a spectacular tribute to Sir Elton John.  
£5 early bird tickets / £12 standard entry / £25 with a 2-course meal



**24**  
FEB

## Essex Open Darts

Organised by the Essex County Darts Organisation. Full details at [www.essexdarts.co.uk](http://www.essexdarts.co.uk)  
Pre-entry fees £10 / £15 pay on the door



**28**  
FEB

## Quiz Night in Aid of Autism Anglia

Test your general knowledge and compete with the other teams for fantastic prizes!  
£3 per person – teams of 2 – 6




Call for more information or to book  
[www.coluevents.com](http://www.coluevents.com) 01206 752443

*More than just a football stadium*



# TICKET OFFICE

## WHCS PRICES

  
Ticket prices are cheaper when bought online or in advance!



### CRAWLEY TOWN

Tuesday 1st January 2013 | 15.00  
Broadfield Stadium | npower Football League One

The U's begin 2013 with a trip to West Sussex to take on Richie Barker's Crawley, who head into the second half of the season eyeing up a place in the top six of League One.

**East Stand (seats) - Adults: £19 | Seniors: £15 | Juniors: £10**  
**North Terrace - Adults: £17 | Seniors: £13 | Juniors: £7**



### DONCASTER ROVERS

Saturday 5th January 2013 | 15.00  
Keepmoat Stadium | npower Football League One

It's a second successive away trip for Joe Dunne's charges later that week too, as he takes his squad to Doncaster.

**Adults: £20 | Senior Citizens (60+): £16 | 17-20s: £11 | 12-16s: £8 | U11s: £5 | Disabled (Carer free): £15**

*Prices for Adults, Senior Citizens, 17-20s and Disabled/Carer all rise by £1 on the day of the game.*

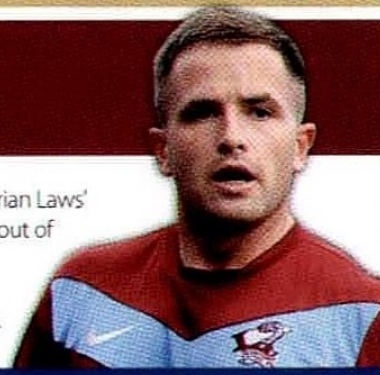


### SCUNTHORPE UNITED

Saturday 12th January 2013 | 15.00  
WHCS | npower Football League One

The U's then begin their 2013 home games with the visit of Brian Laws' struggling Scunthorpe side as they look to continue clawing out of the bottom four.

Tickets are on sale now and prices can be found on this page.



#### Weston Homes Stand

**Adult: £20**  
**Concession: £14**  
**18-21: £15**  
**U18: £11**

#### West Stand

**W1 & W9**  
**Adult: £22**  
**Concession: £16**

#### W2 & W8

**Adult: £24**  
**Concession: £18**

#### W3 & W7

**Adult: £26**  
**Concession: £20**

#### W4 & W6

**Adult: £28**  
**Concession: £22**

#### Jobserve Stand

**E8 Family Enclosure**  
**Adult: £22**  
**Concession: £16**  
**U18: £11**  
**U14: £5**  
**U8: £2**

#### E7 Family Enclosure

**Adult: £24**  
**Concession: £18**  
**U18: £12**  
**U14: £6**  
**U8: £3**

#### E6

**Adult: £26**  
**Concession: £20**  
**U18: £13**  
**U14: £7**  
**U8: £4**

#### E5

**Adult: £28**  
**Concession: £22**  
**U18: £14**  
**U14: £8**  
**U8: £5**

## BUYING TICKETS

### In Person

Tickets are sold from the Ticket Office from 9am until 5pm from Monday to Friday. The Ticket Office also remains open until 5.30pm after Saturday matches to purchase for future fixtures.

### By Phone

Tickets can be purchased over the phone on **0845 437 9089** up to an hour before kick off on Saturdays and an hour and fifteen minutes before midweek games. Telephones are manned from 9am until 5pm from Monday to Friday, from 10am until 2pm on matchday Saturdays and until an hour and fifteen before midweek kick-offs.

### Online

Tickets can be purchased online up to an hour and a half before kick off via [colutickets.com](http://colutickets.com).







## IN OPPOSITION: SWINDON TOWN

Following the first two games of a hectic Christmas fixture period, the halfway point of the season has now been reached and managers around the country will be taking stock of the good and bad points of their season so far, as well as planning their shopping lists for the upcoming January transfer window.

2012's fixtures come to a close today

**"2012'S FIXTURES COME TO A CLOSE THIS AFTERNOON IN WHAT HAS BEEN A HUGELY POSITIVE YEAR FOR TODAY'S ESSEX VISITORS, SWINDON"**

and it has been a hugely positive year for Swindon Town.

After immediately bouncing back from relegation to League Two with a commanding campaign in 2011/12, Swindon have taken that positive momentum into 2012/13 and have spent much of the first half of the season in the top half of the table.

Today's visitors are nicely nestled in the pack that retain ambitions of a play-off spot by the time that April comes around, and boss Paolo Di Canio is happy with how his side have adapted to the rigours of League One football over the last few months.

Talking to the local press ahead of the first of the Christmas games, Di Canio said: "There is not a team now apart from

**"EVEN WHEN NOT AT THEIR BEST, THE ROBINS HAVE DISPLAYED A DEFENSIVE FORTITUDE THAT HAS MADE THEM HARD TO BEAT, ESPECIALLY AT HOME"**

Bournemouth, with seven wins in their last 10 games, who are in good form. Maybe Coventry too.

"Even at worst, at the halfway point we are eighth or 10th in the table but three or four points from the play-offs that is a really good result because of what has





**Founded:** 1879

**Nickname:** The Robins

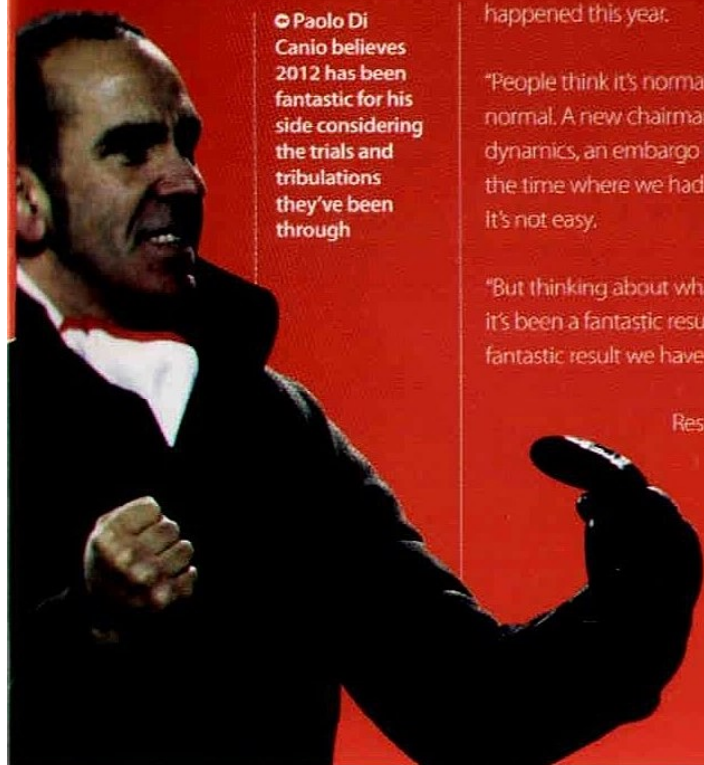
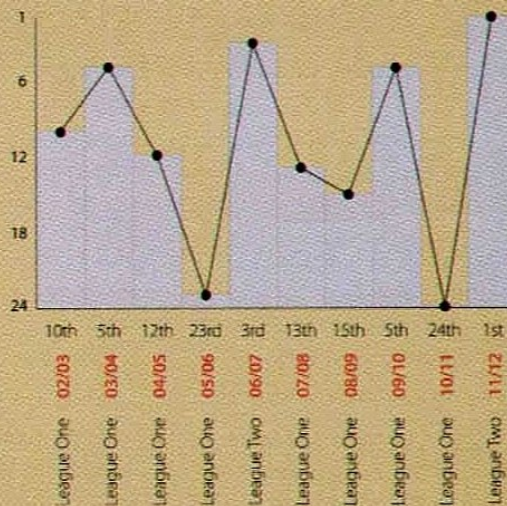
**Ground:** County Ground

**Capacity:** 15,728

**Form:** LLDW



### LAST 10 FINISHES



© Paolo Di Canio believes 2012 has been fantastic for his side considering the trials and tribulations they've been through

happened this year.

"People think it's normal, but it's not normal. A new chairman, change of dynamics, an embargo for two months at the time where we had a bad injury crisis. It's not easy.

"But thinking about what's happened it's been a fantastic result. Not good, a fantastic result we have done."

Results over the last couple of months have been mixed, but a bright start to the season have ensured that they have kept

pace with the sides above them.

Even when not at their best, the Robins have displayed a defensive fortitude which has made them particularly hard to beat, especially at home. Indeed, Swindon have conceded just eighteen goals at the time of writing, at a rate of just 0.78 goals per game following their 5-0 demolition of table-topping Tranmere eight days ago.

The U's hard fought 1-0 win at the County Ground in the early days of Joe Dunne's management reign thanks to Michael Rose's exquisite set-piece was a rare reverse at home for Di Canio's men, but today's visitors have picked up just as many points on the road.

It is this away form for the Robins that acts as a warning to the U's as they aim to bring their 2012 home fixtures to a close on a high. ■





## SCOUTING REPORT

Kevin Watson assesses the tactical set-up of Swindon and their strengths and weaknesses against the U's

**The U's take on Swindon Town this afternoon, another side who are challenging at the top of the table for a Play-Off place.**

Di Canio is one of football's more eccentric characters but he's obviously doing something right at the County Ground. He has got a good squad of players assembled and I've been lucky enough to see them a few times this season.

Their main man for me is Matt Ritchie in midfield. He usually plays on the right, despite being left footed, and can go either way. Opposition players might try and force him right because he's left footed but he doesn't mind that and is more than capable of causing problems on his right foot. If the U's can stop him playing, they'll go a long way to stopping Swindon's threat.

Di Vita is another dangerous player for them though and has been amongst the goals lately. He plays wide and is one of those clever players who doesn't necessarily need to beat a player to get a cross in. He only needs to manufacture himself half a yard, which he has the ability to do most of the time, and he can get a ball into the box.



One player that the U's fans will probably remember is Alan McCormack. He played for a long while in Southend's midfield and always seemed to have a run in with Kem Izzet when we played them. They might come up against each other on the pitch this afternoon but won't be in direct opposition anymore because Alan now plays at centre half.

From what I've seen this season, he makes a better centre half than he did a central midfielder. He isn't the tallest for a centre half but he gets stuck in on the floor

**O Kem Izzet will be familiar with Alan McCormack from the duo's battles during the Essex derbies with Southend**

and in the air. What he does do better than most long established defenders is look comfortable on the ball. He won't be afraid to come out of defence with the ball at his feet and start attacking moves for Swindon. The U's midfield will have to be careful about how far they let him come out with it.

Another tough match for Joe and the lads then but another that is winnable. They have already proved that they can beat Swindon with the win at the County Ground early in Joe's tenure as manager. A repeat of that result will be a great way to end the year for the U's. ■



## SWINDON THE KEY MEN

### 01. WES FODERINGHAM GOALKEEPER

**Age:** 21    **Nationality:** English    **Signed From:** Crystal Palace

Swindon Town signed Crystal Palace goalkeeper Wes Foderingham on loan initially, before converting it to a permanent deal. The young shot stopper came through the ranks with Fulham's Academy but never made a senior appearance during his time at Craven Cottage.

Foderingham enjoyed a prolific start to his Swindon career and didn't concede a goal in his first five games, and has gone on to be a key part of their recent successes, particularly at home.





## 22. DARREN WARD

DEFENDER

Age: 34 Nationality: English Signed From: Millwall (on loan)

Millwall defender Darren Ward signed a loan deal with Swindon until 1st January 2013, with the option of a permanent move, on Thursday 30th August 2012. The 33-year old made his Town debut in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy clash with local rivals Oxford United six days later.

Ward arrived at The County Ground with a solid Football League career on his CV, having played for Watford, Crystal Palace, Wolves and Millwall before joining the Robins. He has been a regular face in the back four since signing on loan.



## 10. MATT RITCHIE

MIDFIELDER

Age: 23 Nationality: English Signed From: Portsmouth

After two loan spells, Matt Ritchie signed a two-and-a-half year contract at with Town in January 2011. A bustling attacking midfielder, the 22-year-old was voted Fans' Player of the Year for his efforts in 2010/11.

And his fine form last season was rewarded with the League 2 Player of the Year Award at the 2012 Football League Awards on Sunday 11th March. He was one of the driving forces behind Town's success in 2011/12 and ended the campaign with 11 goals from 52 appearances.



## 08. SIMON FERRY

FORWARD

Age: 24 Nationality: Scottish Signed From: Celtic

Along with Paul Caddis, Simon Ferry made the permanent switch from Celtic in August 2010, penning a three-year deal. The midfielder had enjoyed a hugely successful season at SN1 in 2009/2010, making 42 starts and scoring twice in Town's play-off campaign.

He played a major part in 2011/12 and was a regular as the Robins stormed to the League Two title. The 24-year old has captained the Robins on several occasions this season and has added goals to his game – with two so far this term.



## 09. JAMES COLLINS

FORWARD

Age: 22 Nationality: Irish Signed From: Shrewsbury Town

A powerful forward, Collins signed for Swindon on a two-year deal after rejecting the offer of a new contract from former club Shrewsbury Town. Coventry-born Collins started his youth career at Aston Villa where he made his way up through the Villa youth ranks.

With first team opportunities limited at Villa, he signed a permanent 18-month contract with Shrewsbury in January 2011, finishing the 2010/11 season with an impressive eight goals from 23 appearances. In the 2011/12 season, Collins fired 17 goals in a total of 47 appearances helping Shrewsbury to promotion to League 2, finishing second behind champions Swindon.







THE INTERVIEW:

# CHRIS MARTIN



**The Christmas period, with a host of games in a short time frame, can play a big part in determining a team's momentum going into the second half of the league season.**

Last Saturday's fixtures were the start of a frantic spell of four games in ten days, with teams up and down the country looking to set themselves up nicely for a promotion push or, alternatively, for the kick-start to begin a surge away from the wrong end of the table.

The weather put paid to many teams' hopes of a positive result, but Swindon got their festive campaign off to the perfect start ahead of their visit to the Weston Homes Community Stadium this afternoon.

Facing top of the table Tranmere looked set to be a difficult test for a side that had only won one of the previous four matches.

But Paolo Di Canio's men flew out of the blocks and were two up within the first ten minutes before eventually going on to grab two more first half goals.

Tranmere restricted the damage somewhat in the second half, conceding just the one more goal, but it was a resounding win and the ideal flip before two away games over Christmas.

Speaking about the club's festive fixture list, striker Chris Martin said: "The lads are really together and that team spirit will stand us in good stead.

"The Christmas period can be very important for teams. It's a great opportunity to get wins quickly, which helps you to move up the table quickly.

"Wins are important, but even a draw away from home and remaining unbeaten can be a positive and the league can end up looking a lot different after that time."

Martin has enjoyed a productive loan spell with the Robins, having joined them from the U's fellow East Anglian side Norwich City earlier in the campaign.

The striker admits that he would have liked to have hit the back of the net during his time at the County Ground - he has yet to score in a Swindon shirt - but believe he is now in prime fitness as his current loan deal nears its conclusion.

"I have been disappointed not to get on the scoresheet, but over time I have really got to understand what the gaffer wants from me and how my team mates want me to play and that will stand me in good stead for these final games.

"Nothing has been said so far about the rest of the season, so at the moment I am looking forward to being here until January 5th and playing more games." ■

*With thanks to the Swindon media department for their help with this interview*







# FAN'S VIEW



○ Matt Ritchie has continued to impress for the Robins, always proving to be a threat going forwards

## As we get to the halfway point of the season, how would you sum up Swindon's campaign to date?

It's been a frustrating season so far, our home form has been patchy (last year it was fantastic), and we've lost or drawn too many games where we should have won.

We can often look invincible with the goals flying in, at other times we look like we couldn't score in 900 minutes of play!

## They appear to have built their success on defensive strength – do they need more goals in the team?

Defensively we look really solid, if we do lose a game, it's usually only by a single goal.

On the attacking front, without doubt we've found goals harder to come by this season, and I think everyone is well aware of that, it's something that is being worked upon.

## If you were Paolo Di Canio, which areas of the team would you be looking at in the January transfer window?

We could do with an out-and-out goal poacher, but I guess every team would like one of those!

## Which players have been integral to the Robins' success so far?

Darren Ward has been really impressive in defence, he's always so calm and in control, and Matt Ritchie is always a threat going forwards.

## What have you made of the teams in League One and who are the sides that you think will stay the pace in the promotion race?

I don't think League One is anything to fear, we've played most of the top teams and by and large, we've been better than them.

We can definitely reach the Play-Offs at least, we just need more consistency. I was impressed with Brentford who snatched a win at our place, and I think they'll be there or thereabouts. ■

Questions answered today by **Steve Mytton**. Steve tells us: "I'm 42, and first went to a Swindon game around 1977, which makes me feel quite old now. I've enjoyed some magical moments over the years, several trips to Wembley, the Premiership season, promotions galore, and a few relegations too! Hoping to get back to the Championship soon, I think it's where we belong."





SWINDON

# BACK TO THE FUTURE

Football historian **LEIGH EDWARDS** traces what happened to two of Swindon's greatest post-war teams.

## 1985/86 FOURTH DIVISION CHAMPIONS

**KENNY ALLEN:** Experienced goalkeeper who made 45 League appearances before rejoining Torquay United in December 1986. Settling in Newton Abbot, he was a postman, then a driver for a hospital.

**CHRIS RAMSEY:** Right-back who joined Southend United in August 1987. He later coached football in Malta and the United States, since becoming Leyton Orient's YDO and managing Newham Ladies.

**DAVE HOCKADAY:** Left-back who moved to Hull City in September 1990, then Shrewsbury, before coaching at clubs including Watford, MK Dons and Southampton. Now managing Forest Green Rovers.

**LEIGH BARNARD:** Midfielder who joined Cardiff City in October 1989. He rejoined Swindon as community officer, then coached in the United States and now teaches at Abbotsfield School in Hillingdon.

**DAVE COLE:** Central defender who netted three goals in 69 League games, moving to Torquay in November 1986, then Rochdale and Exeter. He then worked at a jeweller in Cheltenham, settling in Wales.

**COLIN CALDERWOOD:** Scotland international who later played for Spurs, Villa and Forest, then managed Northampton, Forest and Hibernian. Has assisted Chris Hughton at various clubs, now Norwich.

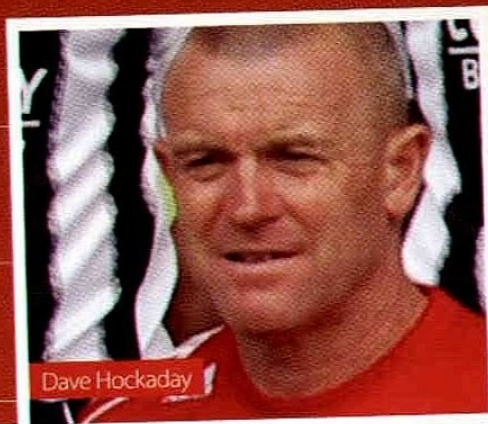
**DAVE BAMBER:** Striker who netted 31 goals in 106 League games before joining Watford in June 1988, then Stoke City, Hull City and Blackpool again, where he now runs his own damp proofing company.

**CHARLIE HENRY:** Midfielder who moved to Aldershot in August 1989, then Cheltenham and Fairford Town. He worked locally for Rover and now for his brother-in-law, making stainless steel urinals.

**COLIN GORDON:** Striker who moved to Wimbledon in June 1986, then Reading, Fulham, Birmingham and Leicester. He later managed Stourbridge and now has several sports-related business interests.

**BRYAN WADE:** Striker who netted 18 goals in 60 League games before joining Swansea City in August 1988, then played for Brighton, Frome and Trowbridge again. He is now a builder in his native Bath.

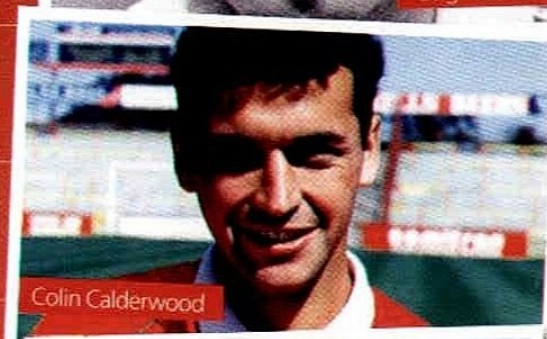
**CHRIS KAMARA:** Much-travelled midfielder who later played for Stoke City, Leeds United, Luton Town and Sheffield United, then managed Bradford City and Stoke. He is now a summariser for Sky TV.



