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Manager: D. WILLIAMS.

Secretary: R. MORSE.

VOL. 18

TUESDAY, 16th APRIL, 1968

No. 26

TUESDAY, 16th APRIL, 1968

DIVISION III

SWINDON TOWN

v.

OXFORD UNITED

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

REFEREE:

MR. C. H. NICHOLLS (Plymouth)

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NEWS and VIEWS

These notes must be written well before Easter, so unfortunately, we cannot tell how great an issue depends on this evenings game.

If the miracle has happened, Swindon could be all out for promotion tonight, on the other hand, it may be quite vital for Oxford.

They have enjoyed a great season, and at the time of going to Press, are third in the League Table with forty-five points.

Whatever the position it will be a local derby with keenness and enthusiasm running high.

Since Oxford came into the League Division III, our record against them is quite good:—

Season 1965-66 Home 0—0 Away 3—0

Season 1966-67 Home 3—0 Away 0—0

They have yet to score a goal against Swindon, unless they succeeded on Good Friday.

Neither game last year was very entertaining. The match at Oxford on 10th December, 0—0, was spoiled by a high wind and light ball.

The return—our last home game of the season—6th May, 1967, was quite a scramble. Again a dry ground and light ball. The result was three goals to nil in our favour but Oxford had much more of the play than Swindon but missed many chances.

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NEWS AND VIEWS—continued

Teams:

Swindon: Downsborough; Dawson, Trollope; Thomas, Nurse, Harland; Rogers, Penman, Terry, Smart, Walker.

Oxford: Sherratt; Beavon, Shuker; Clarke, Kyle, Lloyd; Kerr, Hale, Atkinson G., Jones, Harrington.

Scorers: Terry (28 min), Smart (75 min), Rogers (88 min).

Referee: Mr. R. A. Paine.

Attendance: 13,981.

Much is written about football tactics, formations (4-2-4, 3-3-4 etc.) defensive, and attacking football. It is interesting to read the comments of Stanley Cullis, one of the great managers of today, with a wealth of experience both as a player, and manager.

“You would imagine that football has now entered the jet age of scientific formula, which have no relation to the past”. He strongly challenges that idea, and goes on to say.

“Conceding the training, coaching and style of play have all undergone distinct changes and improvements, let me insist that the fundamental character and purpose of the game remains constant.

No one will persuade me that there is no room for orthodox wingers in our present football set-up while, for particular games it may be necessary to include a defender with number 7 or 11 on his back, a Finney or a Matthews would not be too ‘old-fashioned’ for me.

It is reasonable to say that the function of wingers has

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changed to some extent, in as much as they are not expected to merely hug the touchlines but to have more variety in their play and this applies to *defensive* as well as *attacking* qualities, and to be involved in the ninety minutes more than in the past. They are expected to tackle and challenge for the ball, and it is worthy of reflection that Tom Finney could tackle for possession as well as any defender".

Then Mr. Cullis goes on to say, "Centres from the wing produce their fair quota of converted goals today, although there may be a variety of numbers actually putting the centres across, but with more defensive players crowding the goal-mouth it seems logical that a fast striding winger going round the outside of the traffic has a more vital role than ever to play".

It is interesting to note after reading these comments, that Birmingham City (Manager Mr. Stanley Cullis) has scored more goals than any other team in the four leagues.

Facts surely prove something. Looking at football objectively. How it is played, where it is played.

One team is trying to get the ball into the goal, and the other preventing it.

League Football today is much faster, and much more stereotyped, but whether it is as entertaining, as the good old fashioned "long ball" is a matter of opinion. Ball control, has greatly improved, but it required a fair amount of skill to produce a pass, say of 40 yards.

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OUR VISITORS



OXFORD UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

JIM BARRON (Goal)

Height 5ft. 11½ins. Age 23. Jim signed from Chelsea in March 1966, and an automatic first team choice until an injury when Sherratt regained the "sticks". Extremely agile and credited with some fantastic performances.

BRIAN SHERRATT (Goal)

Height 5ft. 11½ins. Age 24. Signed from Stoke City in 1965. Played regularly until Barron was signed in 1966. An injury to Barron in January 1967 gave him his opportunity again, and he held his place to the end of the season. Incredibly daring and a real menace and deterrent to any forward.

