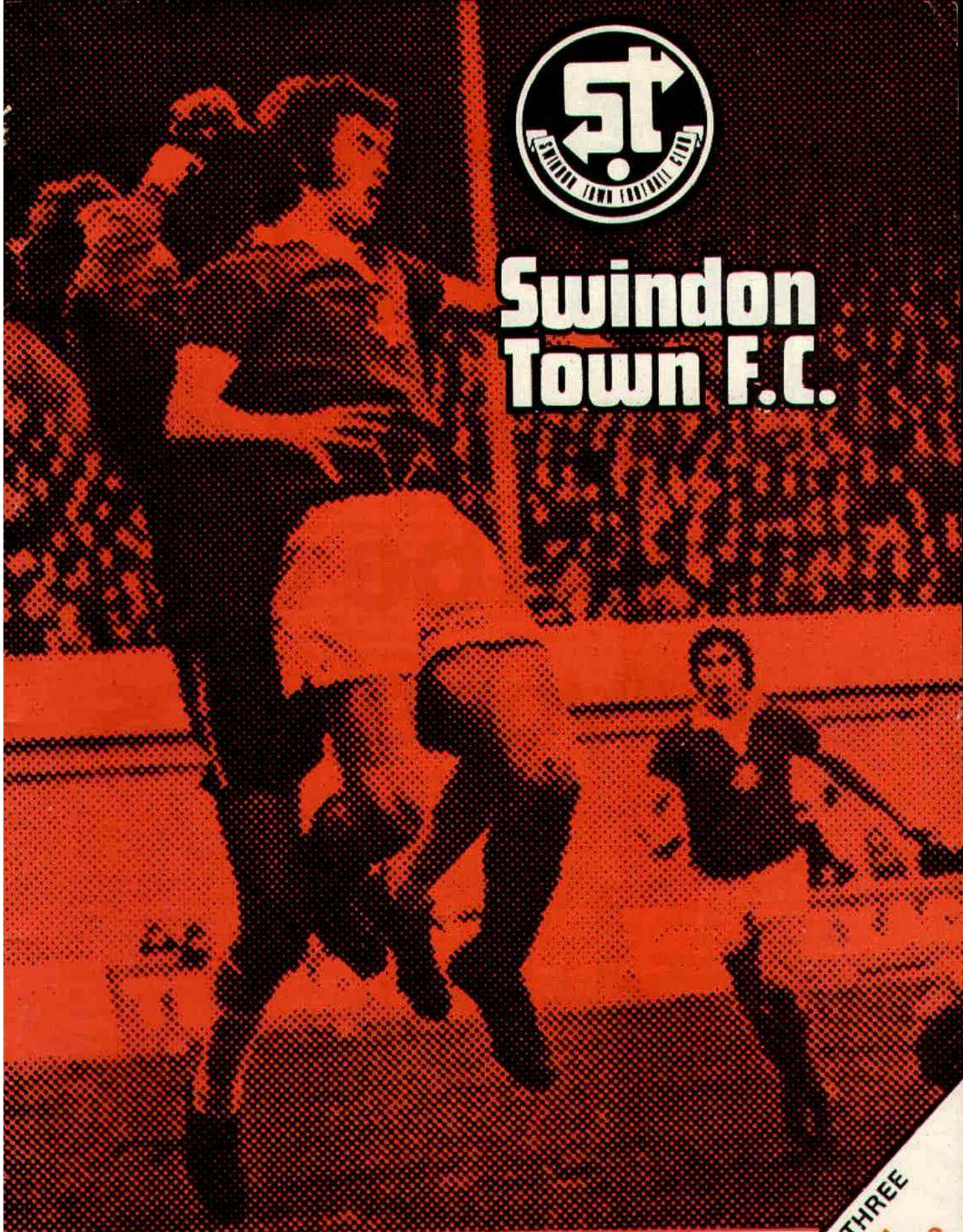




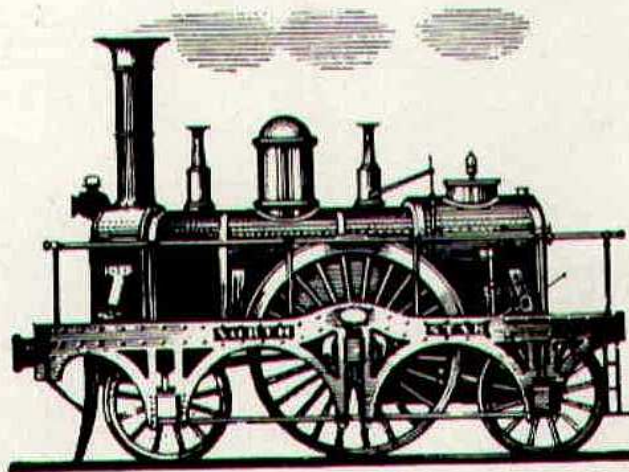
Swindon Town F.C.