Dave Hockaday



Leigh Barnard



Colin Calderwood



Chris Kamara



## 1992/93 PLAY-OFF WINNERS

**FRASER DIGBY:** England U21s goalkeeper who joined Crystal Palace in August 1998, then Barry, QPR and Kidderminster. Later Swindon's commercial manager, he now works for Sports Solutions GB.

**NICKY SUMMERBEE:** England U21s international who later played for Manchester City, Sunderland, Bolton, Leicester City, Bradford City, Swindon again and Tranmere. He is now involved in property.

**PAUL BODIN:** Welsh international left-back who netted 37 goals in 239 League games in two spells, moving to Reading in June 1996. Later Bath City's player-boss, he is now coaching back at Swindon.

**GLENN HODDLE:** Ex-England international midfielder who was player boss until June 1993, then managed Chelsea, England, Southampton, Spurs and Wolves. He runs his own Soccer Academy in Spain.

**COLIN CALDERWOOD:** Scotland international who later played for Spurs, Villa and Forest, then managed Northampton, Forest and Hibernian. Has assisted Chris Hughton at various clubs, now Norwich.

**SHAUN TAYLOR:** Ever-present central defender who moved to Bristol City in September 1996. Later Forest Green Rovers' assistant-boss, he has held coaching posts at Exeter City and Torquay United.

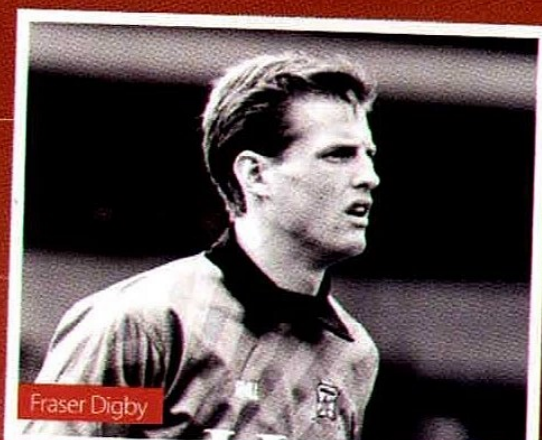
**JOHN MONCUR:** Hard-tackling midfielder who joined West Ham in June 1994. Since hanging up his boots in May 2003, he has become a born-again Christian and was briefly chairman of Grays Athletic.

**ROSS MacLAREN:** Scottish favourite who became reserve team boss. Later Aston Villa's chief scout and Notts County's assistant-manager, he now owns the Blue Bell Inn in Kirk Langley, Derbys.

**DAVE MITCHELL:** Australia international striker who moved to Millwall in October 1993. He has since coached Sydney Olympic, Sydney United, Parramatta Power and now manages Perth Glory.

**MARTIN LING:** Midfielder who netted ten goals in 152 League games before joining Leyton Orient in July 1996, becoming their manager. He has since managed Cambridge United and Torquay United.

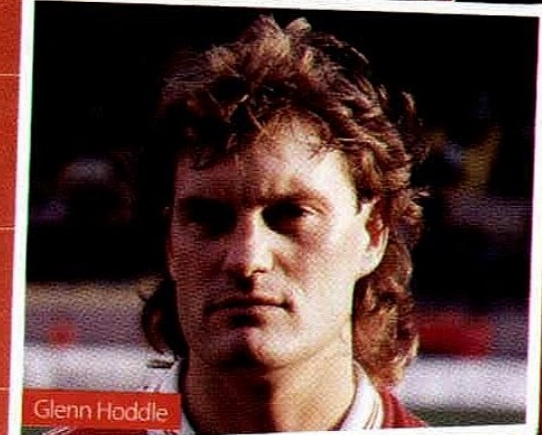
**CRAIG MASKELL:** Striker who joined Southampton in February 1994, then Brighton, Happy Valley, Leyton Orient. He has since assisted Steve Cordery at Hampton & Richmond, Aylesbury and Staines.



Fraser Digby



Nicky Summerbee



Glenn Hoddle



John Moncur





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BERRY & TROPICAL FLAVOUR  
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**THE PLAYERS OF THE  
FOOTBALL LEAGUE**



THE FOOTBALL  
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**OFFICIAL SPORTS DRINK**

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# KEM IZZET



**"WHAT'S DONE IS DONE NOW THOUGH & WE CAN ONLY FOCUS ON WHAT WE CAN INFLUENCE, WHICH IS THE GAMES COMING UP, STARTING WITH TODAY'S GAME"**

**Welcome back for today's game, as we take on a Swindon Town side that has been going well in recent weeks.**

As always, we want all three points and will be doing all we can to get them. I'm sure they'll make this as difficult as possible for us but we'll be doing the same to them.

Over the past couple of months, I have been writing these notes as captain but I haven't been able to get out onto the pitch in any capacity, never mind as skipper.

The injury I suffered was very frustrating and it has been horrible having to sit and watch games that I so wanted to be involved in.

I'm old enough and experienced enough to know that these things happen, in fact I spent pretty much a whole season out injured once.

Actually, that doesn't make it any easier but you just have to grin and bear it.

As I mentioned in an earlier programme, it has allowed me to watch games from a different perspective, but that coaching perspective is for the future, I want to play on for a good while yet.

For now, I've got some catching up to do and I'm determined that results will go our way in the second half of the season.

I know that a few of the lads have done a half season review elsewhere and they've all said that the first half of the campaign has been frustrating and disappointing.

From a personal point of view, the injury has made the last few months very frustrating and as a part of the squad, our position in the league is both frustrating and disappointing, as they've said.

Disappointing because we haven't got



anywhere near enough points and wins as we would have liked. And frustrating because I feel that we have players in the squad who are capable of getting us much higher up the table.

What's done is done though, we have to focus on what we can influence, and that is the games that we have coming up.

Those games at Crawley and Doncaster are massive away fixtures for us but we have to concentrate fully on the game against Swindon

**○ The position in the league is all the more disappointing for Kem due to the quality of players in the squad**

for now.

Make plenty of noise and get behind us, let's see how far up the League One table we can get in the next few weeks.

**Enjoy the game**





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For those of you in years 7 to 11 enter our competition in January for your chance to spend a day with one of 11 amazing mentors from the world of football.

Competitions close on Friday 1st March 2013 - so don't delay!

Visit [npower.com/whatsyourgoal](http://npower.com/whatsyourgoal)





# TONY FLYNN

Welcome back for this afternoon's match against Swindon Town, as we play here at the Weston Homes Community Stadium for the second time in three days.

The lads have had a good blend of recovery and training since Boxing Day so, hopefully, we'll all have full energy tanks ready for today.

Those who haven't quite got full tanks may have to sit it out but that is a decision that will have to be made after observing them in training.

We are in a busy period of games and the energy levels of all the players who are out there will have to be high.

We don't want the players to be tired going into games, it won't help the team and it can increase the chances of picking up injuries.

In recent weeks, both Kem Izzet and Matt Heath have been with me for an extended amount of time but both are now fit and well.

As experienced players, they know what they have to do whilst injured and they have worked hard while they have been with me.

They have both had match



action now so hopefully, they'll have an injury free second half of the season.

At the other end of the experience scale, young Alex Gilbey has been with us recently with an ankle injury.

He picked it up in an U21s match here a couple of weeks ago and to be honest, it was quite a nasty challenge that caught him.

It could have certainly been a lot worse and, had it been in a league match, a lot of referees might have been brandishing a card to the offender.

Fortunately, there was no structural damage to his ankle but there was a fair bit of bruising and the studs also cut him in a couple of places.

## WHAT'S THAT INJURY?

It isn't an injury I'm going to talk about today, it's Plantar Warts... more commonly known as **VERRUCAS**. Why would that be an issue for footballers?

Well, the symptoms can be painful, especially when landing hard on the area. I've never counted how often a player lands while running, but I'd guess it's quite frequent, so it wouldn't be good if there was always pain. The virus attacks breaks in the outer layer of skin, but the verruca doesn't show for a few weeks. It's usually picked up in communal areas like swimming pools and showers, getting pushed deeper under the skin due to day-to-day activity. Often, a layer of skin forms over the top.

Wearing socks and shoes also keep the moisture in, whereas drier feet usually avoid picking the virus up. It's very contagious and can be prevented by wearing flip flops and also by remaining barefoot after walking in public areas such as showers or communal changing rooms until the feet have had time to dry.

**○ Alex Gilbey has been suffering with an ankle injury recently, picked up in the U21s game with Millwall**

It was really sore for the first week or so but once the pain subsided, he was able to run again pretty soon.

Ten days after the Millwall game, he was back in full training and there hasn't been a problem with it since.

That's about it in terms of injuries for us at the moment. Hopefully, we'll keep everyone fit and well for the remainder of the festive period, with away games at Crawley and Doncaster to come in the New Year.

Have a good one and see how long you can keep those New Year resolutions. ■



# U'S VIEWS

## NOMADS' SPECIAL DAY OUT AT THE U'S



Today's match against Swindon is set to be a belated Christmas treat for the players of Witham Nomads U7s at the Weston Homes Community Stadium.

The team will be given a special behind the scenes tour of the stadium ahead of Saturday's match and will then get to meet the players after the match – hopefully celebrating a win to end 2012 on a high!

Coach Dean Pegler explained: 'John Pemberton and myself started training the current U7s when they were five-years-old. The captain is my son and the goalkeeper is the manager's son.'

'We entered them in to a summer tournament which was the first time they had played any competitive football and they won all their games.'

'We then put them in to the Blackwater and Dengie League for the start of this season and they have been flying - they have lost only two games and won all their other matches with some high scoring results and impressive football.'

We hope that Nomads have a cracking day out and that they'll be cheering loudly as they get right behind their local team! ■

## GOLD MATCHDAY CLUB: COLCHESTER ATHLETIC



We are pleased to welcome Colchester Athletic to the Weston Homes Community Stadium this afternoon, as our Matchday Club for the final match of 2013.

Colchester Athletic U12s Blues are here as the guests of our business friends, Hunnaballs of Colchester.

The U12s Blues play in the Colchester & District Youth League. After winning promotion last season the team is settling in well to their new league and have reached the quarter finals of the League Cup.

For more information on Colchester Athletic visit their website: [colathleticfc.co.uk](http://colathleticfc.co.uk)

We hope they have a fantastic day at the home of Colchester United! ■

## FANS CONSULTATION GROUP RETURNS



After a brief hiatus, the U's Fans Consultation Group will return to action in 2013.

The group, which meets every other month, provides a sounding board for the club and its officials as they look at all elements of the matchday at the Weston Homes Community Stadium.

Previous meetings have provided useful insight into the types of enhancements the fans would like to see on matchdays. Those supporters who have attended FCG meetings in the past are welcome to attend again in 2013, whilst new faces are always encouraged.

If you would like to represent your peers at these meetings, the please contact us on [media@colchesterunited.net](mailto:media@colchesterunited.net) with your name and contact details, along with the area of the stadium that you watch the games from.

The planned dates for the first FCG meetings of 2013 are as follows: Wednesday January 16th, 6pm; Wednesday March 13th, 6pm; Wednesday May 15th, 6pm. ■



# U'S FAN HITS THE HEIGHTS

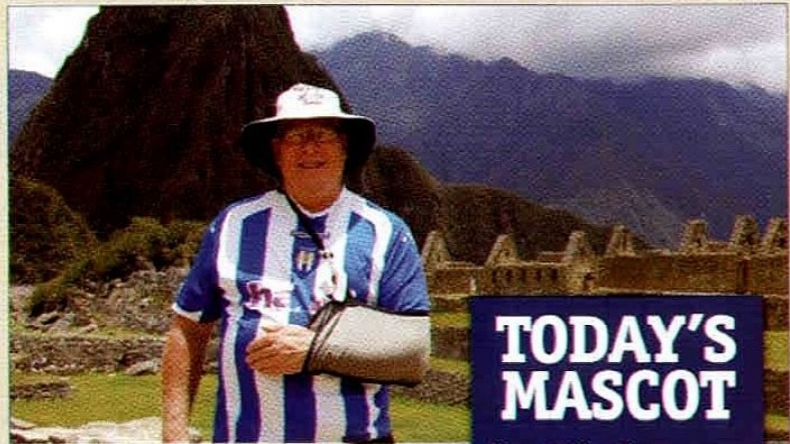
The U's colours travel around the country representing the town and, thanks to many of our fans, they head to all four corners of the globe, too.

Long term U's fan Phil Wolksi recently took his shirt to Machu Picchu – the "Lost City of the Incas" – in the Peruvian Andes at 2,430 metres (7,970 ft) above sea level, on a recent holiday.

Phil explained: "Whilst in Ecuador, this shirt got up to 3,566 metres (11,700 ft), which I suspect I might possibly claim a U's shirt altitude record (at least unaided by aircraft or flight!).

"My arm is in a sling because a few days earlier I had dislocated my shoulder whilst snorkelling off the Galapagos Islands.

"When in pristine condition, this particular U's shirt had previously been no higher than Row 5 of the South Stand (and tenth position in the Championship).



## TODAY'S MASCOT

**Name:** Oliver Page

**Age:** 4

**From:** Highwoods

We hope that Oliver and his family have a fantastic day here with us at Colchester United!

"However, I have great affection for it having since taken it to many of the remaining Seven Wonders of the Ancient and Middle Ages."

Have you taken your shirt to far flung countries? Then send us your photos to [media@colchesterunited.net](mailto:media@colchesterunited.net) and we'll publish the best in the programme! ■

# OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY TIME CAPSULE BURIED

To celebrate the Olympic Torch Relay coming through Colchester on 6th July 2012 Colchester Borough Council ran a competition for primary schools to create a time capsule depicting life in the town.

The time capsule has now been created and has been buried in Castle Park.

The ten items suggested for the time capsule by the winners, Lexden Primary School, were:

- A Colchester United football shirt
- A Colchester Castle souvenir
- A letter from a soldier at the Garrison
- A postcard of firstsite
- A diary entry of a child
- A copy of the Colchester Daily Gazette
- A Leisure World Guide
- A Colchester Children's University passport
- A map and guide of Colchester Zoo
- A secondary school prom invitation

The time capsule was buried beneath the restored Catchpool water fountain behind the café in Castle Park, just before Christmas. Children from Lexden Primary School witnessed the



burial along with the Mayor of Colchester, Garrison Sergeant Major Ceri Ceaser and Cllr Annie Feltham.

Cllr Christopher Arnold, Mayor of Colchester, said: "The objects chosen for the time capsule by pupils from Lexden Primary School give a youthful perspective of what is important to those growing up in Colchester in the early 21st century. Just as we learn about Roman Colchester by examining ancient remains, one day that capsule may give future historians a glimpse of what life was like in our historic town on the very special day that the Olympic torch passed through." ■









# HALF TERM REPORT

The season has reached its halfway stage and the U's have had a mixed bag of results and performances across the first half of the campaign. Inconsistency has prevented Joe Dunne and the squad embarking on any extended runs of positive results but the quality of the squad has been evident with some highly entertaining and effective performances, both home and away.

But how have the playing squad viewed the first half of the season? Over the next few pages, we get the answers to a set of questions put to three members of the squad. We caught up with **Marcus Bean** as a midfielder and **Jabo Ibehre** as a forward but we'll start with the backline. Experienced heads Magnus Okuonghae and Matt Heath have been involved in the past few months, but we've chosen young **Tom Eastman** to give us the defensive lowdown.





# HALF-TERM REPORT

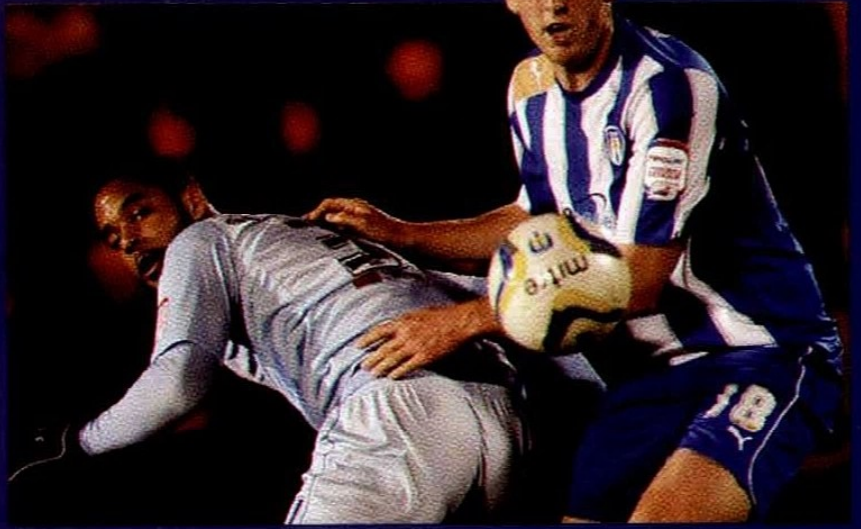
DEFENCE: TOM EASTMAN







**"LEYTON ORIENT WAS A HIGHLIGHT - THEY WERE GOING WELL BUT WE CONTROLLED THE GAME, THE CLEAN SHEET WAS SPECIAL & THE TRAVELLING SUPPORT WAS FANTASTIC"**



**How has the first half of the season gone for the back four?**

It has been a bit hit and miss to be honest. We had a good spell when the manager first came in and kept a few clean sheets, which was really positive. Unfortunately, we then went through a spell of conceding far too many goals. The goals we have conceded have come too often from individual mistakes, which has been frustrating for all of us. You can almost live with the opposition tearing you apart and scoring 'worldy' goals but most of those we've conceded have been self inflicted.

**Did the change of manager mean a change in how the defence was asked to play?**

Yes, there has been a change in what we've been asked to do. The Gaffer still wants us to be strong defensively, and obviously defend better than we have done in some matches so far, but it's in possession the biggest change has come. He wants us to get the ball off the keeper more and play out from the back and keep possession

more than we did before. I have really enjoyed this because it's something that I grew up with at Ipswich and I'm used to getting on the ball a lot.

**We have probably our biggest squad ever, has the competition for places put pressure on the lads to perform when they're picked?**

Yes, there is pressure on everyone but that goes with the territory and it's good for the club to have competition for places all over the team. You know that you have to play well every game because you know that there are other players who are more than capable of taking your place if you let your standards drop.

**What has been the single best game for you?**

Two stand out, the home game against Stevenage and the game at Brisbane Road against Leyton Orient, but I'm going to go with the Orient one. If I remember rightly, they were going well at the time and we controlled things and hardly gave them

a chance to score. The clean sheet, as they always are, was special and the noise and support from the travelling fans was fantastic.

**And the worst?**

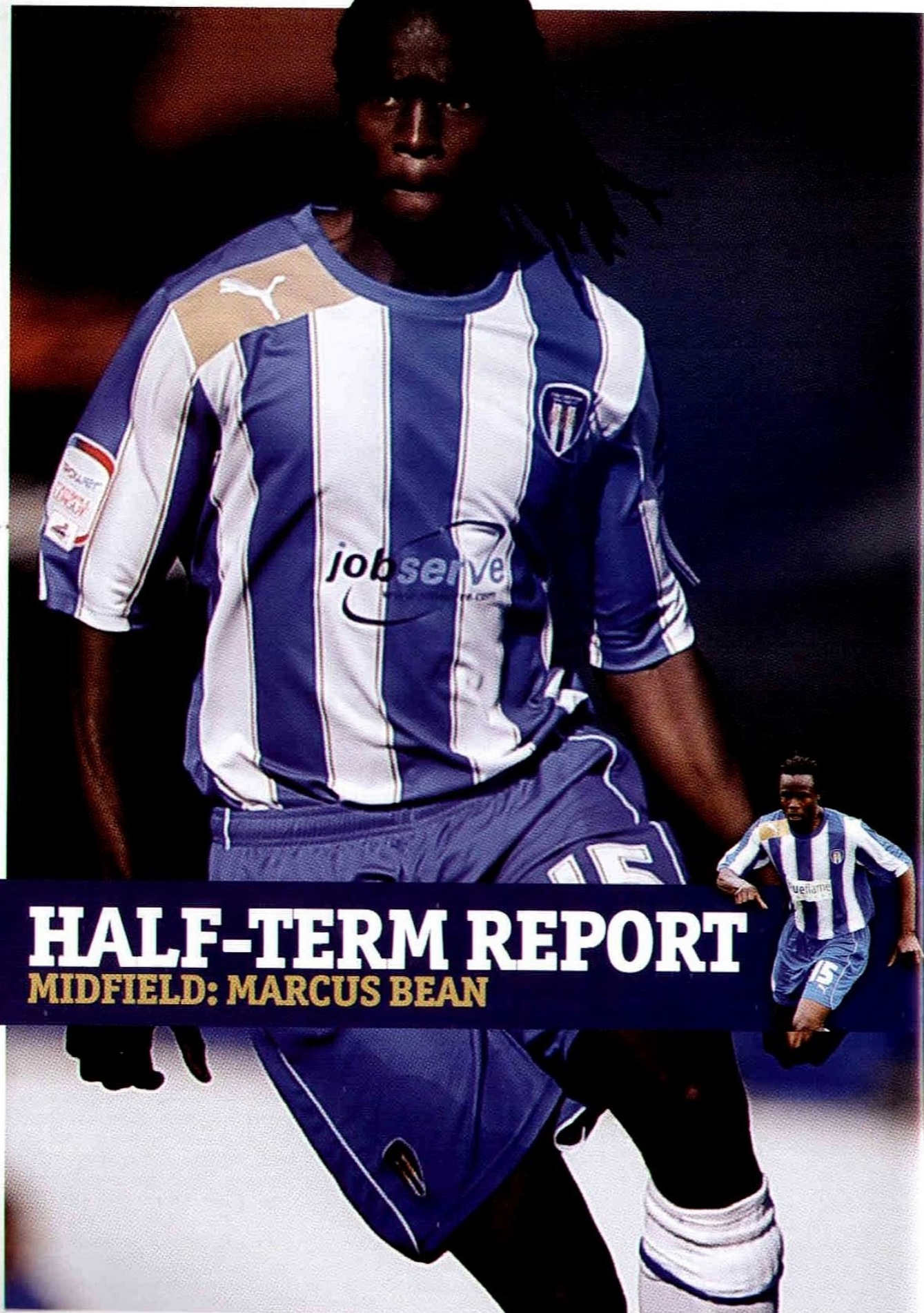
I think the worst for me, and for the team probably, was the defeat at MK Dons at the end of November. I didn't have my best game and we lost heavily – it doesn't come much worse than that for a defender.