RON ATKINSON (Right Half and Captain)

Height 5ft. 11½ins. Ron signed from Aston Villa in 1959. An ever-present member of the team and a 100 per cent effort player. His captaincy and driving of the team has yielded many Club successes. Nick-named the Tank on account of his sturdy build.

GRAHAM ATKINSON (Inside Left)

Height 5ft. 10½ins. Age 24. Signed from Birmingham City in 1960 following his elder brother to Oxford. Was tried at centre forward last season with some success, scoring more goals than anyone else during the season. Always a danger when in possession.

KEN HALE (Inside Right)

Height 5ft. 9½ins. Ken signed from Coventry City in 1966. A good ball player with a stinging shot from both feet. A forward line link-man with plenty of experience.

JOHN EVANSON (Inside Left or Left Wing)

Height 5ft. 9½ins. Age 21. Signed from Towcester as an amateur in 1964 and professional forms in 1965. Made his first team debut last season. He is one of the best ball players on the books. Vital experience is his main requirement to blossom out.

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OUR VISITORS—continued

MICHAEL BULLOCK (Centre Forward)

Height 6ft. Age 20. Michael signed from Birmingham City during the close season for a substantial fee. He is a player with plenty of top class experience and has a great future ahead of him. Has a brother who plays for Colchester United.

COLIN HARRINGTON (Outside Left)

Height 6ft. 1in. Age 24. Signed from Wolves in 1962. A family tradition of sprint training and athletics undoubtedly makes this player the fastest in the Club. He has commanded a regular place on the wing ever since he joined Oxford United. Has the potential to develop into a top class player.

MAURICE KYLE (Centre Half)

Height 6ft. 1½ins. Maurice joined Oxford United from Wolves in 1959 and has been an ever-present member of the team since then, scoring his first league goal last season. His height makes him a very difficult player to beat in the air. Anticipation of the highest order.

CYRIL BEAVON (Right Back)

Height 5ft. 11ins. Cyril signed from Wolves in 1959 and is now in his ninth season with the Club, making non-stop appearances as always. Reliable defender with the ability to attack when called on to do so.

RICHARD LUCAS (Right Back)

Height 6ft. Age 19. Richard joined Oxford United from a local amateur club and is one of the most promising players the Club has produced for many years. Made two appearances in the first team last season, and looks set for a long career in the top ranks.

JOHN LLOYD (Left Back)

Height 5ft. 11ins. Age 24. John signed from Swindon Town on a month's trial in 1964, and was subsequently offered a full contract. Really developed last season for the full back position, and with more experience, will prove a reliable player.

COLIN CLARKE (Left Half)

Height 6ft. 1½ins. Age 21. Signed from Arsenal in 1965. This Scottish-born player has developed into a rugged link-man and is potentially a very dangerous player when in possession. Commanded a regular place in the first team half way through last season, and looks a regular full season player this season on this showing.

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OUR VISITORS—continued

RODNEY SMITHSON (Right Half)

Height 5ft. 11ins. Signed from Arsenal in 1964. Is a very consistent player and an attacking wing half. Given little first team opportunity as understudy to captain Ron Atkinson, but due to team positional changes through injuries last season, proved himself more than adequately for first team selection.

PETER HIGGINS (Centre Half)

Height 6ft. 1in. Peter has been with Oxford United for seven years but has been unable to gain a regular first team place due to the ever-present Kyle. However, he has also deputised as full back when required to, with great success.

JOHN SHUKER (Utility Player)

Height 5ft. 10½ins. John signed amateur forms for Oxford United in September 1960 and professional forms in June of next year. Left half, wing or inside forward, and even a full back, this adaptable player is a real asset to any side. Has scored many goals from outside the penalty box with his fierce shooting.

PETER HATCH (Left Half)

Height 5ft. 10½ins. Age 18. Peter joined the Club as an apprentice in April 1965 and signed professional forms in October of last year. Is a very promising player who also has been tried with some success on the wing, and is useful in goal as well. Recently been selected to play in an Hellenic League representative match. Has yet to make his first team debut.