ROTHERHAM UNITED

DIVISION THREE
Official
Programme
10p

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soon be on
everyone's lips.**



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Team Manager D. T. Williams

Pools Manager D. Buswell

Club Medical Officer Dr. J. Nicholas

NEWS & VIEWS NEWS & VIEWS

This evening we welcome to the County Ground, after a lapse of seven years, Rotherham United. Their last visit was on Saturday 22nd February 1969. I expect some of their party will recall that occasion. We had experienced a very wet spell of weather, and the pitch was very muddy with pools of water. In fact it was almost unplayable, but the attendance attained the figure of 23,500 (yes it is unbelievable.) Actually vouchers, to purchase Wembley League Cup Final Tickets, were being distributed. How happy we would be for the attendance to reach half of that figure this evening.

The result was a victory by one goal (Peter Noble) to nil. We were rather fortunate to win as many thought Peter Noble was well offside, when he scored. The return was played on the 2nd May, result a draw one goal each, and that point assured Swindon promotion to Division 2.

Rotherham lost its place in Division 3 in Season 1972/73 but only by goal average. Four teams York City, Watford, Halifax Town and Rotherham, all on 41 points tied for 20th place, but our visitors were relegated. Their stay in Division 4 was quite short in fact only two seasons, as they gained promotion at the end of 1974-75 season.

They finished in third place of Division 4, and were promoted along with Mansfield, Shrewsbury and Chester. It is interesting to note the fortunes of those clubs during the current season.

Earlier this season we visited Millmoor and gained one of the only two victories on our opponents ground by two goals to nil. Points are more than ever needed, so we sincerely hope we can complete a double, with plenty of goals to improve our average.

At the time of writing Rotherham has six more points than Swindon for the same number of

games played. I wonder if they will be in a generous mood?

How many times have we heard the words "Football is a funny game", one often wonders what is really happening when one listens to the various utterances by Reporters, Commentators, Managers and Players etc. Such phrases as "Beginning to put it together" Putting what together? "The lads are now giving one hundred per cent, and working for one another". Surely to goodness that is their job. That is what they are paid for, and what the spectators come to see. Then that overworked word "Psychologically" What does it all mean? or is it another gimmick. Remember the Monkey Glands in the thirties and later on Hypnotist in the Dressing Room.

We are often treated to theories on the various aspects of a game. How a player stood about a yard from an opponent and prevented him from going forward. Later we hear the opposite view, the player is blamed for "standing off". Frequently we are treated to Interviews what do they consist of? Just a few words, and invariably the phrase "You know" But do we? Many of us would like to see the return of the plain straightforward football, less gamesmanship, less time wasting, less retaining of possession to take up time. What has happened to the long ball so well exploited in the fifties.

Now we hear of a Manager of a Division 1 team saying a club should not be in the league, because of being short staffed, and not being able to fulfil a fixture because of illness. I wonder did he not start with a small club, and having to manage "on a shoe string".

Without the lesser clubs in the lower divisions, there would not be a Division 1.

Talk of the Town

By the Chairman

We have been busy behind the scenes, trying to strengthen our playing staff. The most important target at the moment is to stay in the Third Division and secondly for Danny to plan ahead for next season.

Conjecture over Don Rogers has been about the town for a long time and it has been no secret that both Don and ourselves have been keen to come to an agreement.

These last few weeks, Danny has been probing the various clubs to find out the possibilities, if any, of obtaining players for next season.

It must be a puzzle to some people, that we can even think of obtaining new players, when we have stated that we have no money. It is a true fact, that we are in this financial position but in the football world, it is known for its dealings and understandings as nearly everybody is in the same position.