**What's the aim for the second half of the season, for the defence in general and you in particular?**

That's easy – get more clean sheets than we have managed so far. We know that we have the players in front of us who can create and score goals so if we keep clean sheets, I'm confident that we'll win games more often than not.

Cutting out those individual mistakes will go a long way to achieving those clean sheets so that's the aim for all of us as individuals. ■





# HALF-TERM REPORT

MIDFIELD: MARCUS BEAN



### How has the first half of the season gone for the midfield?

Obviously, there is plenty of room for improvement because we have done well in some games but not in others. Over the course of some ninety minutes, we haven't maintained the level of performance I know we possess. Inconsistency has been the story of the season so far because we've done some really good stuff in the midfield but have let ourselves down at other points. We all know that we've got a good squad in terms of quality but we haven't transferred that out onto the pitch

in the past couple of months and Craig's a great player who we will miss now he's injured.

### We have probably our biggest squad ever, has the competition for places put pressure on the lads to perform when they're picked?

In midfield, I think we've got the most competition but it's good because it can keep players focussed on maintaining a high level of performance. Any team, from the Premier League down

end to end and even playing in it, you could tell it was a decent match. I have had a few fans telling me that they enjoyed it as well so it must have been good to watch.

### And the worst?

The two matches we dropped points in after being 2-0 up, they were criminal, especially away from home. Losing against Crewe was horrible but letting Shrewsbury back into the game was a bad day for us as well.

### What are your aims for the second



**"I'D LIKE TO CHIP IN WITH A FEW GOALS & THE LEAGUE IS TIGHT, SO WITH A GOOD RUN IT'S POSSIBLE TO FINISH IN THE TOP 10 AGAIN, EVEN IF WE MAY LOOK A FAIR WAY OFF OF THAT AT THE MOMENT"**

regularly enough. We as players have to look at ourselves for those failings.

### Did the change of manager mean a change in how the midfield was asked to play?

Yes and I've enjoyed it. As a player, you want to play as often as possible and when you do, you want to have as much involvement as you can. The way the Gaffer wants to play is for us to get on the ball and express ourselves and it suits us. We've seen a lot more from Anthony Wordsworth

to the bottom of the football pyramid, needs that competition and benefits from having quality players in the team and waiting for their chance.

### What has been the single best game for you?

Orient away because I think we dominated it from start to finish. That is the kind of performance that we need to put in consistently if you want to guarantee winning. I must say that I also enjoyed the home game against Portsmouth, it was

### half of the season, for you and the midfield?

Personally, I'd like to chip in with a few goals in the second half of the season and I think the midfield as a whole need to score more between us. The club has finished in the top ten in the past couple of years and you always want to match or better what you've done before. The league this season is tight and I know we look a fair way off at the moment, but I feel that a good run could make it possible to finish in the top ten again. ■





# HALF-TERM REPORT

## ATTACK: JABO IBEHRE



### How has the first half of the season gone for the forwards?

Since I arrived, I've really enjoyed it and it's great to play in a side where loads of chances are created and so much attacking football is played. Of late, we haven't been playing quite so much free flowing football nor creating quite as many chances, but football can be like that sometimes. On a personal level, it has been great to be playing football regularly but we're all disappointed that we've been too inconsistent to pick up regular positive results.

### We have probably our biggest squad ever, does competition for places put pressure on the lads to perform when they're in the team?

Competition in life makes us better, in whatever field we're working in, it pushes people on to do the best they can. We've got a good squad of players here and the ones who aren't playing are itching to play and are more than capable of playing.

That makes you work hard to keep the shirt if you're in the team and that can only benefit us as a team and the club as a whole.

### What has been the single best game for you?

I've got to be honest, I'm enjoying all the games here because I'm playing in them regularly but if I had to pick one, it would be my debut. You remember it anyway because it's your debut but it helps that things go well. We won for the first time for a while and everyone was buzzing and the confidence was high, which was great to see as a new player in the squad. Scoring obviously helped make it my favourite.

### And the worst?

Probably Crewe away because when you're leading 2-0 away from home, you expect to take something out of the game. We did everything we had to in the first half, we played some good football and stopped them doing what they wanted. I felt more gutted at the end of that one than I had for ages and it really hurt to lose.

### Did the change of team for you personally mean a change in how you as a forward have been asked to play?

Different managers have different tactics and formations but there are still lots of

aspects of a forward's play that stay the same and football is football. I just apply myself as best as I can and do the best I can. That said, I think I have adapted well to what the Gaffer wants me to do here and it's great to know that chances will be created and we'll attack as much as we can, home or away. I'm grateful to the manager and Colchester United for giving me the opportunity to play and it's been a pleasure to be involved.

### What has the second half of the season got in store from an attacking perspective and on a personal level?

Hopefully, we will score lots of goals, win games and get up the table. We've proved that we can win games and the league this year is very open. I would love to see us put ourselves in a good position as soon as possible and then see if we can challenge. No-one is running away with things and everyone can beat everyone so if we put a decent run together, all of a sudden we're in the chasing pack. Personally, I'm always looking to improve and get better. I'll continue to work hard and hopefully, I'll play games, score goals and contribute to the team. That's the aim for me wherever I am playing my football in the second half of the season. ■



**"YOU'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER YOUR DEBUT BUT IT HELPS IF YOU DO WELL - WE WON, EVERYONE WAS BUZZING & I SCORED!"**





# Bobby Swift Bookmakers

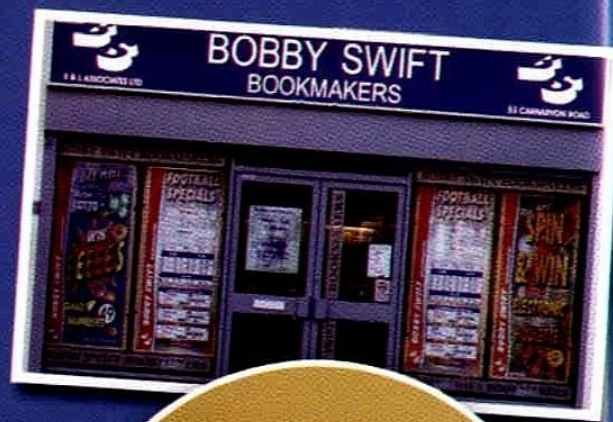
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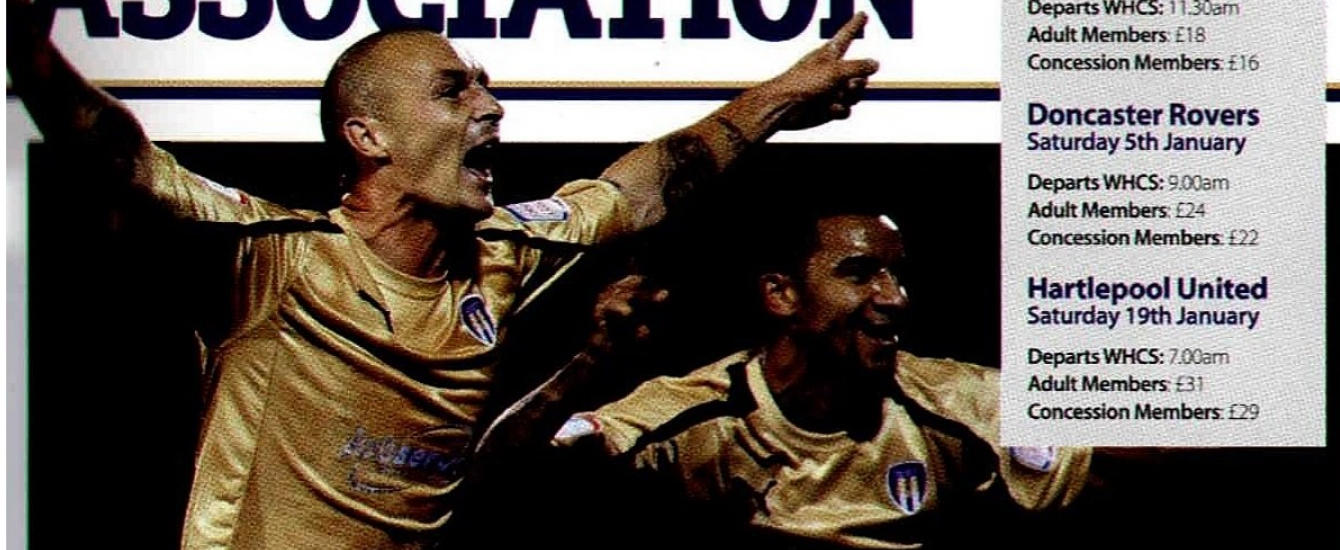


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## CUSA TRAVEL

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Departs WHCS: 11.30am  
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Concession Members: £16

### Doncaster Rovers Saturday 5th January

Departs WHCS: 9.00am  
Adult Members: £24  
Concession Members: £22

### Hartlepool United Saturday 19th January

Departs WHCS: 7.00am  
Adult Members: £31  
Concession Members: £29

### Good afternoon and welcome back to the Weston Homes Community Stadium.

In our further instalment of festive football, the U's are hosting Swindon Town and will be looking to do the double after Michael Rose's brilliant free kick won us the game at their place back in October (pictured).

That was a great evening and a very good performance from the U's right at the beginning of Joe Dunne's reign, and quite a baptism of fire to go up against Mr Di Canio in the battle of the technical areas.

It would be great for the U's to finish the year on a high. Winning is a habit in football, and it's certainly a habit that we would like to take into 2013.

In my opinion we are in a period of transition with our squad being a moveable feast with some players given the opportunity to try their football elsewhere on loan and others leaving us for good. It's important that this is allowed to happen and that Joe and Mark are given the time to build the team that they want, and realise the players that have the some of the same attributes that they had during their playing days at the U's.

I'm very much looking forward to it and hope that it will bring the U's some good times next year and beyond.

2012 has had its moments. Not all good I have to admit, but if you recall the final few months of last season, the U's became the draw champions as the single point result almost became our specialist subject. Very hard to beat but only occasionally being able to take a game away from the opposition.

The highlight being the 2-0 at Charlton back in March. No one expected the eventual champions to slip up at home but the U's totally outclassed them on the pitch and for the fans it became one of those legendary away day memories.

The rest of the year has been tough for the U's and cost John Ward his position in charge, but every cloud does have a silver lining and a couple of old boy legends took over the management and gave us a wonderful start with Jabo, Craig and Sanchez boosting both players and supporters alike during October.

My highlight of our season so far was the victory over Leyton Orient, not so much for the football, but for the 600+ U's fans who gave such excellent support throughout the 90 minutes.

I've always said that we have some of the best fans around, it's just that we need more of them. I will be keeping my fingers crossed that this happens in 2013.

In some small way the CUSA have helped

the matchday enjoyment for a few U's by donating sets of special headphones that the visually impaired can use in the stands to pick up Ronnie and co on the Hospital Radio broadcast. All clever stuff and if it helps our fans and maybe encourages a few more then we're all for it.

So back to the football and good luck to the U's today, and also for the next two games at Crawley Town and Doncaster Rovers. These are "new" grounds for many of us so I would expect a large number of fans looking to make the trip.

The CUSA has two coaches heading to Crawley and there may well be room left on board if your hangover will let you make the departure time. We also hope to take a couple of coaches to Donny, but that will depend on who books up today.

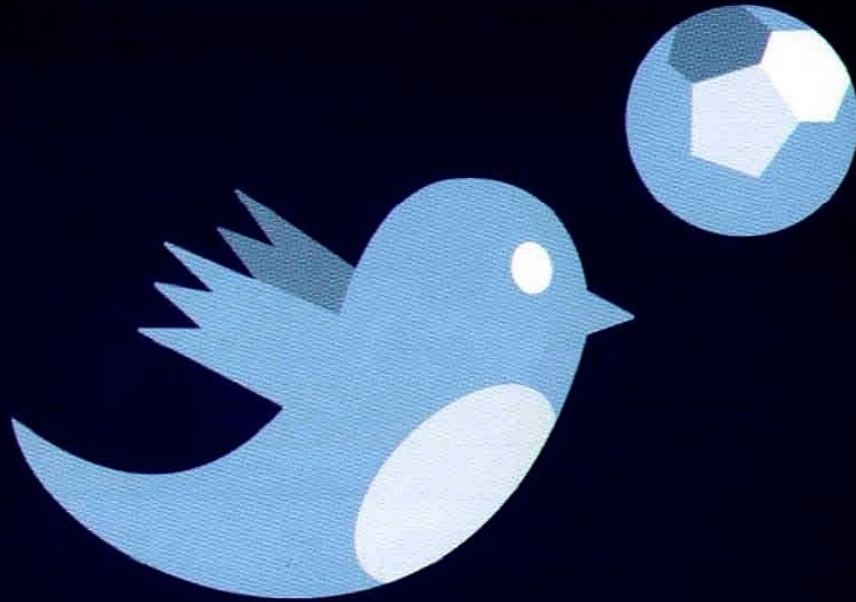
As always, our contact points are 07778 018834 and 07752 531600 or [away\\_travel@cusa.co.uk](mailto:away_travel@cusa.co.uk)

Many thanks to all of our members for their support this year, and of course thanks to every U's fans out there for doing your bit to get behind the team.

Have a good New Years Eve and I hope to see many of you at Crawley!

Jon





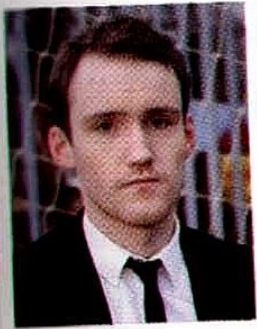
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## BARRY LANDY'S DOWN IN THE BOX

Features, articles and opinions on football's biggest stories | [www.downinthebox.com](http://www.downinthebox.com)

# Points and parties are not mutually exclusive at Christmas

**Everybody likes a nice spot of dinner and a couple of glasses of wine. In moderation, there's no harm in it.**

Blackburn Rovers should not necessarily have felt obliged to have cancelled their Christmas party; the Lancashire club are hardly the only side throughout England's top four divisions underperforming despite early season expectations and sizeable investment.

This Christmas, Rovers did not follow the lead of Queens Park Rangers and Newcastle United in the Premier League and even Oxford United in League 2 in ditching their annual bash.

The other U's situation is considerably less precarious than the former three, but Chris Wilder's decision to scrap the Oxford Christmas party is indicative of a shift in tolerance for excess as a whole.

One win in nine games since his third coming at Blackburn is hardly the backdrop upon which Henning Berg could let his hair down, metaphorically speaking.

It is a festive bash though, coming together to celebrate the season, rather than one to revel at any team or individual triumph. The football season is only half way through after all.

It works both ways too. Messers Redknapp, who has previous in voicing his disdain for Christmas parties, and Pardew have cancelled their club's respective get-togethers out of shame on their part and respect for their support base.

Blackburn Rovers, however, felt a party



could be good for morale. This remember is a team struggling to salvage anything from the wreckage of a tragic two years.

Berg evidently appreciated that a party would go some way to boosting morale within a struggling, inflated and multinational squad. For non-playing staff, insecurity and the threat of redundancies are hardly conducive to the best working conditions.

Holding a party in the midst of Blackburn's current plight is a nod to placating the staff and players on the part of the owners, a bit like the appointment of club legend Berg as manager in October. The latter hasn't work of yet.

Two Mondays ago, Rovers held that party in a function suite at Ewood Park and Berg was encouraged by a club executive (*Blackburn really can pick them*) to take the stage, wear a Christmas stocking and dance.

Whilst you read this, nurse your cup of tea and envisage just how Berg wore a Christmas stocking, consider

**Henning Berg has kept the Christmas party for Blackburn, hoping it will prove a boost to morale**

how that and not the hosting of a party, the manager himself considered being, "not right." A Michael Jackson wig was the final straw.

That Berg, obviously a dignified and studious type, was unwilling to engage in such activity is a good sign. It's much ado about nothing and the media reports of the Norwegian 'storming out' only served to exasperate matters but if anything should be taken from the episode, it's that.

With no visible improvement on the field since he took over from Steve Kean in the Autumn, Berg sees no room for such indignant frivolities.

There is no complacency evident there under the new manager. No complacency in thinking Blackburn's cream will rise to the top of the Championship or that Berg's stature among the club's support protects him in any way.

Happy New Year. ■



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# MY MATE

with Ian Henderson

## Who is your best mate in football?

Danny Crow.

## How long have you known him?

Nineteen years now.

## How did you meet?

We met when we were eight, as we were at Norwich's academy together. We both went all the way through the youth system there and both got pro contracts, before Danny then got released a couple of years later.

## How often do you speak to him/see him now?

We do speak pretty much every day - he's a bit needy like that! We get together once or twice a month as well where we can, dependent on the fixtures we've both got.

## What are they doing now?

After leaving Norwich, he played for Peterborough, Cambridge and Luton. He's now at Newport County though, who are having a pretty good season so far trying to get into the Football League.

## Who's the best, you or him?

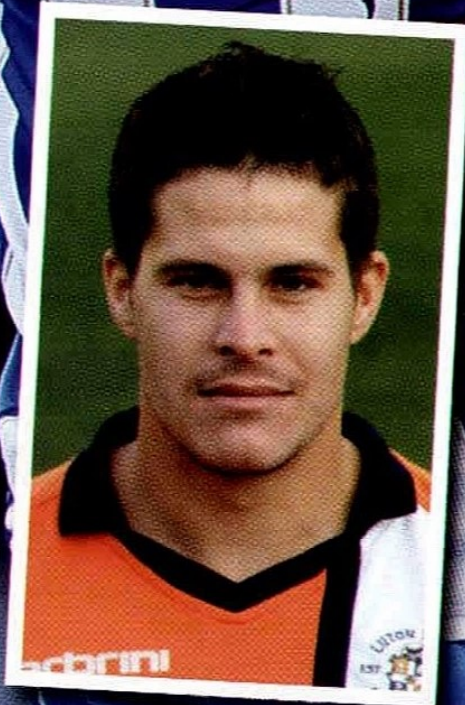
I'd have to say me just because I've played at a higher level more consistently than he has.

## What's his most annoying habit?

He hasn't really got any bad habits, but what annoys me about him is his big cannonball head and small hands!