KEN SKEEN (Outside Right)

Height 5ft. 10½ins. Ken signed from Swindon Town during the close season having been a member of the very successful Cup side last year. Started his career with Swindon Town as an amateur before signing part-time professional forms with Trowbridge Town. Returned to Swindon Town as a full-time professional making his debut against Crystal Palace. He has played in every position on the field except right back.

DAVID SLOAN (Outside Right)

Height 5ft. 8½ins. David is the Club's newest signing, arriving from Scunthorpe United at the end of February 1968. Born in Belfast, he started his career with Bangor City. Joined Scunthorpe United in the 1963/64 season and after only five games in the Football League, gained an Irish under 23 International Cap.

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Swindon's 12th Man
Terry

Harrington (11)

Shuker (10)

Bullock (9)

Clarke (6)

Kyle (5)

Atkin (4)

Lloyd (3)

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Jones

nas (2) Trollope (3)

Dawson (5) Harland (6)

Giles (9) Smart (10) Rogers (11)

**KEEP IN TOUCH
EVENING
ADVERTISER
WITH THE NEWS**

These teams are subject
to alteration

Oxford's 12th Man
Skeen

0) Bullock (9) Atkinson, G. (8) Sloan (7)

Kyle (5) Atkinson, R. (4)

rd (3) Smithson (2)

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SUPPORTERS *CLUB NOTES*

Today sees the return match against Oxford United. At the time of writing—well before Easter, we shall have played Oxford away and Southport at home. By tonight, we shall know whether or not we have the remotest chance of Div. II next season, or whether Oxford have consolidated their grip on promotion at our expense. Whichever way it goes, we welcome Oxford supporters here tonight. The Social Club is in the car park should any of them wish to celebrate, or drown their sorrows, after the match.

Either way, the importance of a higher status for Swindon is increasing. With a town due to expand so rapidly in the next few years, with the M4 soon to link the Town with London, so putting the London Clubs—Fulham, Chelsea and Queen's Park Rangers spring to mind very easily—in reach of Swindon supporters from the outside areas, if not from in town, the problem of keeping our supporters will need great thought. If Oxford gain promotion this season, the problem will already be on the doorstep.

Last Wednesday, at the Social Club, the agents of the Supporters Club Weekly Competition met for a general discussion on future plans. Full details of the outcome will be given in our next Notes, as again, these are being written before the meeting because of printing difficulties over Easter. There is little doubt that close season activities, through the agents, will be undertaken, in order to maintain contact with



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SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES—continued

our members—with, no doubt, benefit to all. More of that, however, in the Notes for the Bristol Rovers match on the 23rd.

Next weekends Social Club activities centre around Friday next, the 19th, when the usual Bingo session will be followed by dancing to the JOHNNY McCARTHY GROUP. On Saturday, a new musical combination, the ENTER CORD, will be presented for the first time. As for every Saturday night during the summer, the bar is open to 11 p.m., as indeed it will be on every Friday as well. On Sunday, the 21st, after Bingo, we have the JOHNNY McCARTHY GROUP, which, to my ears, improve each time they come. As a pre-warning, on Saturday, the 27th, that happy band of musicians—the KEN KITCHING BAND—pays a return visit.

Many of our younger supporters will, this season, have paid many visits to our two shops, where anything from car badges down to a wide variety of other Club programmes and badges are available. The shops have been very successful this year, in spite of their limited accommodation, thanks to Messrs. Ranger and O'Neill, and Mrs. Margaret Pinder and others who man them, besides organising the stock. The future of the shops seem to be assured, although the form may change during the close season.

The Competition this season has shown an improvement. Full accounts are not yet to hand, but after an initial cheque to the Football Club of £2,500, a monthly cheque of £600 has been handed over, making no small contribution. It was with the object of increasing this revenue that the agents met last Wednesday to consider ways and means.