## Who would win in a fight?

He would for sure. He's known as Pitbull but his other nickname is Staffie! ■



**"WE GET TOGETHER ONCE OR TWICE A MONTH BUT WE DO SPEAK TO EACH OTHER EVERY DAY - HE'S A BIT NEEDY LIKE THAT!"**



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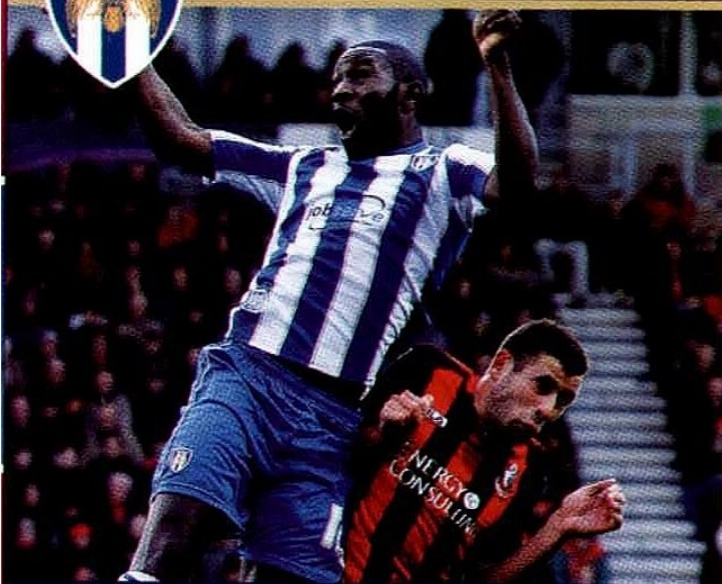
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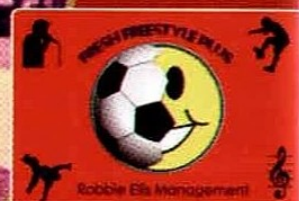
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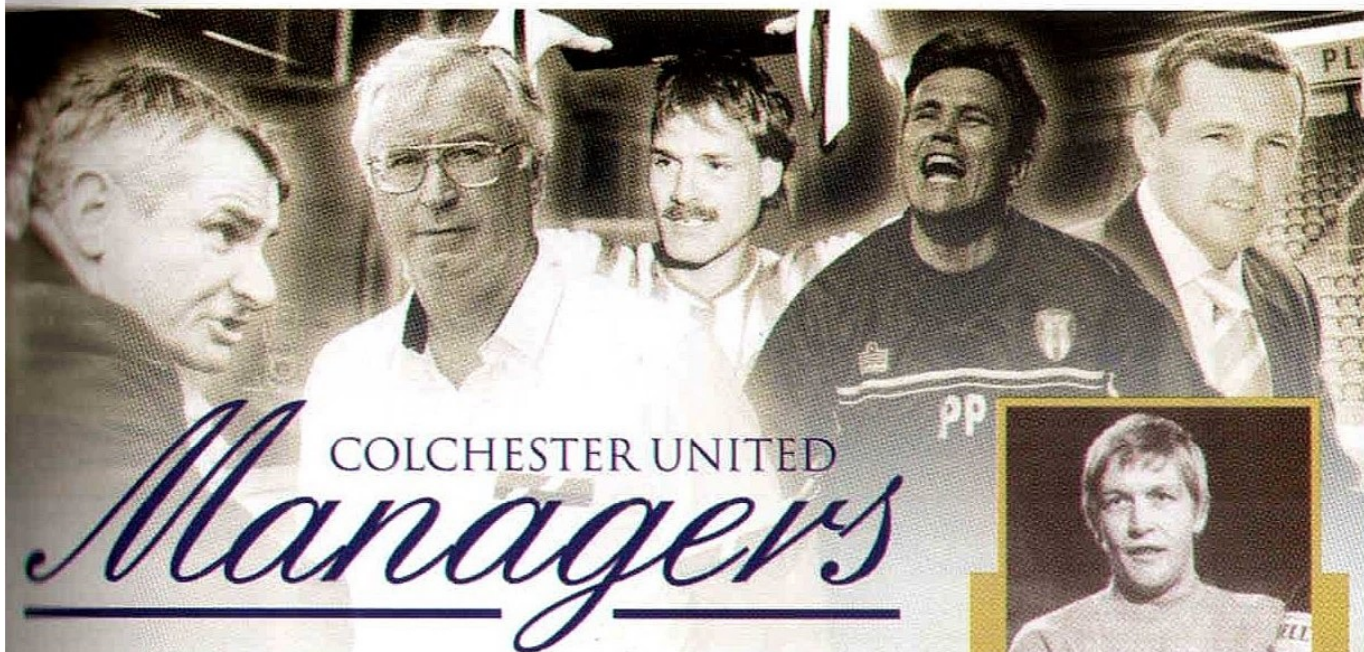
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## COLCHESTER UNITED

*Managers*

## 15. ROGER WILLIAM BROWN

**Brown began his career as an apprentice with Walsall in 1970 but failed to earn a professional contract.**

He joined non-League Paget Rangers in 1973 and was with AP Leamington a year later staying with them as they became founder members of the Alliance Premier League (now the Conference).

Signed by Bournemouth in February 1978 for £5,000 Brown scored 3 goals in 63 League appearances.

His performances persuaded Norwich to pay out £85,000 in the summer of 1979 but after just 16 games he moved to Fulham the following March for £100,000.

Injured on his first game against Chelsea Brown missed the rest of the season as Fulham were relegated.

He played in every game during the next campaign as The Cottagers bounced back to the Second Division.

Indeed Brown created a club record by scoring 12 goals from defence.

Despite making 141 League appearances at Craven Cottage scoring 18 goals Brown fell out with manager Malcolm MacDonald and

returned to the south coast with Bournemouth in December 1983 for £35,000.

Finishing his professional career with 83(+1) games at Dean Court, Brown netted 5 times.

He then had spells as player-coach of Weymouth and as player-manager of Poole Town.

Appointed Colchester manager by Jonathan Crisp on 4 November 1987, Brown was cited as having managerial experience from his day job in an engineering environment.

The Colchester Evening Gazette headlined his arrival with 'Roger Who?'

Still riding on a crest of a wave from the team that Mike Walker built, Brown won Manager of the Month for December but then won just five of the remaining fixtures.

Brown was sacked on 16th October 1988 following a club-record 8-0 defeat at Leyton Orient.

The day before he had told the local press "sooner or later one of our opponents is going to get a hiding. Let's hope its Orient tomorrow". ■



**Born:** 12/12/1962

**Appointed:**  
November 1987

**First Game:**  
Halifax Town (A), 2-1 W

**Departed:**  
October 1988

**Last Game:**  
Leyton Orient (A), 0-8 L

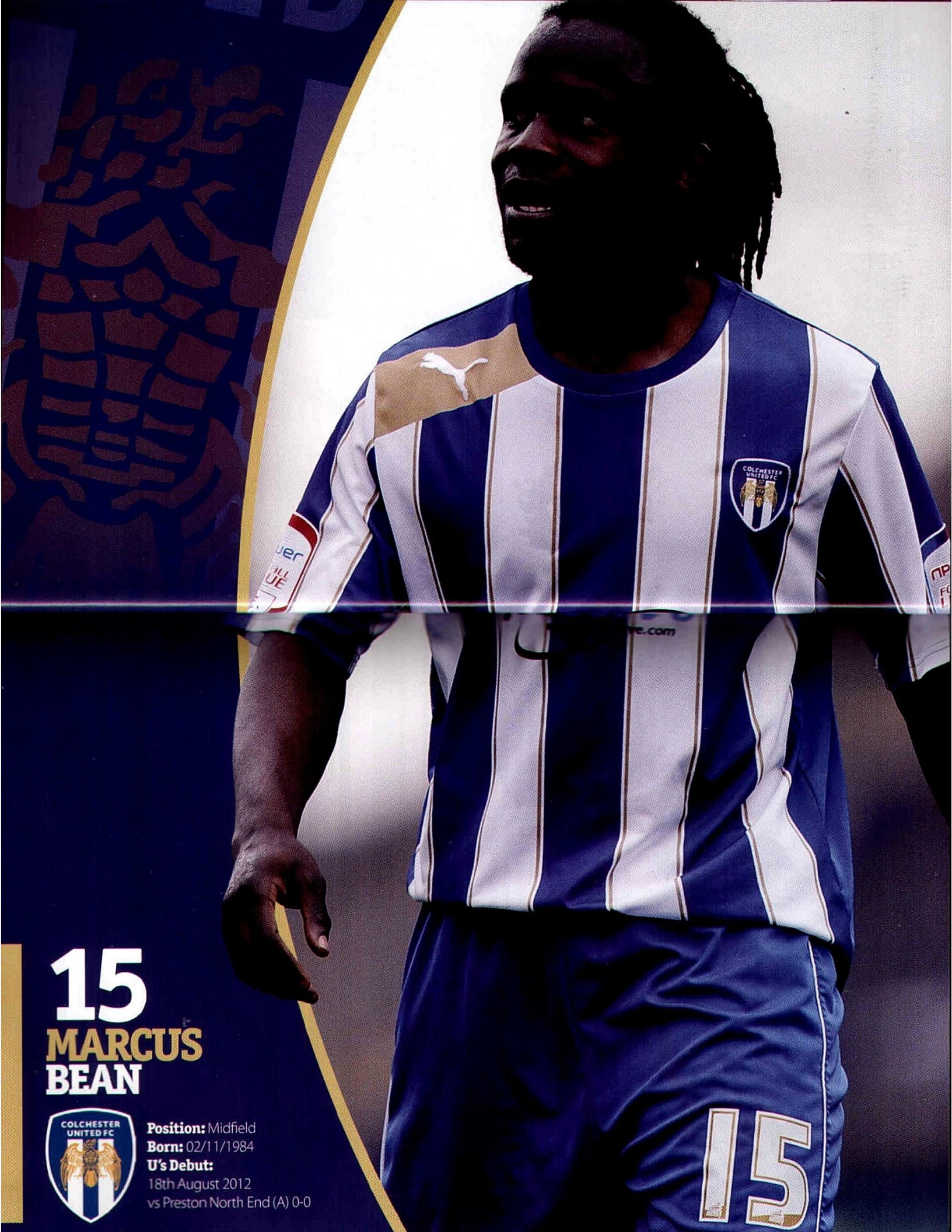
**Games:** 48  
**Won:** 16  
**Drew:** 12  
**Lost:** 20  
**Win %:** 33

## WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

Brown stepped out of football and became an Insurance Salesman before later working for the East Anglian Probation Service.

"STILL RIDING THE CREST OF A WAVE FROM MIKE WALKER'S TEAM. BROWN WON MANAGER OF THE MONTH BEFORE ONLY WINNING ANOTHER FIVE GAMES"





# 15

**MARCUS**  
**BEAN**



**Position:** Midfield  
**Born:** 02/11/1984  
**U's Debut:**  
18th August 2012  
vs Preston North End (A) 0-0

15



# DEVELOPMENT SQUAD



**"IT WAS AN EXTREMELY PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE FROM THE EXPERIENCED U'S SIDE & THEY MARCH INTO THE NEXT ROUND OF THE ESSEX SENIOR CUP"**

**The U's U21s endured a difficult afternoon in West London as they fell to an 8-2 defeat against Queens Park Rangers.**

Freddie Ladapo grabbed both of the U's goals, but the goals were a small consolation in a tough match against a QPR side that featured the experience of Tal Ben Haim and Junior Hoilett.

It was former Blackburn man Hoilett who put the home side ahead after just four minutes and it did not take too much longer for Mo Shariff to double their advantage.

Jordan Sanderson, who had scored in the U's last U21s game against Millwall, twice came close for the visitors, but the chances were to prove to be temporary respite as Rangers extended their advantage.

Midway through the half, Shariff got his second, before turning provider and getting Hoilett in on goal for his second and Rangers fourth after just twenty-five minutes.

And the winger made it five on thirty-three minutes, tapping home the rebound after a free kick came back off the crossbar.

The U's pulled one back through Ladapo just before the break, but went in at half-time four goals adrift.

After the break, the goals continued as Doughty scored the goal of the game with a dipping volley from distance to make it 6-1.

First teamer Samba Diakite spurned the chance to make it seven when he struck his penalty over the crossbar, but Tom

Hitchcock made it seven and substitute Petrasso made it eight after coming off the bench.

The U's were to have the final goal of the game, though, as Ladapo grabbed a consolation.

## Essex Senior Cup vs. Brentwood Town

The U's made straight forward progress into the next round of the Essex Senior Cup. Most of the damage was done as the non-leaguers Brentwood tired in the second half, but it did only take Clinton Morrison five minutes of the first to give the U's the lead.

The lead was doubled before half time, with John-Joe O'Toole striking across the Brentwood keeper. Brian Wilson, Karl Duguid and Freddie Ladapo took the scor-

## U21s FIXTURES & RESULTS 12/13

DATE	OPPONENTS	COMP	RES	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<b>AUGUST</b>												
Wed 22	Bristol City	A	PDL	2-3	Phillips	Ramm	Bender	Hamilton	Aldred	James-Lewis	Sanderson	Gilbey
Mon 27	Swansea City	H	PDL	1-0	Phillips	Ramm	Coker	Hamilton	Eastman	James-Lewis	Sanderson	Gilbey
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>												
Mon 3	Charlton Athletic	A	PDL	3-3	Phillips	Ramm	Bender	Hamilton	Roast	James-Lewis	Sanderson	Gilbey
Fri 14	Brentford	A	PDL	0-6	Phillips	Roast	Olufemi	Hamilton	Bender	James-Lewis	Sanderson	Gilbey
Mon 24	Brighton & HA	A	PDL	2-6	Pentney	O'Donoghue	Olufemi	Hamilton	Bender	James-Lewis	Sanderson	Gilbey
<b>OCTOBER</b>												
Mon 22	Barnet	H	PDL	6-1	Phillips	O'Donoghue	Olufemi	Hamilton	Roast	James-Lewis	Sanderson	Gilbey
<b>NOVEMBER</b>												
Mon 12	Bristol City	H	PDL	1-5	Phillips	White	Bender	Hamilton	Nkumu	Thompson	Sanderson	James-Lewis
Tue 20	Cardiff City	A	PDL	0-4	Phillips	Ramm	Coker	Hamilton	Bender	James-Lewis	Sanderson	Gilbey
<b>DECEMBER</b>												
Mon 10	Millwall	H	PDL	2-2	Pentney	Ramm	Coker	Aldred	Roast	Lapslie	Sanderson	Gilbey
Mon 17	QPR	A	PDL	2-8	Pentney	O'Donoghue	Olufemi	Aldred	Roast	Lapslie	Sanderson	Bennett
<b>JANUARY 2013</b>												
Mon 21	Brighton & HA	H	PDL	19.00								
Fri 25	Millwall	A	PDL	13.00								
Mon 28	Charlton Athletic	H	PDL	19.00								
<b>FEBRUARY</b>												
Mon 4	Ipswich Town	H	PDL	19.00								
Mon 11	Brentford	H	PDL	19.00								
Sun 24	Ipswich Town	A	PDL	11.00								
<b>MARCH</b>												
Tue 5	Barnet	A	PDL	13.00								
Mon 18	Cardiff City	H	PDL	19.00								
Sat 30	Swansea City	A	PDL	11.00								
<b>APRIL</b>												
Mon 15	QPR	H	PDL	19.00								



to five before subs Drey Wright and Freddie Ladapo got in on the act.

Wright ran through unchallenged to slot his shot under the keeper, and Ladapo headed home a Duguid cross. It became eight with three minutes to go, with John-Joe O'Toole getting his second with a firm shot into the bottom corner.

Joe Dunne picked a strong side for the game, with all eleven of the starters having experienced first team football. That experience showed from the off, with the U's controlling possession and opening up their opponents at will.

A corner from Karl Duguid after five minutes saw Clinton Morrison hold off a challenge and head home to start off the scoring. Ben Coker was in the thick of the action in the early stages and was creating chances for himself and others, one resulting in a free kick that Andy Bond had blocked.

On twenty minutes, the U's doubled their lead with a slick passing move resulting in John-Joe O'Toole drilling his shot across the keeper and into the bottom corner.

Ian Henderson and Marcus Bean then had shots saved, with Henderson quickly having two more efforts. The first went narrowly over the bar and the second, a header, was tipped acrobatically over the



crossbar.

Just before the break, O'Toole had sight of goal but couldn't find the target from just inside the penalty area. Billy Roast came on as a substitute during the half time break, replacing Matt Heath who was coming back from injury.

In the second half, the U's didn't have the volume of shots they managed in the first, but the finishing was more clinical as the non-leaguers tired.

It did take them until just after the hour mark to add a third though, and Mark Cousins had to make a smart save before

**○ Karl Duguid netted the U's fourth in the Senior Cup win**

then to keep it at 2-0.

For the third goal, Drey Wright was denied but the ball fell to Coker to cross and Brian Wilson volleyed home at the far post.

Two minutes later, it was four as Karl Duguid struck home from the edge of the box and only another two minutes passed before it became five.

Andy Bond hit a shot from the angle and after the keeper spilled the ball, Freddie Ladapo tapped into the empty net.

Drey Wright then latched onto a great through ball from Marcus Bean and calmly slotted his shot under the advancing keeper.

The last five minutes saw the U's score twice more, with Ladapo and O'Toole getting another goal each. Ladapo headed home a Duguid cross and then O'Toole repeated his earlier effort, drilling a shot into the bottom corner.

It was an extremely professional performance by the experienced U's side and they march onto the next round. ■

9	10	11	12	13	14	Unused Subs
Ladapo	Wright	Olufemi	Roast	Simmons		Palmer, Melaugh, Mafuta
Ladapo	Wright	Massey	Olufemi	Melaugh		Palmer, Bender, Roast
Ladapo	<b>Wright</b>	Olufemi	Melaugh	Simmons		Kent, Lapslie, Nwachuku
Ladapo	Simmons	Melaugh	Bonne	Lapslie	Kent	Curtis, O'Donoghue
Ladapo	Wright	Melaugh	Simmons	<b>Bonne</b>	Lapslie	Phillips, Kent
<b>Bonne</b>	<b>O'Toole<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Wright<sup>3</sup></b>	Simmons	Szmodics	Curtis	Kent, Blanche
Ladapo	O'Toole	Olufemi	Wright	Gilbey	Ramm	Bonne, Melaugh
Ladapo	Wright	Olufemi	Lapslie	Bonne	Roast	Melaugh, Simmons
Ladapo	Wright	Olufemi	Melaugh	Szmodics	Curtis	Phillips, O'Donoghue
Ladapo <sup>2</sup>	Bonne	Wright	Kent	Melaugh	Nwachuku	Cable, Szmodics

**KEY:**

- Green = 1st substitute
- Orange = 2nd substitute
- Red = 3rd substitute
- Bold** = goalscorer

**U21s PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE 2 TABLE**

	P	GD	PTS
1 Charlton Athletic	10	11	21
2 QPR	11	11	20
3 Brentford	10	5	19
4 Bristol City	8	8	18
5 Brighton & HA	11	1	15
6 Cardiff City	10	0	15
7 Ipswich Town	9	2	13
8 Swansea City	11	-5	12
9 Millwall	10	-5	10
<b>10 Colchester</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-19</b>	<b>8</b>
11 Barnet	8	-9	4

**OTHER RESULTS**

- Brighton 1-4 Swansea
- QPR 2-1 Cardiff
- Barnet 1-1 Brighton



# YOUTH TEAM



**"AT TIMES LIKE THIS WHERE THE GAMES ARE THICK & FAST, DIET & NUTRITION IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT AS THE YOUTH BOYS WILL BE GETTING USED TO"**

**Welcome back for this afternoon's game, as the lads play Swindon in the second game in the space of three days.**

They have all been in the game long enough now to have looked after themselves since the Brentford game, despite the temptations at this time of year.

I mentioned in my programmes notes against Brentford how important diet and nutrition is to a footballer. At time like this, with games coming thick and fast in

**○ Tosin Olufemi was named on the bench at Bournemouth in his first taste of the matchday squad**

a short space of time, it takes on even more importance. These are the things the youth team boys will have to get used to, along with making sure they're training properly all the time.

What also crops up at this time of year are suspensions and injuries. That was certainly the case recently for the manager and his first team squad. As well as losing our two Arsenal loanees to injury, we had an illness and three suspensions to deal with.

While it is disappointing for the

players concerned and gives the manager a bit of a selection headache that I'm sure he could do without, other players have the opportunity to step in and make an impression.

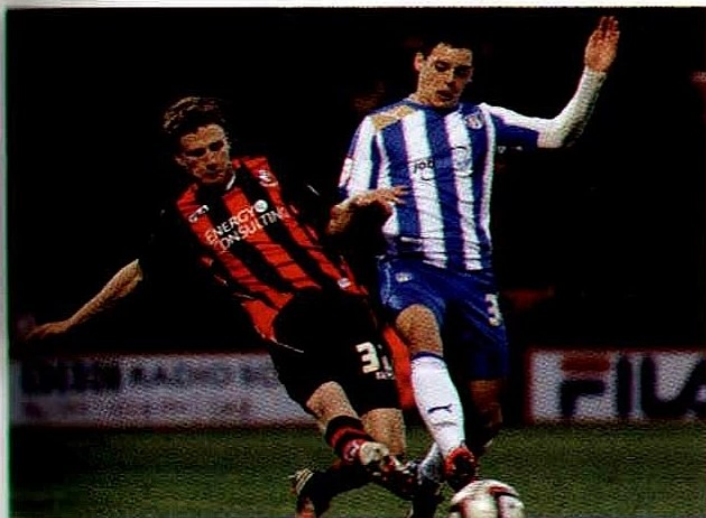
A couple of weeks ago, it was great to see the names of youth team boys Macauley Bonne and Tom Lapslie on the squad list for the first team's trip down to Bournemouth.

They have both trained well throughout the first half of the season and have shown in the games that they are developing well and this is the reward. While neither of them made it onto the bench for the game at Dean Court, the experience would



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have done them the world of good... and made them want it even more.

They got an idea of what is expected of them, and what they can expect from an away trip with the first team.

They travelled overnight, spent time with the first team lads and got to know what is the 'done thing' is when preparing for a first team game. They got changed at the ground on the afternoon and sampled the matchday atmosphere, something that is very different to a youth team game.

Two players who did make it into the matchday squad of eighteen and sat on the bench were Drey Wright and Tosin Olufemi.

It was Tosin's first taste of things with the first team on a matchday and I'm sure he will want more of it now he's experienced it once.

Drey (pictured above) has been in and around the squad all season and it was great to hear that he

put in a positive performance when he went on at half time.

He has impressed at youth and U21s levels with his pace and direct attacking play and he's now getting the chance to show it at first team level.

You might be wondering why I'm talking about these two when they're not in the youth team anymore. It's because they can be used as examples when we're talking to boys of all ages of the progression they can make here at Colchester United.

Even boys as young as eight or nine can look at what these players are doing now and think it could happen to them here. The opportunities are there for any lad who shows great promise to make it all the way into the first team. That is something that we have tried to cultivate for the last few years, producing a steady stream of players that are good enough for the first team.

I'm not saying that Drey, Tosin, Macauley or Tom have made it

# PLAYER VIEWS

MICHAEL O'DONOGHUE



**Well, we're halfway through the season so I'm going to talk about how the first half has gone and what I want for the second.**

As a team, I think we have done pretty well so far and we're third in the league. I know that results aren't everything but the performances have got us positive results and we've won more than we've lost. On a personal note, I have been pleased with how I have played in the past few months and I feel that I've settled in really well.

The full time training was tough to get to grips with at first, especially the pre-season stuff we did, but I think I've got used to it now and I'm really enjoying things. The manager came in after a couple of months of the season and has got a real philosophy about how he wants all the teams at the club to play. In the youth team, we have always had that philosophy of playing out from the back so it's pretty much second nature now. As a left back, I'm used to getting high and wide so the centre halves can split and get the ball off the keeper. I'm known for getting forward as much as possible as well and that's what he wants from his full backs.

I've got into the U21s squad a few times and I've also trained with the first team now and again. These are both things I want to do even more of in the second half of the season. I want to become a regular for Richard Hall in the U21s and would obviously love to train all the time with the pros. You learn so much and it would only be good for my development. You learn exactly what the manager wants from the players and it's great that it's exactly what we're used to in the youth team now.

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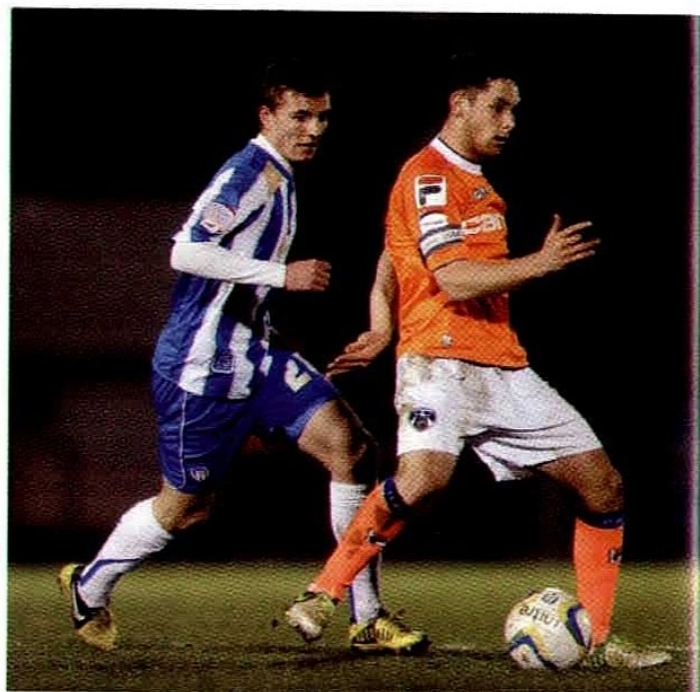
## "BOYS AS YOUNG AS 8 OR 9 CAN SEE THAT THE OPPORTUNITIES ARE THERE FOR THEM AT COLCHESTER UNITED ALL THE WAY TO THE FIRST TEAM SQUAD"

already, there is still plenty of hard work to do before they appear on a more regular basis for Joe Dunne in the first team.

It does show younger lads though that the chance to play first team football is attainable here at the U's.

It has been great for the lads I've mentioned but on the flip side, we have had another player who might have been involved had it not been for injury.

Colchester-born Alex Gilbey would have been likely to have been involved at Bourmemouth if it weren't for an ankle injury picked up in the U21s



## U18s FIXTURES & RESULTS 12/13

DATE	OPPONENTS	COMP	RES	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>AUGUST</b>											
Sat 18	Bristol City	H PDL	7-3	Palmer	Rogers	O'Donoghue	Lapslie	Roast	Kent	Curtis	Mafuta
Sat 25	Swansea City	H PDL	3-0	Palmer	Rogers	O'Donoghue	Lapslie	Roast	Kent	Curtis	Mafuta
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>											
Sat 1	Charlton Ath	H PDL	1-2	Morris	Clarke	Brown	Lapslie	Roast	Kent	Curtis	Szmodics
Sat 15	Millwall	A PDL	2-2	Swift	Rogers	O'Donoghue	Lapslie	Clark	Kent	Curtis	Brown
Sat 22	Brighton & HA	H PDL	3-1	Gines Guzman	Rogers	O'Donoghue	Lapslie	Roast	Kent	Curtis	Szmodics
Sat 29	Brentford	H PDL	3-2	Gines Guzman	Rogers	O'Donoghue	Lapslie	Roast	Kent	Curtis	Szmodics
<b>OCTOBER</b>											
Sat 6	Ipswich Town	A PDL	3-2	Gines Guzman	Rogers	O'Donoghue	Lapslie	Roast	Kent	Curtis	Szmodics
Sat 20	Barnet	A PDL	1-0	Gines Guzman	Rogers	O'Donoghue	Lapslie	Roast	Kent	Curtis	Szmodics
Sat 27	QPR	H PDL	1-3	Morris	Rogers	O'Donoghue	Harrison	Roast	Kent	Curtis	Szmodics
<b>NOVEMBER</b>											
Fri 2	Camberley	H FAC1	13-1	Morris	Clarke	O'Donoghue	Lapslie	Roast	Kent	Wright	Gilbey
Sat 10	Faversham	H FAC2	8-1	Morris	Clarke	O'Donoghue	Lapslie	Roast	Kent	Wright	Gilbey
Sat 17	Cardiff City	H PDL	3-2	Cable	Rogers	O'Donoghue	Lapslie	Roast	Mutton	Curtis	Szmodics
Sat 24	Bristol City	A PDL	P-P								
<b>DECEMBER</b>											
Sat 1	Chelsea	H FAC3	2-3	Cable	Rogers	O'Donoghue	Lapslie	Roast	Kent	Wright	Gilbey
Sat 1	Charlton Ath	A PDL	P-P								
<b>JANUARY 2013</b>											
Sat 19	Brighton & HA	A PDL	11-0								
Sat 26	Millwall	H PDL	11-0								
<b>FEBRUARY</b>											
Sat 9	Brentford	A PDL	11-0								
Sat 23	Ipswich Town	H PDL	11-0								
<b>MARCH</b>											
Sat 2	Barnet	H PDL	11-0								
Sat 9	QPR	A PDL	11-0								
Sat 16	Cardiff City	A PDL	11-0								
Sat 30	Swansea City	A PDL	11-0								



The manager knew he had suspensions ahead of the Bournemouth game and I'm sure Alex Gilbey would have come into his thinking. Unfortunately, Alex got injured by a bad challenge in the U21s game against Millwall on the Monday before the Bournemouth trip and was unavailable.

Football can throw such disappointments at you as a player but you have to accept them and gain strength from them. The best players are the ones who don't let disappointment get them down, they use

**"ALEX IS A COLCHESTER BOY WHO HAS SHOWN IT CAN BE DONE - WITH THE NEW SYSTEM IN PLACE, HOPEFULLY HE IS JUST ONE IN A LONG LINE TO FIRST TEAM FOOTBALL"**

it to motivate them to be better next time.

While Alex's injury was unfortunate timing, if he continues to impress in training and games when he's fit again, he'll get other chances to be in the squad.

And Alex is a Colchester boy, who has come through the ranks of the youth set up to be on the verge of first team football. With the new system in place, there has never been a better time for local boys to play for their local team. Alex has proved it can be done, hopefully he is just one in a long line of Colchester boys who end up playing for the first team in the next decade and beyond.

While the festive period is pretty hectic for Joe and the lads at first team level, the youth team do have a bit of a break and don't have matches until mid January. It does give them the chance for a few days

at home with their families at some stage over the Christmas break but they'll all have work to do, with heart rate monitors to make sure it's done. Hopefully, they will be able to recharge their batteries a bit, ready for the second half of the season.

The next few months will be extremely important for the second years, as they look to gain professional contracts. I expect them all to put maximum effort in as usual and wish them all good luck for this massive stage in their football lives.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and good luck with all your resolutions for the next twelve months.

9	10	11	12	13	14	Unused Subs
Bonne <sup>2</sup>	Blanche	Simmons	Szmodics	Brown	Nwachuku	Morris, Clarke
Bonne	Blanche	Simmons	Brampton	Clarke	Brown	Morris, Harrison
Bonne	Blanche	Simmons	O'Donoghue	Rogers	Nwachuku	Brampton
Brampton	Nwachuku <sup>2</sup>	Simmons	Harrison			Palmer, Bonne, Loughie
Bonne	Nwachuku	Simmons	Brown	Clarke		Morris, Brampton
Bonne <sup>2</sup>	Nwachuku	Simmons				Morris, Clarke, Brown, Brampton
Bonne	Nwachuku	Brampton	Blanche			Morris, Harrison, Clarke, Brown
Bonne	Blanche	Simmons	Clarke	Brampton	Harrison	Andrews
Bonne	Nwachuku	Simmons	Blanche			Palmer, Andrews, Clarke, Brampton
Bonne <sup>6</sup>	Szmodics <sup>2</sup>	Simmons	Curtis	Brampton		Palmer, Rogers, Harrison
Bonne <sup>4</sup>	Szmodics	Simmons	Rogers	Curtis		Brampton, Brown
Bonne	Nwachuku	Simmons	Clarke	Blanche	Brampton	Palmer, Harrison
Bonne	Szmodics	Simmons	Nwachuku	Curtis	Clarke	

**KEY:**

- Green = 1st substitute
- Orange = 2nd substitute
- Red = 3rd substitute
- Bold** = goalscorer

**U18s PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE 2 TABLE**

	P	GD	PTS
1 QPR	11	13	24
2 Charlton Athletic	9	20	22
<b>3 Colchester</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>22</b>
4 Ipswich Town	11	11	17
5 Brighton & HA	10	-2	15
6 Bristol City	7	2	12
7 Cardiff City	11	-2	11
8 Millwall U18	12	-3	11
9 Barnet	8	-8	9
10 Swansea City	9	-16	8
11 Brentford	10	-25	2

**OTHER RESULTS**

**Saturday 1st December**  
 Cardiff City 0-1 Queens Park Rangers  
 Swansea City 2-2 Brighton & HA  
 Millwall 1-2 Barnet



# SPREADING CHEER AT CHRISTMAS

Manager Joe Dunne joined a number of his players for the annual Christmas visit onto the Children's Unit at Colchester General Hospital last week.

The U's footballers taking part included captain Kem Izzet, defender Matt Heath and midfielder Karl Duguid, as well as assistant manager and former Ireland international Mark Kinsella – and club mascot Eddie the Eagle.

They met the children, signed autographs and donated gifts bought by the players to the unit, such as DVD players, which can be used by patients all year round. They also handed out presents for children to take home, and those gifts included a much-appreciated contribution from TED (Trade Electrical Direct).

Kem said: "We always look forward to our Christmas visit to the hospital and to giving out presents."







"Many of the players are fathers themselves, so we know how difficult it can be to have children who are unwell, particularly at this time of year when families would prefer to be together at home to celebrate Christmas.

**"MANY OF THE PLAYERS ARE FATHERS, SO WE KNOW HOW DIFFICULT IT CAN BE HAVING CHILDREN WHO ARE UNWELL AT A TIME WHEN FAMILIES WANT TO BE TOGETHER AT HOME"**

"We hope that our visit can brighten their day and we look forward to visiting regularly during 2013."

Lynda Pearce, Matron, Children's Services, said a Christmas visit by the players to the Children's Unit was a long-established, and much-loved, tradition. "We always look forward to welcoming players from our home club which is one of the highlights of our year," she said.

"It's something that is looked forward to as much by staff as it is by the children and their parents, and gives us all a real lift."

The Children's Unit consists of a ward, assessment unit, elective care unit and outpatients department, and serves children (0-15) from all over Colchester, Tending and Halstead and the Colne Valley. ■







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# At the Far Post

with Jim French

**On the day he was appointed manager, Joe Dunne stressed the importance of bringing CUFC and the town of Colchester closer together. I think he was talking about building the emotional link between the town and the club.**

Joe has backed up his words by involving good people who have a long affinity with Colchester, giving the club substance, depth, and a likeable identity at the same time.

Mark Kinsella was the first recruit, and Brian Owen rejoined the club this week. It's important not to fall into the trap of damning Brian with faint praise.

The fact is that since he became involved with the England Youth during his playing career, he has been involved with England under a succession of managers, he has coached at the very highest level, and as a scout he has few equals.

He is Chief Recruitment Scout, but with his range of skills it would amaze me if we don't use him from time to time to work with individual players on areas for improvement in their game, just like he used to under Phil Parkinson.

What really bought home Brian's experience to me was when I ran into a member of his family in Tesco (where, just like Piccadilly Circus, you eventually meet everybody).

I was told, only part in jest, that Brian might find it difficult to adjust to retirement as he hadn't had any Saturdays free for the last 50 years!

Brian Owen and the other stalwarts have seen the club grow and improve, and they all have a role to play in taking the next step, and growing again. The next generation of Tony Humes, John McGreal and Wayne Brown are waiting in the wings, with the likes of Izzet and Duguid now dipping their toes into the water.

This continuity and familiarity with faces can only help to bring the club nearer to the fans. The

ultimate aim must be to become like Ipswich Town were. Their fans developed such goodwill that they stick with the club even when it doesn't deserve it. It is the ultimate in brand loyalty.

Which is why I always think we need to fight our corner. At the beginning of the season, an Ipswich Town fan was getting good coverage via a Colchester Gazette column.

To me it was like giving them a free hit at our potential fanbase. Thanks to Jon Waldron I now write a stretchy 600 words a week for the Gazette, to try and make us a bit harder to ignore.

We must build the fan base, and the only way to a fans' wallets, is via the emotions. We might induce 100 newcomers to give us a look, but they will only come back if they feel an emotional link and care if we win or lose. Without caring about the result, football loses its main appeal and becomes a spectacle without engagement.

I will close with a word of praise for our visitors. As the game kicked off at Swindon last September I found my self with two match tickets, one I had used to get in, and another somebody had got for me.

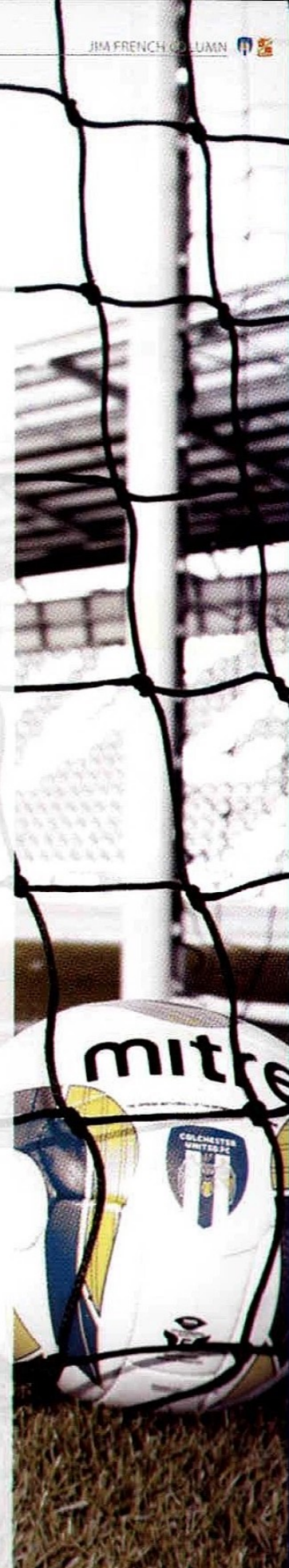
I walked round to the Ticket Office, to see whether a £25 refund was possible, more in hope than expectation.

I was expecting a shrug of the shoulders, and if I was lucky, a reluctant and hard-fought refund.

What I got was someone who immediately offered to help and walked round with me to the far side of the ground to personally get me a refund from the turnstile operator.

It was brilliant customer service. I thanked Swindon when I got home, and Chief Executive Nick Watkins wrote a letter back to me within a couple of days explaining their views on customer service.

Take a bow, Swindon Town ticket office and Chief Executive Nick Watkins. And again, thank you. ■





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## **MATCH SPONSORS: PACE CONSULT**

We are pleased to have Pace Consult as our Match



Sponsors here at the Weston Homes Community Stadium for this afternoon's final home game of 2012 against Swindon Town.

Pace Consult, based in Colchester, became the latest company to win the chance to be on the front of the U's shirt for a game this season, as we continue to celebrate our 75th anniversary here at Colchester United.

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We hope that everyone at Pace Consult enjoys their visit to the stadium for today's game and that they get to see a U's win!

## **WE MEAN BUSINESS!**

The commercial team are busy organising Business East, one of the region's biggest and best business shows, held at the stadium on 6th March 2013 10am – 4pm.

You can register to visit or exhibit by visiting the website at [www.business2businessshows.com](http://www.business2businessshows.com) or by calling 01206 755163.

We are also very excited about the 2012/13 End of Season Dinner which will be held at the stadium on the 16th of April, watch this space for more details.

## **BOXING RETURNS**

The U's will once again host top amateur boxing at the Weston Homes Community Stadium in 2013, with their latest boxing dinner taking place in January.

The evening will see some of the top local and regional boxers come to the U's home venue to show off their talents and entertain those in attendance.

## **GET YOUR NAME ON THE SHIRT!**

**Colchester United celebrate their 75th anniversary season in 2012/13 and we're looking for local businesses from around the area to be involved in one of our most innovative and inclusive projects yet.**

The front of shirt sponsorship will be made available on a game by game basis, to allow as many businesses as possible to acknowledge the U's special year.



**We would like to wish all of our commercial customers  
a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year**

*Michelle, Darrell & Julie*





"Ever since the club was first formed in 1937, we have been supported by local businesses along the way," U's General Manager Tim Waddington said.

"Many of those businesses have been in existence as long as, if not longer than, the football club but, right the way through those 75 years, local businesses have stood shoulder to shoulder with Colchester United and given us invaluable backing.

"We are hugely proud to be from Colchester and we know that many of the businesses around us carry the town's name with just as much pride. This innovative idea was originally put forward by chairman Robbie Cowling a while ago and we've been working on putting it together since then.

"By taking this very different approach to shirt sponsorship for next season, we are saying thank you to those businesses and hope that companies of all sizes will get on board with this very affordable package, for what will be a very memorable season."

From as little as £5,000, a company can have their logo on the front of the U's kit and enjoy a sensational hospitality package to commemorate their footprint in Colchester United's history.

Supporters, meanwhile, will be able to buy a special commemorative replica kit without a sponsors' logo, harking back to the club's history prior to shirt sponsorship. ■



## LOTTERY LATEST

### CALLING ALL FANS

Look out for our 50/50 sellers in and around the stadium to buy your chance to win our big cash prize for just £1 per ticket. Tickets are also available in the Club Shop or through the Ticket Office windows when purchasing your tickets.

#### Look out for a special ticket in today's draw.

One ticket will be sold with an Eddie the Eagle sticker on the back. If you are lucky enough to have this ticket then you can claim an exciting instant prize! Get buying to get lucky, you have to be in it to win it!

We are always looking for additional sellers on matchdays so if you fancy getting involved just give us a ring on **07875 962 804** or send an email with your details to [paul.dickinson@colchesterunited.net](mailto:paul.dickinson@colchesterunited.net)

### GOLD BOND LOTTERY

With the expense of Christmas weighing heavy on most people's bank balance, here is a way of improving it before the next round of spending before booking holidays (*it will be here before you realise!*): why not invest a meagre £1 per week and sign up for the Gold Bond Lottery, which guarantees over 300 prizes a week, with the top prize being £2,000, plus the opportunity to win £10,000 in the one-off summer draw?!

Our latest £2,000 winner is Mr R.W. Nicholls of Prettygate. You can join online at our dedicated website by clicking the link to the club's Official Website or by contacting myself at [paul.dickinson@colchesterunited.net](mailto:paul.dickinson@colchesterunited.net) or calling on **01206 755110**.

On top of all those cash prizes, we also draw monthly prize winners to enjoy or special experience prizes.