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THE FOOTBALL COMBINATION

1967

Date	Opponents	Ground	Result
August 19	CHELSEA.....	(A)	0—1
26	SOUTHAMPTON.....	1,625 (H)	0—3
29	BIRMINGHAM CITY.....	(A)	0—4
September 2	IPSWICH TOWN.....	(A)	1—6
9	WALSALL.....	1,278 (H)	0—2
16	GILLINGHAM.....	(A)	0—1
23	ARSENAL.....	(H)	0—1
October 7	SOUTHAMPTON (C).....	(A)	0—5
14	WEST HAM UNITED (C).....	(A)	2—5
November 4	WEST HAM UNITED (C).....	(H)	0—2
18	SOUTHAMPTON (C).....	(H)	1—3
21	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE (C).....	(H)	0—0
29	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE (C).....	(A)	1—4
December 2	ARSENAL (C).....	(H)	1—2
12	ARSENAL (C).....	(A)	0—2
16	CHELSEA.....	(H)	0—2
23	SOUTHAMPTON.....	(A)	2—2
26	COVENTRY CITY.....	(H)	2—4
1968			
January 2	COVENTRY CITY.....	(A)	2—5
16	WALSALL.....	(A)	1—5
20	GILLINGHAM.....	(H)	0—0
February 3	ARSENAL.....	(A)	1—0
5	PETERBOROUGH UNITED.....	(A)	3—2
10	BIRMINGHAM CITY.....	(H)	0—2
17	LEICESTER CITY.....	(A)	1—2
24	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR.....	(A)	2—6
March 2	NORTHAMPTON TOWN.....	(H)	2—0
9	WEST HAM UNITED.....	(H)	2—0
20	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE.....	(A)	0—2
23	PETERBOROUGH UNITED.....	(H)	1—0
30	WEST HAM UNITED.....	(A)	0—4
April 6	LEICESTER CITY.....	(H)	0—1
20	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR.....	(H)	
30	NORTHAMPTON TOWN.....	(A)	
May 4	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE.....	(H)	
	IPSWICH TOWN.....	(H)	