### THE CHRISTMAS CRACKERTHON FESTIVE DRAW

Results of the BIG Christmas Crackerthon Draw can be found on the official website and the messageboard, as well as being posted in the Club Shop and Reception area here at the ground. If you would like a copy of the results please e-mail me at [paul.dickinson@colchesterunited.net](mailto:paul.dickinson@colchesterunited.net) and I will send you the complete list by return.

### MR SCRATCHY RAMBLES

Well Christmas is nearly over with and we're all looking towards 2013; what will the next few months bring? As always, the transfer window opens shortly and Joe has already stated he expects it to be a busy time, so maybe we shall see a few new faces appear with some leaving?

Whatever happens, I am sure all of us here at the club will be striving 100% to make the New Year as successful and exciting as possible.

Here's wishing everyone a happy and peaceful New Year, may all your dreams come true and your family and friends remain safe and well.

Let's have plenty of noise this afternoon, as it all helps drive Joe, Mark and the boys on to another result. ■





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# BRIAN BACK IN THE FOLD



**U's boss Joe Dunne has confirmed that club stalwart Brian Owen is to return to the club, taking on the role of Chief Scout.**

Brian, who has spent many years with the club both as a scout, a member of the coaching staff and as U's physio, was part of the management staff that helped former boss Phil Parkinson with the promotion winning squad of 2005/6.

Brian was surprised to get the call and also explained what he has been doing with himself lately, saying: "I must admit that I was a bit surprised to get the call. I have been in a sort of semi-retirement, combining a bit of work for Phil Parkinson at Bradford and stuff at home."

"Joe and the Chairman are both enthusiastic people and I'll do all I can to help them out as much as I can.

"It isn't easy to always get the players that you want, sometimes you have to get lucky and be in the right place at the right time. And it isn't an instant thing either, you have to be patient but also ready to go when the right players become available.

"There are a lot of good players in the Premier League reserve league and it's a case of getting them at the right time.

"Joe did fantastically well to get the

**"I WANT THIS CLUB TO REGAIN THE TRADITION OF HAVING COLCHESTER PEOPLE IN & AMONGST IT & BRIAN TYPIFIES THAT"**

Arsenal lads and was then very unlucky to lose them through injury. That happens in football and you have to move on and look at bringing in someone else on your wanted list."

On working with Joe Dunne and Mark Kinsella, Brian told us how pleased he was to get the opportunity. "It's always great to work for and with people you really like, and that's certainly the case with Joe and Mark. I'm really eager to get started and pleased to be back."

○ Brian Owen has returned to be Joe Dunne's Chief Scout after a few years away from the club

And Joe was delighted to get him back at the club and add his invaluable experience to the U's backroom team.

He said: "Restructuring scouting will mean that I get the impact that I want.

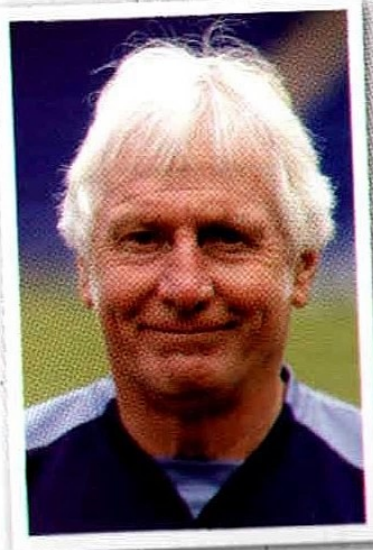
"Brian is back to the club as a Chief Recruitment Scout, and he is a wise old man who can offer a lot of opinion, which will help me as a young manager.

"He knows everybody in the game and it will be great for everyone here to meet him for the first time. His valuable knowledge of players is immense and he will be a great addition to the staff.

"I want this club to regain the tradition of having Colchester people in and amongst it.

"We have a fantastic Academy that is being run exceptionally well and I want to put things in place that creates a smooth transition through the club.

"I know these people will run a mile and will run through a brick wall for you. I want people who will work extremely hard, know what it means to represent a club and Brian typifies that." ■





# WE ARE <sup>♥</sup>UNITED

The latest U's news from in and around the local community



## December 8th: Colchester Phoenix ASC Gala

Following the U's home game against Oldham, Karl Duguid headed to Leisure World to say hello to members of the Colchester Phoenix Amateur Swimming Club as they held their gala event and posed for photos with the swimmers.





### December 10th: Pensioners Party Gala

Colchester United's annual pensioners Christmas Party saw hundreds of local senior citizens come to the U's home venue for a great afternoon's fun. Over 3,000 people attended Christmas parties with the U's this festive season.



### December 14th: Fordham Primary School

Eddie headed to Fordham as the festive season approached to help spread some festive cheer for the pupils of the school as they held a Christmas Bazaar. He was, as always, a popular figure for those that were in attendance!



# THE LOCAL LATEST



## It's that tricky period between Christmas and the New Year.

The festive period may wreak havoc to any League One-pro fond of turkey trimmings, but the holiday season doesn't treat a deadline-meeting programme writer any better, either!

And so well done/well played/whoops to Col U! We're hoping that Walsall away and Brentford at home has given the U's supporters a better Christmas than poor old Alfie Moon.

Welcoming the Robins to the WHCS is, of course, one of the highlights in the Colchester festive period. But it will take some doing to knock the opening of the new bus station from the top of our Christmas Tree.

Yep - Colchester bus station is dead, long live the new bus station. At least we think it's a bus station along Osborne Street. £2m in the making and you don't get much for your bus bang these days. At best it is a 'space sustainable facility'. Others have dubbed it a bus shelter.

But hey! It's OUR bus shelter.

Meanwhile, back behind Queen Street and the old bus station is currently staging a Christmas Fair. Bumper to bumper with the dodgems, kids chundering as they are hurled from left to right and not much change out of a fiver for your ride.

**"THE ART GALLERY HAS JUST OPENED WITH ITS FIFTH SEASON, SHOWCASING PRINT FROM THE HEYDAY OF THE HAMMER COLLECTION AT NEARBY THORPE-LE-SOKEN"**



A bit like the old bus station, then!

Behind the Christmas Fair and an altogether different experience is on offer at firstsite. The Art Gallery has just opened with its fifth season, showcasing the prints from the heyday of the Hammer collection at nearby Thorpe-le-Soken.

It's the most accessible of the modern art exhibitions so far firstsite. There's also a fantastic season of events and talks coming up. Anyone interested in the statues and figures that grace Colchester Town Hall (and who wouldn't be?) should keep 24th January free for a talk in the New Year.

● The old bus station at Queen Street has been replaced with a new £2m facility

It's all change as well at Colchester Castle. The landmark building for Sunny Colch is closing on 7th January until spring of 2014. A complete refurbishment is being carried out with £4.2m of Heritage Lottery Funding being found.

But it's not quite a complete closure. Keep 19th - 21st March free in 2013 for a Real Ale Festival situated somewhere inside the old Motte and Bailey. Once again we are writing this piece without the benefit of hindsight, but we are predicting that the average pints per punter over the three days will match the Col U goal tally over the Christmas period.

We'll drink to that.

[www.colchesterchronicle.co.uk](http://www.colchesterchronicle.co.uk)  
twitter: @ColchChronic



# THE LOCAL ROUND-UP

Daily  
**Gazette**

**RAY Turner has admitted it will take a "miracle" for FC CLACTON to preserve their Premier Division status this season.**

The Seaside's disappointing season hit a new low recently when they were thrashed 10-2 by Gorleston. It was their heaviest-ever defeat and left them rooted to the bottom of the Thurlow Nunn League's top division.

Boss Turner conceded his team will have to drastically improve, if they are to stay in the top flight.

Turner said: "If we avoid relegation this season, it will be a miracle. We will be aiming to do that but if we don't, we will build for next season and come back stronger."

"We have limited resources at Clacton and we're having to do what we're doing with limited funds.

"What I've tried to do is keep the same squad of players together and get them training regularly, to build stability and consistency. I've been involved at Clacton as a player and I knew that the resources would be limited."

Turner, who took over from Andy Taylor at the Rush Green Bowl in September, admitted losing so heavily at Gorleston was his worst moment as a player or coach. He said: "It was probably the lowest point in my football career.

"I've never experienced an afternoon like that before, either as a player or a manager.

"It's mind-boggling that it's the same group of players that recently beat CRC 3-0 and lost narrowly to Kirkley. I can't put my finger on how we can go from



those performances to a 10-2 defeat."

Turner confirmed that Lee Peacock has re-signed for FC Clacton for a third time. The former Harwich and Parkeston defender played a big part in the Seaside's 2009/10 season promotion-winning success.

Turner added: "Lee can play in either defence or midfield and he will bring something extra to the team."

Having strengthened his defensive options, **BRAINTREE TOWN** manager Alan Devonshire says his transfer priority is now for a new striker and he may even be in the market ahead of the New Year.

Devonshire added to his squad recently with the signing of full-back Ryan Watts. The 24-year-old left-sided former AFC Wimbledon and Brentford player joined the Iron from Evo-Stik Southern League premier division side St Albans City.

Watts has made 17 appearances for St Albans this year and Devonshire was pleased to increase the competition for places in his squad.

He said: "Ryan will add some good competition on the left of the team as he can also play in midfield.

**FC Clacton manager Ray Turner thinks it will take "a miracle" for his side to avoid relegation this season**

"It just gives me more cover and that's what I wanted as we've got a busy period coming up. I've now got cover in most areas of the pitch and the only other area I'm really looking to fill is up top.

"We'll have to see what happens with that as the January transfer window is coming up and I may be able to get someone in before that.

"I've let two go as Josh Dawkin has gone out on loan (to Lowestoft Town) and Adam Bailey-Dennis has left and I'm not sure yet if any more will go.

"It depends on how we do over Christmas.

"I don't think we are doing too much wrong at the moment and I feel we're on target to get to 50 points.

"The only thing we can do is take it one game at a time, but I think this league is going to stay very tight until the end of the season.

"There are a lot of teams on par with each other and we're only a handful of points off the top eight." ■



# ROBBIE COWLING



**May I start by hoping that everyone has had a great Christmas and that, like me, you are all very optimistic about 2013.**

2012 has been a very challenging year with the introduction of new Football League rules which restrict the amount a club in League One can spend on player wages, and the revamp of youth football which challenged clubs to bring football development in England up to the standards adopted in other countries and in other successful sports in the UK.

This has been going on against a backdrop of continued economic challenges which are driving revenues from football attendances and match-day spending down. However, I truly believe that when we look back to it in the future we will see just how pivotal the year 2012 has been for our football club.

In 2012, Colchester United Football Club:

**Moved into Florence Park, its purpose-built training ground in Tiptree**

This has given the club a training base where it can fulfil nearly all of its training needs. In the past, the training was very fragmented with different activities going on in various locations using variable qualities of equipment. This training facility has already played its part in attracting players to sign permanently for Colchester and has also influenced clubs like Arsenal and West Ham to send us their players on loan.

**Tripled its Youth Development spending**

In recent years, Colchester United has

increased spending on its youth development program to a level that has allowed us to compete for talent with the bigger clubs in the area.

However, in 2012 the investment was dramatically increased so that we could attain Category 2 Status of the Elite Player Performance Program (the EPPP). This investment has grown the full-time staff in the Youth Department from four to nineteen, and has also allowed the club to build new youth facilities at Florence Park

**“I TRULY BELIEVE THAT, WHEN WE LOOK BACK AT IT IN THE FUTURE, WE WILL SEE JUST HOW PIVOTAL THE YEAR OF 2012 HAS BEEN FOR COLCHESTER UNITED”**







**“THE IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR TRAINING FACILITIES & YOUTH ACADEMY HAVE BEEN DRIVEN BY OUR DESIRE TO DEVELOP A GREATER NUMBER OF HOME GROWN PLAYERS FOR OUR FIRST TEAM”**



and Warrior's Rest in Tiptree.

The improvements we have made to our training facilities and our youth academy have been driven by our desire to develop a greater number of home grown players that will go on to play for our first team. This desire has also forced us to think about our football philosophy. How we want to play the game and what types of players we need to be developing.

This joined up thinking will ultimately lead to us having a clearer identity that will not be changed by the coming and going of an individual.

Hopefully, Joe Dunne will be the manager here for a large number of very successful seasons, during which he will deliver football teams that are clearly identified as Colchester United.

Whoever does ultimately replace Joe, or anyone else for that matter, will be tasked

with doing exactly the same. You can't feel it yet because it will take some time, but 2012 was the birth of a consistent brand.

**Raised money for the Teenage Cancer Trust**

I agreed to cycle to the first and last away fixtures of the season and run to each home league fixture. My initial instinct was that the fixtures computer was a little unkind in giving me Preston for the first away game of the season and Carlisle for the last one. However, having spent three excellent days cycling 240 miles to Preston, I'm actually looking forward to the four

days it will take me to cycle to Carlisle in April.

At the time of writing this article, I have completed 11 of the 23 runs to our home fixtures from my home in Great Totham. I can't say that these runs have been a lot of fun and my knees are starting to feel every mile of the 15 miles.

However, I am doing this to raise money for a great cause and, if anyone would like to sponsor my efforts by visiting my justgiving page at [www.justgiving.com/colutct](http://www.justgiving.com/colutct), I would be very appreciative and it will help to keep me motivated on a cold, wet Tuesday night when I am struggling up Nayland Road.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very happy and prosperous New Year. Please keep supporting the U's through thick and thin and I'll continue to do the same.

**Robbie Cowling**

**“HOPEFULLY JOE DUNNE WILL BE THE MANAGER HERE FOR MANY SUCCESSFUL YEARS, DELIVERING TEAMS CLEARLY IDENTIFIED AS COLCHESTER UNITED”**





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# SPECIAL GUEST AT THE U'S THIS AFTERNOON WHO NEEDS YOUR HELP!

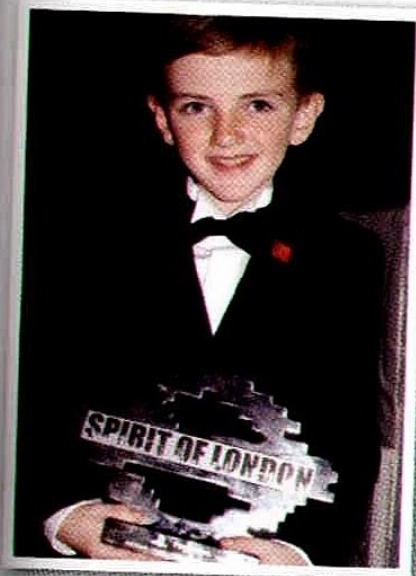
Colchester United have one very special guest here at the Weston Homes Community Stadium, for their final game of 2012 against Swindon Town.

Ten-year-old Jonjo Heuerman lost his Nanny to bowel cancer in February 2010; he knew that his footballing hero Bobby Moore also died of the same disease.

Driven by the desire to help others suffering from the same illness he decided he would like to do something to help The Bobby Moore Fund for Cancer Research UK, and he has gone on to become one of the best known young fundraisers in the country.

In February 2011, and again in 2012, Jonjo walked 27 miles over 3 days from Wembley Stadium to Upton Park in their memory. He chose to walk between these stadiums because Bobby played football at both. He has also recently climbed Mount Snowdon.

To date Jonjo has raised over £90,000 and has generated over £1 million in awareness through public speaking, TV appearances and radio/newspaper interviews for the



charity. And that has helped him pick up an award, when he was recently named National Young Campaigner of the Year by The Spirit of London Awards. He attended The O2 Arena and accepted the award in front of 15,000 people. He was the youngest in the ceremony.

Next year he is planning a very special walk to mark the 20th anniversary of Bobby's death and he is hoping that Colchester United's fantastic supporters will help – with some of our Teenage Cancer Trust fundraisers already promising to lend their hand to this fantastic cause as well.

Jonjo is busy organising The Big Football Tag. It will include 10 tag team routes that will include tag teams of supporters from each of the 92 professional football clubs. Each of the individual club tag teams will collect its club captain's armband, attach it to a sash containing a GPS tracking device, and they will take the sash to the next nearest professional club.

On arrival at the next club they will pass the sash over to the awaiting tag team who will attach its armband and make its way to the next club in the route. Tags teams can walk, cycle, drive just as long as the armband gets to the next team on time. Most of the tag teams are walking and some have formed mini tags with the supporters if the next club in the route is a fair distance away.

Eventually the tail end of the tag routes will connect at Upton Park on 18th February where Jonjo will be waiting. All 10 sashes, holding 91 armbands, will be passed to him and he will walk to Wembley to collect the England captain's armband and return back to Upton Park to collect the final armband from West Ham United. Jonjo will cover 66 miles (representing the World Cup winning year) in 6 days (representing Bobby Moore's shirt number).

He will finish on the centre circle when West Ham United plays Tottenham Hotspur on the 23rd February, the day before Bobby's anniversary. All of the armbands will eventually be auctioned for the charity.

He really cannot make this amazing event happen without your help. Jonjo would like U's supporters to form a tag team to connect with Ipswich Town. Please visit Jonjo's website if you would like to find out more and to register to take part [www.fornannyandbobby.com](http://www.fornannyandbobby.com).

He will be wearing a very special memorial t-shirt for his part of the walk, the shirt will contain 120 names of others who have also lost their life to cancer. If you would like Jonjo to walk in memory of a friend/loved please visit his website to submit their name. All of the names are read out on the last day of his walk at a very special memorial service. ■



# JUNIOR U'S!



GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME BACK FOR THE LAST MATCH HERE IN 2012!

IT'S SUCH A BUSY TIME OF YEAR THAT THE PRINTING DEADLINES ARE TIGHT, SO I HOPE WE HAVE PICKED UP SOME POINTS AGAINST WALSALL AND BRENTFORD!

2012 HAS BEEN A VERY BUSY YEAR NOT JUST FOR COLCHESTER UNITED BUT FOR THE WHOLE OF THE UK WITH THE EUROS AND OLYMPICS AMONGST MANY OTHER SPORTS! I'VE ALSO HAD A VERY BUSY YEAR, GOING TO HUNDREDS OF SCHOOLS AND PLENTY OF EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR - SOMETHING I WANT TO INCREASE NEXT YEAR! IF YOU WANT TO GET ME ALONG TO ANY EVENT, NO MATTER HOW BIG OR SMALL, PLEASE EMAIL ME ON EDDIE.EAGLE@COLCHESTERUNITED.NET OR TWEET ME @EDDIEEAGLE1!

COLCHESTER UNITED HAS ALSO SEEN A LOT OF CHANGE WITH PLAYERS COMING IN AND OUT AND ALSO A CHANGE IN MANAGER! WITH THE NEW TRAINING GROUND, FLORENCE PARK, AND THE INTRODUCTION OF THE U21 LEAGUE TO BRING ON OUR YOUNG PLAYERS FURTHER THERE'S ALSO BIG CHANGES OFF THE PITCH! THIS BRINGS ME TO MY HIGHLIGHT OF THE YEAR... THE EMERGING TALENT OF ALEX GILBEY AND DREY WRIGHT HAS BEEN A FANTASTIC STORY TO WATCH! FROM SUCCESSES IN THE YOUTH TEAM TO NOW BEING FIRST TEAM STARS IS SOMETHING EVERY YOUNG FOOTBALLER SHOULD AIM TOWARDS!

A LOT HAS CHANGED, SO HERE'S TO 2013 AND WHAT THE FUTURE BRINGS!

LET'S NOT FORGET TODAY'S GAME AND ANOTHER CHANCE FOR US TO PUSH OURSELVES UP TOWARDS THE TOP OF THE TABLE WHERE WE BELONG! HAVE A GREAT DAY TODAY AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!

UP THE U'S!  
EDDIE X

EDDIE'S PREDICTION:  
U'S 1-0 SWINDON TOWN



"A LOT HAS CHANGED IN 2012, SO HERE'S TO 2013 AND WHAT IT MIGHT BRING FOR US!"



WHERE'S THE BALL?!



## MATCHDAY BINGO!



Here we've brought you our own U's take on bingo! Simply watch and listen out for these events and tick them off when you've spotted them - see if you can complete any rows or even tick them all off!

The U's get three corners	Swindon make a double substitution	The U's get a free-kick in the second half
Swindon have a shot on target	Jabo Ibehre heads the ball towards goal	Swindon are given a penalty!
A ball boy kicks the ball bad	It starts to snow!	The referee shows a red card

The crowd sings "Up the U's!"

Paolo Di Canio throws his arms up in the air!

Answers:  
WHERE'S THE BALL?



# LEAGUE ONE REVIEW



## HALF SEASON ROUND-UP

**In most leagues the halfway point of a season usually gives a great indicator as to where most teams are heading – whether it's a promotion challenge, relegation battle or a solid mid-table standing. However League One is once again wide open and incredibly hard to predict.**

Tranmere Rovers took everyone by surprise with their impressive 12 match unbeaten run at the start of the season. Ronnie Moore's team quickly became the pace setters of the league and notched a notable 18 goals during that time.

Only recently have Rovers been caught at the top of the table by Brentford. The Bees have surged into the automatic promotion spots after avoiding defeat in the last ten league games and this momentum could prove to be crucial over the decisive Christmas period.

Sheffield United also continue to be strong challengers, with only two defeats on their record so far. Last year's play-off finalists are yet to be beaten at Bramall Lane and have shown no signs of a hangover from last term.

Down at the opposite end of the table, Hartlepool's League One status looks to be slowly diminishing as they find themselves 13 points adrift of safety. A change of manager took place in November as John Hughes was

appointed and there is no doubt he has a huge task on his hands.

Bury also decided to make changes at the top, with Kevin Blackwell (*pictured*) taking over the reins at Gigg Lane. After failing to win any of their opening 13 games the Shakers' season looked bleak, but five wins and two draws later has seen them get back in touch with the teams above.

Financially stricken Portsmouth have gradually fallen towards the wrong end of the table and with a ten point deduction still to come, look set to face a relegation battle. Losing manager Michael Appleton to Blackpool last month has piled on the pressure at Fratton Park.

Scunthorpe and Shrewsbury have also experienced most of the season in the bottom four, but vital victories recently will give both clubs hope.

Coventry and Bournemouth got off to slow starts in their respective campaigns, but both have been rejuvenated by new managers Mark Robins and Eddie Howe and will be looking to mount serious promotion challenges going into the New Year.

The play-off positions continue to be hotly contested by the likes of Crawley, Stevenage and Swindon, whilst



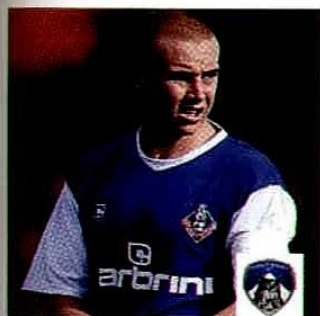
Doncaster, MK Dons and Notts County have all occupied second place. All six clubs will expect at least a top six finish come May.

Inconsistent displays from Leyton Orient, Preston, Yeovil and Crewe have seen them stagnate in the middle of the table. They will be hoping to replicate their positive results on a more consistent basis to ensure they aren't dragged into a relegation dogfight.

Carlisle and Walsall have displayed some poor form of late and will be aiming to reproduce their early season performances to guide them to safety. Oldham will also be wary of the movement in the bottom four. ■



# ONE FOR THE FUTURE: DAVID MELLOR



**After joining Oldham in 2011, David Mellor was quick to prove to manager Paul Dickov that he deserved a place in his first-team squad.**

Nineteen-year-old Mellor was released by Manchester United after spending seven years in the Red Devils' academy. The Latics were quick to snap up the local youngster and placed him

straight into their youth team.

Mellor, who can play in midfield or defence, was soon given his league debut and made an immediate impact, scoring in a 2-1 victory. His successful start ensured he made 24 appearances over the course of the season.

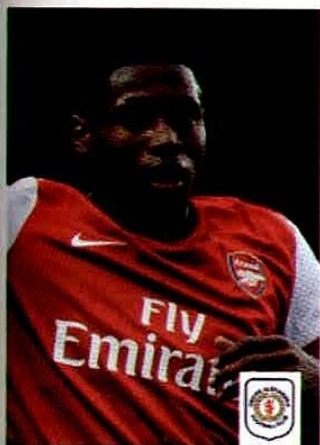
After limited chances this campaign, Mellor joined Non-League side Chorley on loan in October 2012 for a one month spell, featuring eight times.

A move to the Premier League has been reported with notable interest from Fulham, but boss Dickov will be aiming to keep hold of Mellor who faces a promising future. ■



**○ Gavin Williams bagged a brace as Yeovil came from a goal behind to beat Oldham 4-1 at Huish Park**

# ANEKE EXTENDS HIS SPELL WITH CREWE



**Arsenal midfielder Chuku Aneke has extended his loan spell at Crewe Alexandra for a further month.**

Aneke has now been at the Alexandra Stadium since September after originally signing for a one month period.

The 19-year-old will now stay with the Railwaymen until January

21st – a timely boost for Steve Davis' team as they head into the busy Christmas schedule.

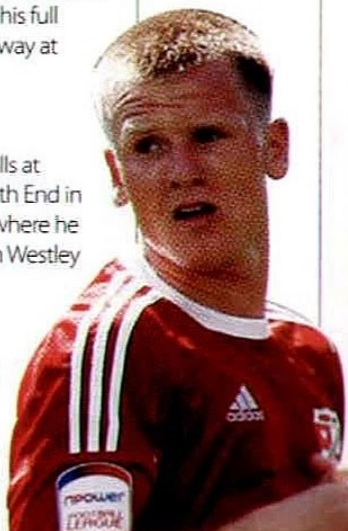
Attacking minded Aneke has made 19 appearances since completing his move, scoring four goals.

The youngster did not get off to the best start with Alex however, as he was sent off on his full debut in a 2-2 draw away at Stevenage.

Aneke previously experienced loan spells at Boro and Preston North End in the 2011/12 season, where he played under Graham Westley at both clubs.

He has also represented England at four levels, from the Under 16s to the Under 19s. ■

**○ Matt Ritchie of today's visitors, Swindon, has scored nine goals this season after netting in their 5-0 rout over Tranmere**



## WEEKEND RESULTS

### Friday 21st December 2012

Bury 2-2 Shrewsbury  
Swindon 5-0 Tranmere

### Saturday 22nd December 2012

Brentford P-P Stevenage  
Coventry 1-1 Preston  
Crawley 0-2 Sheff Utd  
Crewe P-P Bournemouth  
Doncaster P-P MK Dons  
Hartlepool P-P Portsmouth  
Notts County P-P Leyton Orient  
Scunthorpe P-P Carlisle  
Walsall 1-0 Colchester  
Yeovil 4-1 Oldham

## LEAGUE STANDINGS

		P	GD	PTS
1	Sheff Utd	23	13	43
2	Tranmere	23	15	41
3	Brentford	22	11	41
4	Doncaster	22	10	40
5	<b>SWINDON</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>39</b>
6	MK Dons	22	14	39
7	Stevenage	22	1	37
8	Notts County	22	11	35
9	Bournemouth	22	4	35
10	Crawley	23	-2	35
11	Yeovil	23	2	33
12	Crewe	22	0	33
13	Coventry	23	8	31
14	Leyton Orient	22	-1	31
15	Preston	23	5	30
16	Oldham	23	-7	26
17	Walsall	23	-11	26
18	Shrewsbury	23	-5	23
19	<b>COLCHESTER</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>-12</b>	<b>23</b>
20	Carlisle	22	-15	23
21	Portsmouth	22	-6	21
22	Bury	23	-13	20
23	Scunthorpe	22	-16	20
24	Hartlepool	22	-25	9

## LEADING GOALSCORERS

Player	Club	
1	McGoldrick	Coventry 15
2	Donaldson	Brentford 12
3	Cassidy	Tranmere 11
=	Clarke	Scunthorpe 11
5	McLeod	Portsmouth 10
6	Blackman	Sheffield Utd 9
=	Grabban	Bournemouth 9
=	Lisbie	Leyton Orient 9
=	<b>RITCHIE</b>	<b>SWINDON 9</b>
10	Baxter	Oldham 8



The background of the advertisement is a dark blue night sky with two large stadium light towers on either side, each with a grid of bright white lights. The text is centered in the middle of the frame.

**30 YARD SCISSOR KICK.  
DEFLECTION. TOE POKE.  
GOALS GUARANTEED. TYPE UNKNOWN.**

**GOALS. WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?**

 [#CAPITALONECUP](#) OR SEARCH CAPITAL ONE UK ON 





# A NEW LOOK FOR 2013 WITH BIG CHEESE COMEDY



**Colchester United's Comedy Clubs have been a roaring success over the past four years – but they're about to get bigger and better in 2013.**

Big crowds have seen a host of great comedians come to the Weston Homes Community Stadium since the U's moved to their new venue in 2008 and those comedy lovers are in for a real treat in the new year.

The U's have teamed up with Big Cheese Comedy to offer an even better comedy experience with great value still on offer for those that head to events on the first Thursday of every month.

Big Cheese Comedy is now in its third full year of running successful comedy gigs across the country and owner Carl Day can't

**"COLCHESTER UNITED  
HAVE ALREADY  
ESTABLISHED A GREAT  
COMEDY CLUB AT THE  
STADIUM & WE'RE  
LOOKING FORWARD TO  
TAKING THAT TO THE  
NEXT LEVEL"**

wait to get started in Colchester in 2013.

"Colchester is my home town so I'm really excited about bringing the Big Cheese Comedy experience to the stadium," he said.

"I love comedy with a passion and what has been clear to me in the time that Big Cheese has been up and running is that there's a load of talent out there that deserves the chance to get some exposure.

"We're running a number of gigs each the month across the country and we think that with the experience we've got, we'll bring a great night out to the people of Colchester.

"Colchester United have already established a great comedy club at the stadium and we're looking forward to taking that to the next level.

"There's still plenty of potential to do more, and we are keen to get started in working with the U's to make this a big success."

The new look nights will see an extended night, with three comedians and a professional compere at each month to cater for all comedy tastes. With tickets still just £10, it represents a great value evening out.



"We are really excited about working with Big Cheese Comedy," U's Head of Sales Michelle Tricker said.

"I have seen their nights at other venues and I believe that they're going to take our comedy clubs onto the next level.

"We've got a great crowd of people who regularly attend our comedy nights and we're looking forward to giving them something more, as well as welcoming new people to our fantastic evenings."

The Big Cheese Comedy Clubs at the Weston Homes Community Stadium get underway on Thursday February 7th and tickets are on sale now from the U's by calling 01206 752443. ■





# Colchester United Community Sports Trust

## Buona sera!

Welcome to the Weston Homes Community Stadium to everyone for today's clash with Swindon Town who are of course managed by the irrepressible Paolo Di Canio.

Paolo is without doubt one of the games great characters and you can be sure that the technical area will be even livelier than usual!

Joe and Mark will have to work extra hard to get their message heard which I am sure they will do.

I hope you all enjoy the game and that the U's end the year with a win and a welcome three points.

A Happy New Year to everyone connected with Colchester United - and a massive 'thank you' from me to all of the Trust and Club Staff and Volunteers who do a great job in the community we serve.



**All the best,**

**Steve Goodsell**  
Chief Executive  
C.U.C.S.T.



## Ladies Football



**Colchester United Ladies Football Club has been a success on and off the pitch for a number of years.**



Since their affiliation with Colchester United started in 1998, the club has seen promotions, England Call-Ups, the beginning of several exciting projects as well as many notable games (home matches held at Stanway Rovers FC on Sunday afternoons).

Since their promotion to the FA Women's Premier League South Division in 2007, the club have gone from strength to strength, with title challenges for the senior teams and Cup Winning squads for the U17 Academy girls.

The highly successful Girls Centre of Excellence, with U9 (Development Squad), U11, U13 and U15 age groups, also continues to excel, with 2 training sessions per week and a game against other Pro COE schemes at the weekends (Chelsea and Arsenal to name a couple!).

Aside from the Elite girls' football

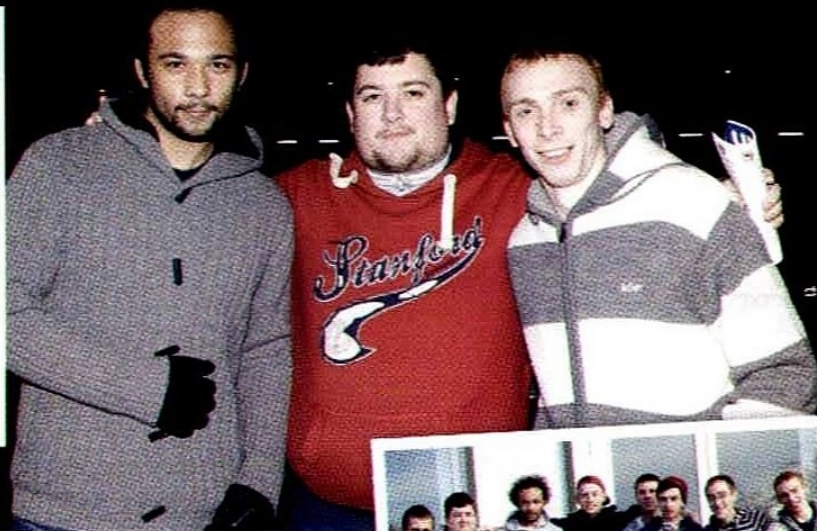
projects, CUCST and Colchester United Ladies FC also run Grass Roots sessions in the School Holiday courses, After School Clubs in some of the schools that CUCST delivers in, and a Girls Player Development Centre (PDC) that runs on a Saturday morning which bridges the gap between Grass Roots and Centre of Excellence.

If you would like to find out more information on Girls Football, please visit [www.cucst.org.uk](http://www.cucst.org.uk), where you will also be able to contact the Director of Female Football at CUCST, Kevin Anderson.

If you would also like to show your support to the Colchester United Ladies first team, then please come along to the FA Women's Cup game at home to Sporting Club Albion on Sunday 6th January 2013, at Stanway Rovers' Hawthorns ground. ■



# The Prince's Trust



**Last month we were delighted to be able to celebrate the achievements of a group of young people on a Prince's Trust Get Started with football programme run and delivered in partnership by CUCST.**

The free football programme saw the students achieve their FA Level 1 Award in Coaching Football and their Safeguarding certificate, as well as an FA First Aid certificate.

The Get Started initiatives are short, motivating programs (generally 5 - 8 days in length), which engage young people using sport or the arts. It uses these activities as a vehicle for personal development.

'Last year, 52% of young people completing a Get Started course moved on to more training, with a further 24% going into work.'

#### How does it help?

It uses a theme such as sport, drama or music to inspire young people to take the first step to increase their confidence, skills and employability.

Through working with local partners, it provides an opportunity for young people who are unable, unwilling or lack the confidence to take part in a longer personal development program, or may be unable to access such opportunities locally.

CUCST were kind enough to offer their services, with the participants truly grateful for the opportunity.

#### How does it work?

- Participants undertake a minimum of five days of group activity linked to the program theme, culminating in a final challenge or celebration bringing together the skills they have learnt. (Football - Course assessment in this

case).

- They then receive three months progression support to move into training, education, further programs, volunteering or jobs.

#### Who is eligible?

- Young people aged 16 - 25.
- Especially if they are part of The Trust's other target groups, which are: people leaving care, young offenders, educational underachievers and the long term unemployed.

For more information on the Princes Trust, please visit [www.princes-trust.org.uk](http://www.princes-trust.org.uk)



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# MiPod

with **Marcus Bean**



**What type of music do you listen to the most?**

Neo Soul is my favourite music, but I also like listening to House, Hip-Hop and Reggae.

**And the least?**

Trance and any head-banging Rock'n'Roll stuff!



**What's on the iPod to help you relax?**

I listen to Maxwell and The Weekend when I'm in the mood for relaxing stuff.

**Is there a certain song you play to prepare for a game?**

I play a House track called 'I See You' by The Art Department, and that gets me double lively!

**Have you got a guilty pleasure on your iPod?**

No, they don't make it onto the iPod! I've got to admit to liking 'A Million Love Songs' by Take That, though.



**"JULIO BASHMORE'S 'AU SEVE' IS A BIG TUNE ON THE PARTY SCENE AT THE MOMENT"**



**What's the best party song on your iPod at the moment?**

Julio Bashmore's 'Au Seve', which is another House tune that's big on the party scene at the moment.

**What's your latest download?**

Kendrick Lamar's album, 'Good Kid, M.A.A.D City'.



**You're in the car, the sun's out – what do you put on?**

House music on full blast, with me usually cutting some shapes – people must look and just think I'm crazy, haha!

**Which player's got the worst taste in music?**

The general standard is decent, but I'd probably go for John-Joe O'Toole. ■





# LAITTY'S U'S STATS



When it comes to Colchester United statistics and records, there are few people that know more than **GRAESON LAITT**. The long time U's fan has become the man to go to when it comes to finding out information, however obscure it might be!

This season, he'll be giving us the lowdown on the teams we're playing, as well as answering your questions on any statistics or facts that you might want to discover!

## PREVIOUS MEETINGS

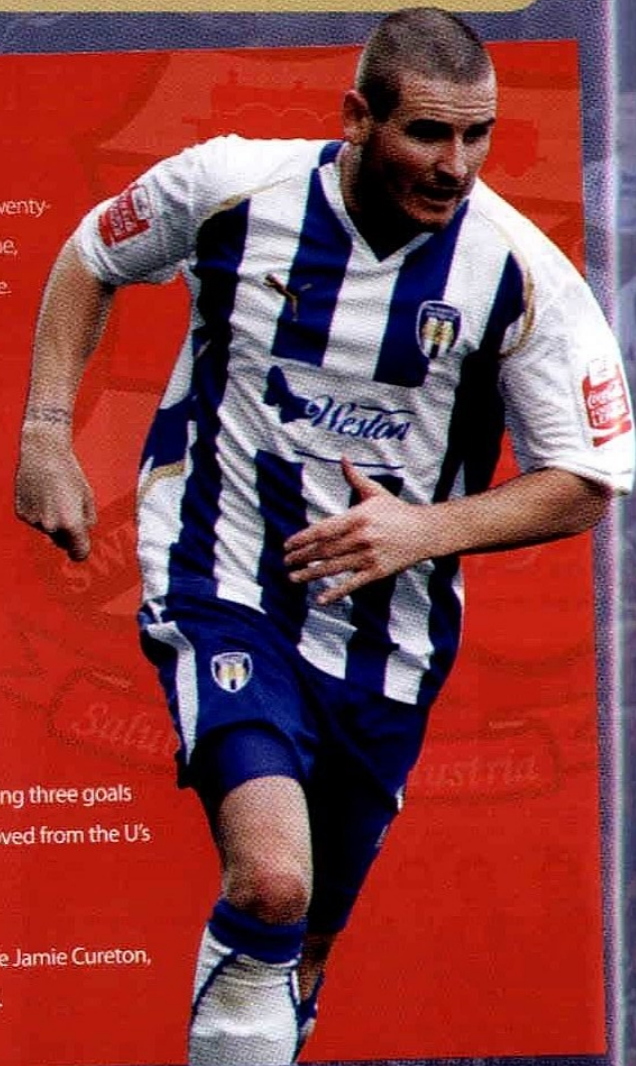
This is the 72nd meeting between the two sides with the records showing twenty-eight wins apiece, and fifteen draws in all competitions. In the Football League, it's twenty-six wins for each side and fifteen games that have ended all-square. Swindon has the better goal scoring record with 96 to United's 91.

The last hat-trick between the two sides came in 1974 when David Moss – with the aid of two penalties – scored three in a Division 3 match at The County Ground in a 4-1. For the U's, Brian Lewis scored three in a 4-1 League Cup tie in September 1971 while Ken Plant notched a trio in a 5-0 win back in 1956.

## THEY PLAYED FOR BOTH

U's left-back Michael Rose spent the 2010/11 season with Swindon scoring three goals in forty-one appearances for the Wiltshire outfit while David Prutton moved from the U's to Swindon to be part of the same Swindon squad.

Other U's players who have represented Swindon in recent years include Jamie Cureton, Johnnie Jackson, Tony Thorpe, Kevin Watson and Mark Yeates (pictured).





# ASK LAITTY

## OUT OF THE GAMES SO FAR AT THE STADIUM, HOW DOES 2012/13 RATE IN TERMS OF SUCCESS?

The U's have a 50% record at the WHCS with four wins, four defeats and three draws before the Boxing Day fixture against Brentford. They also scored and conceded fourteen goals so far in the eleven games that have taken place.

The previous two seasons showed a better goal per game ratio with last season (no doubt helped by the Stevenage and Milton Keynes Dons thumpings) recording a high of 3.04 goals per game compared to 2.55 this season.

In terms of wins though, it was our second season at the WHCS that was the most successful with a win percentage of 62.50% against the current record of 36.36%.

Oddly though, the goal per game ration for that is actually lower than that of this season by 0.01 of a goal! This is presumably due to the fact that as the U's were winning more games, they were preventing the opposition from scoring!

Season	P	W	D	L	F	A	Gls	GD	Gpg	SR%	Win%
2008/09	24	7	4	13	21	25	46	-4	1.92	37.50%	29.17%
2009/10	24	15	5	4	38	23	61	15	2.54	<b>72.92%</b>	<b>62.50%</b>
2010/11	26	14	7	5	43	35	<b>78</b>	8	3.00	67.31%	53.85%
2011/12	25	8	11	6	39	37	76	-2	<b>3.04</b>	54.00%	32.00%
2012/13	11	4	3	4	14	14	28	0	2.55	50.00%	36.36%

## ON THIS COL U DAY

- » In **1945**, two army units contested the Football Challenge Cup (put up by the Old Contemptible Association) watch by some 6,000 spectators. It was the last war-time fixture played at Layer Road before the U's returned to play.
- » The U's have met Swindon Town before on this date – way back in **1951**. Vic Keeble and Johnny McKim scored the U's goals that day at Layer Road in front of just over 7,400 supporters.
- » Jason Cook – who scored the goal that ensured we would be going to Wembley for the FA Trophy in 1992 – was born today in **1969**.
- » In **1972**, Bobby Svarc made his U's debut in a 1-1 draw against Hartlepool.