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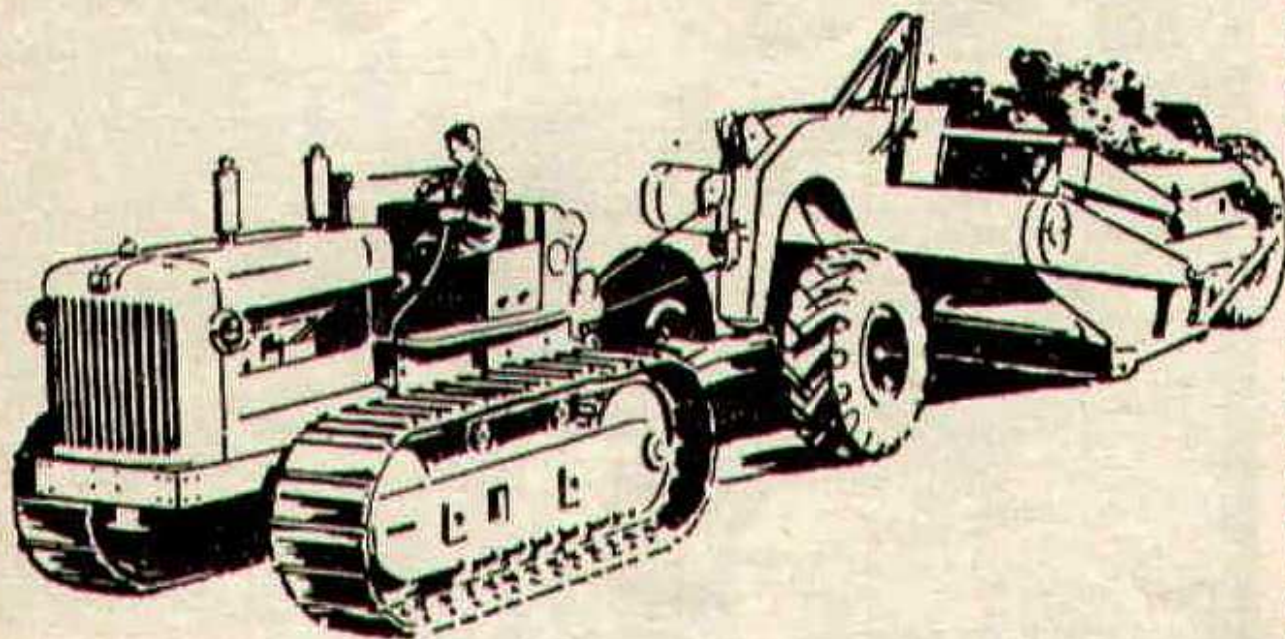
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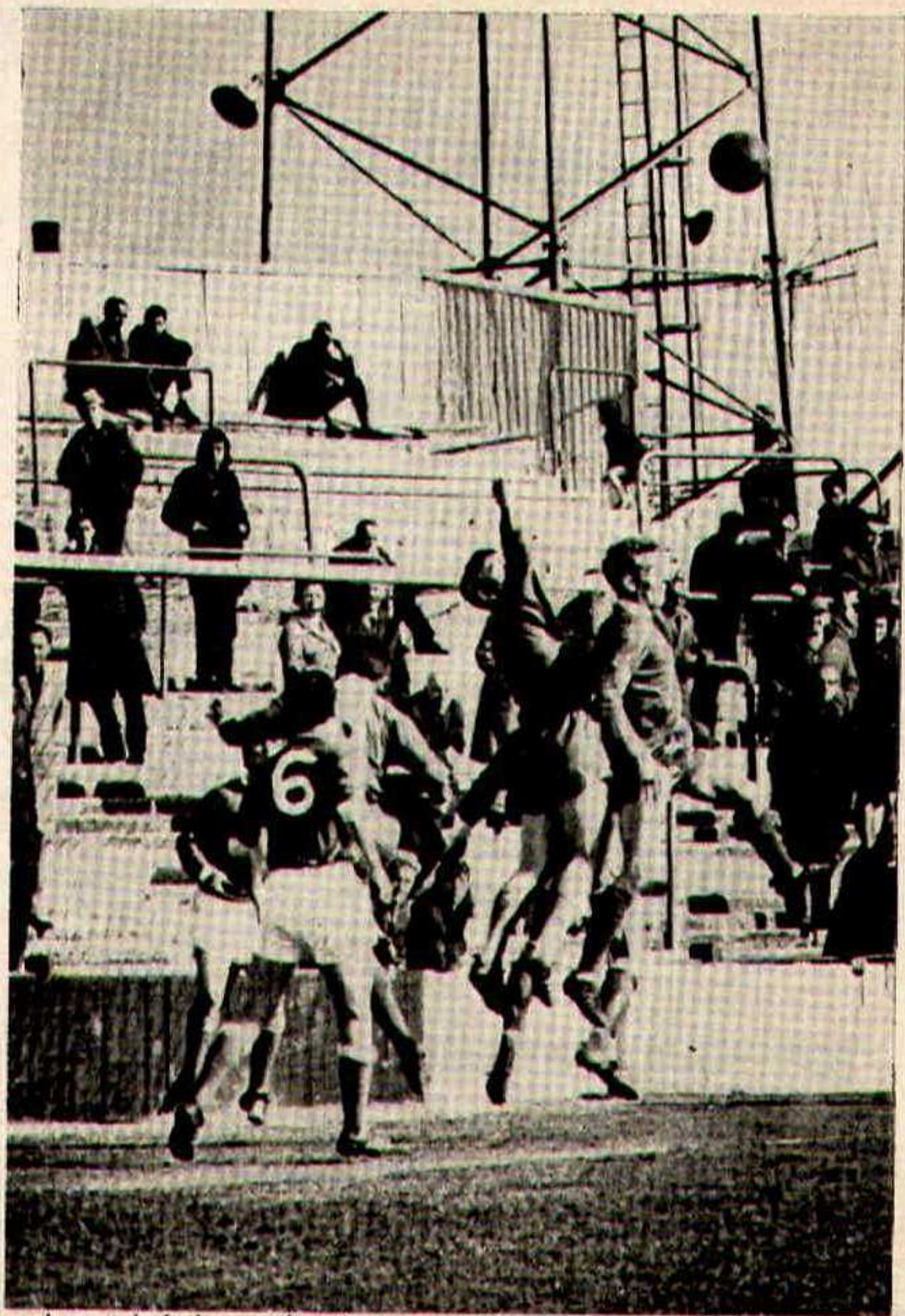
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Downsborough foils another Leicester City Reserves attack at the County Ground.
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DIVISION III

(up to and including Wednesday, 10th April, 1968)