GOT A QUESTION FOR LAITTY?

Contact us on [media@colchesterunited.net](mailto:media@colchesterunited.net) and we'll answer your question in a future issue of 'We Are United'

# ASK LAITTY

## WITH JOHN WARD BACK IN MANAGEMENT AT BRISTOL ROVERS, HOW MANY OF THE 92 NOW HAVE U'S LINKS?

According to the list of current Football League managers, there are six current managers who have connections to the U's.

The only former player to be in charge of a club is Mark Yates who played for the U's during their first season in the Conference, and is now in charge of Cheltenham Town in League Two.

Of the former managers John Ward has, of course, just taken up the reigns at Bristol Rovers while his predecessor Aidy Boothroyd is at Northampton Town after a spell at Coventry City. Paul Lambert is in charge at Aston Villa while Phil Parkinson enhanced his reputation as a Cup-manager by guiding Bradford City in the Semi-Finals of the Carling Cup with a penalty shoot-out win over Arsenal earlier this month. Finally, Micky Adams – who had a spell as number two to Geraint Williams – is currently in charge of Port Vale.

We should also mention that Paul Buckle is manager on Blue Square Premier side Luton Town.

## OTHER FACTS

- » Ken Plant scored eight goals against Swindon Town in all competitions for Colchester – no other U's player has scored more than three!
- » The U's met Swindon twice in our first four Football League fixtures after election in 1950. Bob Curry scored the club's first ever Football League goal in a 1-1 draw at The County Ground, and a week later, Arthur Turner's brace led the U's to a 4-1 win – our first in the League.



# PLAYER SPONSORSHIPS

**1. MARK COUSINS**  
 Home: Mark & Victoria Cutting  
 Away: Available  
 GK

**29. SHAUN PHILLIPS**  
 Home: Available  
 Away: Available  
 GK

**35. CARL PENTNEY**  
 Home: TBC  
 Away: Available  
 GK

**2. TOM ALDRED**  
 Home: CEK Mizpah  
 Away: Available  
 DF

**3. MICHAEL ROSE**  
 Home:  IT, Telecom, Networks, Fibre Optics  
 Away: Available  
 DF

**4. MAGNUS OKUONGHAE**  
 Home: Snoopies Dog & Cat Grooming  
 01206 251941  
 www.snoopiesws  
 Away: Available  
 DF

**6. MATT HEATH**  
 Home: Lucy Hinson  
 Away: Essex Racing Club  
 DF

**18. TOM EASTMAN**  
 Home: Jamesons Accountants  
  
 Away: Freedom Funerals  
 DF

**20. BRIAN WILSON**  
 Home: The Crown Public House  
 Thorpe-le-Soken  
 Away: Available  
 DF

**23. JACKSON RAMM**  
 Home: Priory Estates Letting Agents  
 01255 677688  
 Away: Priory Estates Letting Agents  
 01255 677688  
 DF

**24. BEN COKER**  
 Home: Hedge Pricks Diabetes  
 www.hedgepricksdiabetes.org.uk  
 Away: Available  
 DF

**25. JOHN WHITE**  
 Home: Philip Smith  
 Away: Available  
 DF

**31. BRADLEY HAMILTON**  
 Home: Kevin Cain & Teresa Hunt  
 Away: Available  
 DF

**34. TOM BENDER**  
 Home: Colchester Double Glazing Repairs  
 01206 330 992  
 07811 104 093  
 Away: Available  
 DF

**40. JOSH THOMPSON**  
 Home: Available  
 Away: Available  
 DF

**7. KARL DUGUID**  
 Home: Straws Bar  
  
 Away: Green Square Communications  
  
 MF

**8. JOHN JOE O'TOOLE**  
 Home: DMC Consultancy  
  
 Away: David K Edwards  
 MF

**10. KEM IZZET**  
 Home: TGM Network Colchester  
 Your smarter network  
 Away: TGM Network Colchester  
 Your smarter network  
 MF

**14. ANDY BOND**  
 Home: Available  
 Away: Available  
 MF

**15. MARCUS BEAN**  
 Home: Mary & Kathie Ford  
 Away: Available  
 MF

**22. ANTHONY WORDSWORTH**  
 Home: BCT Consortium  
  
 Away: David K Edwards  
 MF

**26. RYAN MELAUGH**  
 Home: Available  
 Away: Available  
 MF

**27. TOSIN OLUFEMI**  
 Home: Available  
 Away: Available  
 MF

**28. ALEX GILBEY**  
 Home: Kevin Cain & Teresa Hunt  
 Away: Available  
 MF

**30. DREY WRIGHT**  
 Home: The Blue Eagle, probably the best  
 farzine in the world (once)  
 Away: Available  
 MF

**32. JORDAN SANDERSON**  
 Home: Available  
 Away: Available  
 MF

**9. CLINTON MORRISON**  
 Home: Steve Abbott LCSS LTD  
 Away: RP Installations  
 07776 611 295  
 01206 792 827  
 FW



**ON THE ROAD TO:  
CRAWLEY TOWN**

Tuesday 1st January 2013 | npower Football League One | Kick-Off: 3.00pm

**92**  
miles**11. FREDDIE SEARS**Home: P Holiday Ltd  
The Paving People 01255 221 864

Away: DIMC Consultancy

Training: Algarve Villa  
www.quintadasaudade.com**12. JABO IBEHRE**

Home: 1EasyCall



Away: Available

**16. IAN HENDERSON**

Home: Christine &amp; Mark Smith

Away: Available

**19. FREDDIE LADAPO**

Home: Kevin Cain &amp; Teresa Hunt

Away: Available

**21. GAVIN MASSEY**

Home: Talsman Coach Lines

Away: Ian Humberstone

**JOE DUNNE**

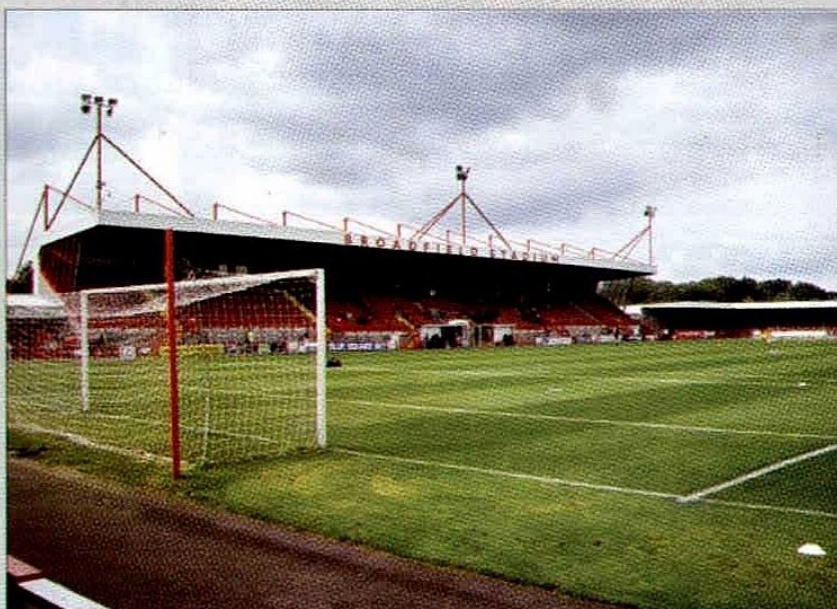
Home: Gay Bicknell

Away: Peter Wright  
Former Players Association**MARK KINSELLA**

Home: Ray Gambile

Away: CUSA

**TO SPONSOR YOUR  
FAVOURITE  
PLAYER, CONTACT THE  
COMMERCIAL  
DEPARTMENT:  
01206 752020**

**By Car:**

From the M25 take the M23 Southbound towards Gatwick Airport and Brighton. At the end of the M23 (before it becomes the A23) leave the motorway at the last exit, Junction 11 (sign posted A264 Horsham, Pease Pottage Services). At the roundabout at the end of the motorway slip road turn right onto the A23 going towards Crawley. The ground is down on the left just before the next roundabout.

Turn left at the roundabout and then left again for the stadium car park. There is an overflow car park in the offices at Broadfield Park, accessible from the A23 as you come down the hill from the motorway. Otherwise street parking.

**By Train:**

Crawley station is just over a mile away from the stadium. You can either take a taxi (about £6), or from the bus station across the road, you can take a Fastway number 10 bus to the ground (this runs every ten minutes). Otherwise it is about a twenty minute walk.

As you come out of the station turn left and walk down to the T-junction. At the junction turn left into Brighton Road. Keep walking straight down Brighton Road for just under a mile and at its end turn right. You should now be able to see the stadium in the distance behind the traffic island. Use the underpass to cross

**Capacity:**

5,500 (3,295 seated)

**Address:**Broadfield Stadium  
Winfield Way, Crawley, West Sussex,  
RH11 9RX**Main Tel No:**

01293 410000

**Overview:**

Having carried on the momentum of their promotion push into the early part of the season, Crawley have slipped behind the front runners after a November that saw them fail to win in the league.

They're still in touch with the top six, though, and will hope to go again in the second half of the season.

the A23 to the ground.

**Ticket Prices:**

Tickets for the U's visit to Crawley are now on sale from the Weston Homes Community Stadium.

**East Stand (seats)**

Adults: £19 | Seniors: £15 | Juniors: £10

**North Terrace**

Adults: £17 | Seniors: £13 | Juniors: £7



# FIXTURES & RESULTS 12/13



DATE	OPPONENTS	COMP	RES	ATT	AWAY	POS	GOALKEEPERS				DEFENDERS							
							Mark Cousins	John Sullivan	Shaun Phillips	Carl Pentney	Tom Aldred	Michael Rose	Magnus Okuonghae	Archange Nkumu	Matt Heath	Tom Eastman	Brian Wilson	Ben Coker
<b>AUGUST</b>							01	13	29	35	02	03	04	05	06	18	20	24
Tue 14	Yeovil Town	A	CAP1	0-3	1,907	88	-	OK										
Sat 18	Preston North End	A	FL1	0-0	10,034	156	15	OK										
Tue 21	Portsmouth	H	FL1	2-2	4,335	1,144	14	OK										
Sat 25	Sheffield United	H	FL1	1-1	4,017	893	16	OK										
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>																		
Sat 1	Tranmere Rovers	A	FL1	0-4	4,711	103	20	OK										
Sat 8	Brentford	A	FL1	0-1	5,499	362	22	OK										
Sat 15	Doncaster Rovers	H	FL1	1-2	3,262	434	24	OK										
Tue 18	Crawley Town	H	FL1	1-1	2,484	218	22	OK										
Sat 22	Scunthorpe United	A	FL1	0-1	3,133	80	22	OK										
Sat 29	Hartlepool United	H	FL1	3-1	3,471	127	20	OK										
<b>OCTOBER</b>																		
Tue 2	Swindon Town	A	FL1	1-0	7,443	121	17	OK										
Sat 6	Yeovil Town	A	FL1	1-3	3,002	118	19	OK										
Tue 9	Northampton Town	A	JPT2	1-2	1,561	174	-	OK										
Sat 13	Stevenage	H	FL1	1-0	4,045	716	18	OK										
Sat 20	Carlisle United	H	FL1	2-0	3,335	209	15	OK										
Tue 23	Leyton Orient	A	FL1	2-0	3,378	627	12	OK										
Sat 27	Shrewsbury Town	A	FL1	2-2	5,066	252	12	OK										
<b>NOVEMBER</b>																		
Sat 3	Chelmsford City	A	FAC1	1-3	3,016	1,000	-	OK										
Tue 6	Notts County	H	FL1	0-2	3,051	195	13	OK										
Sat 10	Crewe Alexandra	A	FL1	2-3	4,292	138	14	OK										
Sat 17	Bury	H	FL1	2-0	3,214	199	13	OK										
Tue 20	Coventry City	H	FL1	1-3	3,229	408	16	OK										
Sat 24	MK Dons	A	FL1	1-5	7,443	330	17	OK										
<b>DECEMBER</b>																		
Sat 8	Oldham Athletic	H	FL1	0-2	2,987	142	17	OK										
Sat 15	AFC Bournemouth	A	FL1	0-1	6,145	155	17	OK										
Sat 22	Walsall	A	FL1	0-1	3,006	99	19	OK										
Wed 26	Brentford	H	FL1	15:00														
Sat 29	Swindon Town	H	FL1	15:00														
<b>JANUARY 2013</b>																		
Tue 1	Crawley Town	A	FL1	15:00														
Sat 5	Doncaster Rovers	A	FL1	15:00														
Sat 12	Scunthorpe United	H	FL1	15:00														
Sat 19	Hartlepool United	A	FL1	15:00														
Sat 26	Walsall	H	FL1	15:00														
<b>FEBRUARY</b>																		
Sat 2	Portsmouth	A	FL1	15:00														
Sat 9	Preston North End	H	FL1	15:00														
Sat 16	Sheffield United	A	FL1	15:00														
Sat 23	Tranmere Rovers	H	FL1	15:00														
Tue 26	Yeovil Town	H	FL1	19:45														
<b>MARCH</b>																		
Sat 2	Stevenage	A	FL1	15:00														
Sat 9	Crewe Alexandra	H	FL1	15:00														
Tue 12	Coventry City	A	FL1	19:45														
Sat 16	Bury	A	FL1	15:00														
Sat 23	MK Dons	H	FL1	15:00														
Fri 29	AFC Bournemouth	H	FL1	15:00														
<b>APRIL</b>																		
Mon 1	Oldham Athletic	A	FL1	15:00														
Sat 6	Leyton Orient	H	FL1	15:00														
Sat 13	Notts County	A	FL1	15:00														
Sat 20	Shrewsbury Town	H	FL1	15:00														
Sat 27	Carlisle United	A	FL1	15:00														



KEY:  
 U = Unused substitute, ● = 1st substitute, ● = 2nd substitute,  
 ● = 3rd substitute, **Bold** = Goalscorer, / = Yellow/Red Card



MIDFIELDERS											FORWARDS												
John White	Bradley Hamilton	Tom Bender	Josh Thompson	Dan Potts	Karl Duguid	John-Joe O'Toole	Kern Izzet	Andy Bond	Marcus Bean	Anthony Wordsworth	Ryan Melaugh	Tosin Olufemi	Alex Gilbey	Drey Wright	Jordan Sanderson	Craig Eastmond	Sanchez Watt	Clinton Morrison	Freddie Sears	Jabo Ibehre	Ian Henderson	Freddie Ladapo	Gavin Massey
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# NEXT UP: SCUNTHORPE

Saturday 12th January 2013 • npower Football League One • Kick-Off: 15.00



**CHRIS SUMPTER**  
Scunthorpe Telegraph  
Sports Editor

## As we get to the halfway point of the season, how would you sum up Scunthorpe's campaign to date?

Desperately disappointing, without doubt. While few in the summer expected the Iron to be challenging for a place in the top six, I think it's fair to say even fewer would have anticipated another slog to stay out of the bottom four. In all honesty, Scunthorpe have been too poor, too often – 'the league table does not lie' as the cliché states.

With confidence low, they've been walloped by some poor teams but at times outplayed some of the best of what League One supposedly has to offer without picking up a result to reflect such a scenario.

It's the latter of those two factions though which means hope continues to spring eternal. After a horrible past couple of seasons, 2013 really has to be the year United begin to haul themselves out of the doldrums – particularly when it comes to results at home.

## What are the main changes that Brian Laws has made as he's tried to get the team back up the table?

He's tried to get them working harder without the ball. He wants them to start on the front foot and do more to harry the opposition to try to force mistakes. Laws has also tried to improve the players' psychological state, with their tendency to fall to pieces when things have started to go against them a big Achilles heel.

There has been a patchy improvement. Finding some consistency is now a must – and the few sides that have managed to



do that at this level this season have reaped the rewards.

## If you were the manager, which areas of the team would you be looking at in the January transfer window?

In an ideal world, team strengthening is needed all over the park. The basis of the Iron's starting XI is decent enough, but strength in depth is minimal – hence the fact they've struggled for centre-halves and have only Christian Ribeiro as a right-back.

Attack is the biggest concern, with 11-goal Leon Clarke having returned to Charlton at the end of a prolific loan spell and Karl Hawley having also only been on a short term deal. Where the goals will come from has been a constant worry, but show me a manager who says he's not on the lookout for a goalscorer and I'll show you a liar!

## Despite the disappointments to date, which of the team can consider themselves to have done well on a personal level?

No-one has really been carried this season, despite Scunthorpe's struggles. No player though has been able to match the consistency shown by winger Mark Duffy, whose ability to take players on and deliver the ball into the box is the biggest weapon in the Iron's attacking armoury.

His creativity, coupled with the fact United look a much more resilient unit when Damien Mozika – who missed the first three months of the campaign through injury – is in the middle of the park offers some room for optimism for the closing few months.

## Which sides have you been impressed with at the right end of the table and how do you think the relegation battle will shape up?

This is what makes it even more frustrating – I think the standard of League One is as poor as it has been in a long time this term.

Out of the top six, only Notts County, who drew 2-2 at Glanford Park in November, have looked up to much. For 45 minutes against the Iron, Tranmere were poor, Sheffield United, although solid, a team devoid of ideas and creativity going forward.

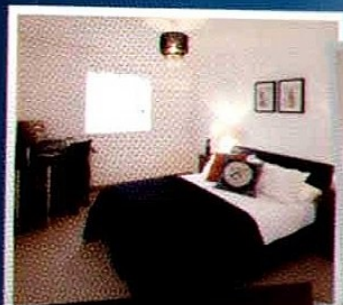
Scunthorpe's record against their fellow strugglers is indicative of their problems, though with Portsmouth's points deduction seemingly inevitable and Hartlepool just shocking, two of the four relegation places look to have been taken. As for the other two, it would seem to be a fight between Bury, Carlisle, Shrewsbury, Walsall and both of today's teams. May the best two win! ■



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## COLCHESTER UNITED

Manager: Joe Dunne

01	Mark Cousins
02	Tom Aldred
03	Michael Rose
04	Magnus Okuonghae
06	Matt Heath
07	Karl Duguid
08	John-Joe O'Toole
09	Clinton Morrison
10	Kemal Izzet
11	Freddie Sears
12	Jabo Ibehre
14	Andy Bond
15	Marcus Bean
16	Ian Henderson
18	Tom Eastman
20	Brian Wilson
21	Gavin Massey
22	Anthony Wordsworth
24	Ben Coker
25	John White
35	Carl Pentney
40	Josh Thompson
41	Dan Potts

### DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

19	Freddie Ladapo
23	Jackson Ramm
26	Ryan Melaugh
27	Tosin Olufemi
28	Alex Gilbey
29	Shaun Phillips
30	Drey Wright
31	Bradley Hamilton
32	Jordan Sanderson
34	Thomas Bender
42	Macauley Bonne
43	Tom Lapslie



## SWINDON TOWN

Manager: Paolo Di Canio

01	Wes Foderingham
02	Troy Archibald-Henville
03	James McEveley
04	Aden Flint
05	Joe Devera
06	Alan Navarro
07	Luke Rooney
08	Simon Ferry
09	James Collins
10	Matt Ritchie
11	Gary Roberts
12	Alan McCormack
13	Oliver Risser
14	Paul Benson
15	Nathan Thompson
16	Andy Williams
17	Paul Caddis
18	Tommy Miller
19	Louis Thompson
20	Miles Storey
21	Federico Bessone
22	Darren Ward
23	Raffaele De Vita
24	Chris Martin
26	Danny Hollands
28	Adam Rooney
30	Leigh Bedwell
31	Aaron Oakley
32	Chris Smith
33	John Bostock

## MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee:  
Mr T Robinson (West Sussex)

Assistants:  
Mr S Rubery  
Mr M Webb

Fourth Official:  
Mr J Farries

## LEAGUE 1 FIXTURES

### Today

Bournemouth v Crawley  
Carlisle v Bury  
U's v Swindon  
Leyton Orient v Walsall  
MK Dons v Coventry  
Oldham v Crewe  
Portsmouth v Yeovil  
Preston v Doncaster  
Sheff Utd v Hartlepool  
Shrewsbury v Brentford  
Stevenage v Notts County  
Tranmere v Scunthorpe

### Tuesday 1st January 2013

Swindon v Portsmouth  
Brentford v Bournemouth  
Bury v Tranmere  
Coventry v Shrewsbury  
Crawley v U's  
Crewe v Carlisle  
Doncaster v Sheff Utd  
Hartlepool v Preston  
Notts County v MK Dons  
Scunthorpe v Oldham  
Walsall v Stevenage  
Yeovil v Leyton Orient

## NEXT HERE



### Scunthorpe United

Saturday 12th January 2013  
Kick-off: 3.00pm  
npower Football League One

• cu-fc.com  
• cufcretail.com  
• colutickets.com  
• twitter.com/ColU\_Official  
• facebook.com/colchesterunitedfc