			P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Torquay United	38	19	10	9	53	42	48
Oxford United	.....	.....	39	18	11	10	60	45	47
Bury	.....	.....	38	19	8	11	78	56	46
Shrewsbury Town	.....	.....	38	16	13	9	54	44	45
Brighton & H.A.	.....	.....	38	14	14	10	46	42	42
Swindon Town	.....	.....	38	14	13	11	61	39	41
Walsall	.....	.....	38	16	9	13	61	50	41
Reading	.....	.....	38	16	9	13	55	54	41
Watford	.....	.....	38	17	6	15	62	43	40
Barrow	.....	.....	38	17	6	15	55	48	40
Peterborough United	.....	.....	38	16	8	14	61	58	40
Stockport County	.....	.....	38	16	8	14	58	56	40
Gillingham	.....	.....	38	14	11	13	49	54	39
Bournemouth & B.A.	.....	.....	38	13	12	13	44	43	38
Southport	.....	.....	37	15	8	14	54	53	38
Bristol Rovers	.....	.....	37	14	8	15	60	61	36
Northampton Town	.....	.....	39	12	11	16	49	58	35
Oldham Athletic	.....	.....	38	14	5	19	51	56	33
Tranmere Rovers	.....	.....	37	12	9	16	57	66	33
Mansfield Town	.....	.....	38	11	10	17	46	58	32
Orient	.....	.....	36	9	13	14	40	54	31
Colchester United	38	9	10	19	42	73	28
Grimsby Town	37	10	7	20	41	60	27
Scunthorpe United	38	8	11	19	46	72	27



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BRISTOL ROVERS

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DIVISION III

Date	Opponents	Ground	Result
August 19	Brighton & Hove Albion	15,790 (H)	2-1
22	Newport County (League Cup)	10,870 (H)	1-1
25	Stockport County	9,103 (A)	0-2
29	Newport Co. (League Cup Replay)	6,537 (A)	0-2
September 2	Tranmere Rovers	12,152 (H)	3-1
4	Barrow	7,352 (A)	1-1
9	Orient	4,722 (A)	0-0
16	Northampton Town	13,280 (H)	4-0
23	Walsall	9,132 (A)	2-3
26	Barrow	13,567 (H)	0-1
30	Gillingham	12,983 (H)	2-2
October 4	Reading	17,867 (A)	1-2
7	Bury	8,222 (A)	1-1
14	Bournemouth & B.A.	11,135 (H)	4-0
21	Colchester United	4,907 (A)	1-2
24	Reading	17,229 (H)	5-1
28	Peterborough United	12,215 (H)	0-0
November 4	Mansfield Town	4,619 (A)	2-2
11	Watford	13,327 (H)	2-0
13	Tranmere Rovers	6,519 (A)	2-3
18	Southport	5,008 (A)	1-1
25	Scunthorpe United	11,944 (H)	2-0
December 2	Oldham Athletic	6,965 (A)	2-0
12	(1) Salisbury	12,193 (H)	4-0
16	Brighton & Hove Albion	9,141 (A)	0-0
19	Stockport County	12,856 (H)	2-0
26	Torquay United	12,910 (A)	1-1
30	Torquay United	18,161 (H)	1-0
January 6	(2) Luton Town	18,203 (H)	3-2
20	Northampton Town	10,339 (A)	0-2
27	(3) Blackburn Rovers	20,830 (H)	1-0
February 3	Walsall	17,288 (H)	3-0
10	Gillingham	5,116 (A)	1-3
17	(4) Sheffield Wednesday	37,364 (A)	1-2
24	Bury	14,462 (H)	2-3
27	Grimsby Town	12,791 (H)	5-0
March 2	Bournemouth & B.A.	7,517 (A)	1-2
9	(5) Shrewsbury Town	7,810 (A)	1-0
12	Orient	14,184 (H)	4-0
16	Colchester United	13,515 (H)	1-1
19	Shrewsbury Town	14,541 (H)	0-0
23	Peterborough United	4,667 (A)	1-1
30	(6) Mansfield Town	10,248 (H)	1-1
April 6	Watford	(A)	0-2
12	Oxford United	(A)	
13	Southport	(H)	
16	Oxford United	(H)	
19	Scunthorpe United	(A)	
23	Bristol Rovers	(H)	
27	(S.F.) Oldham Athletic	(H)	
May 4	Bristol Rovers	(A)	
11	Grimsby Town	(A)	

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