At the time of writing these notes I have agreed with the Q.P.R. Chairman that we will buy Don from them and also at this very

moment of writing these notes we are waiting for Don to come to us and sign forms and so I hope that when you read these notes you will be cheering Don.

Don was very popular with our crowd before he left and in fact I have had people suggesting that if we cannot afford to buy him, why not start a fund.

To follow this suggestion we have had an offer from Ecolarm Ltd of Victoria Road, Swindon of a £100 to start such a fund. Any offers of this nature will be more than welcome, Bob Jefferies would be pleased to contact anyone so interested. We have many generous supporters in and around the Town who freely sponsor the match balls and players. But perhaps if anyone wishing to sponsor on these lines find there choice already filled, they would transfer to this new idea.

Yes we have signed Don and here's hoping he enjoys his game tonight. I know you will give him a Royal welcome.

Players' Appearances

	Football League		League Cup		F.A. Cup	
	Apps.	Gls	Apps.	Gls	Apps.	Gls.
J. Allen	10		1			
T. Anderson	32	10	4		5	
J. Barron	22		3		5	
F. Burrows	28(1)	2	3		5	
J. Butler	14(4)	1	2(1)		1(1)	
G. Chalklin	3				(1)	
W. Dixon	30(1)	5	3		4(1)	2
P. Eastoe	25	9	4	1	5	1
J. Emanuel	6				4	
J. Gilligan	2(4)					
T. Hubbard	8(3)		3		2	
T. Jenkins	10(12)		1(1)		(1)	
J. McLaughlin	30	1	3		2	
D. Moss	24(1)	4	4	2	5	2
C. Prophet	12(1)		4			
K. Stroud	30	4	4	1	5	
D. Syrett	15(2)	6			3(1)	2
G. Taylor	19				4	
N. Trollope	32	1	4	2	5	1

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1969 League Cup Souvenir Ties	25p	First Division Rings	35p
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Team Photographs - Coloured	50p	Swindon Town Ashtrays	40p
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If there is a fanatical supporter who would like to become a part-time worker for the Pools Organisation and who has their own transport and wants to earn some cash in their spare time I would like to hear from you on SWINDON 31510. Hours to suit.

DOUG BUSWELL
Pools Manager.

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TOMMY SPENCER (Defender) Once a striker, Tommy was York's top scorer in 1966/67. Earlier he had played for Celtic and Southampton and, after leaving York in 1967, he played for Workington and Lincoln. Rotherham signed him last season when he was ever-present.

League Record: Celtic nil aps.; Southampton 3 aps; York 54(3) aps; 20 gls, Workington 167 aps. 10 gls. Lincoln 67(7) 10 gls. Rotherham 72 aps, 5 gls.

JOHN BRECKIN (Defender) John earned his League debut with Rotherham in 1971/72 and the following season he spent a loan period with Darlington. He has been the left-back in every game this season.

League Record: Darlington (loan) 4 aps; Rotherham 131 (3) aps 5 gls.

TREVOR PHILLIPS (Midfield) Trevor is a former England Youth International who made his first appearance in Rotherham's League eleven in 1969/70. He has scored six goals this season.

League Record: Rotherham 150 (32) aps 38 goals.

JIM GOODFELLOW (Midfield) Jim began his career with Port Vale, spending three seasons as a first-teamer before moving on to Workington in 1969. He missed only four games in his first four seasons there and signed for Rotherham two seasons ago.

League Record: Port Vale 77(8) aps 11 gls; Workington 199 aps 15 gls; Rotherham 91 aps. 5 gls.

RICHARD FINNEY (Striker) Richard is Rotherham's leading scorer with nine goals, following last season's effort when he led with 16. Richard made a scoring debut for Rotherham against Brentford in March 1974.

League Record: Rotherham 73 aps. 24 gls.

TOM MCALISTER (Goalkeeper) Tom is currently on loan to Rotherham from local rivals Sheffield United while Jim McDonagh is on the injured list. At the moment he is number two at Bramall Lane to Jim Brown but he was ever-present for the Blades in 1972/73.

League Record: Sheff. Un 62 aps. Rotherham (loan) 8 aps.

ROTHERHAM U



"By co

FRONT ROW Mick Leng, Alan Crawford, Trevor Phillips, Jim Goodfellow

BACK ROW Trevor Swift, Paul Stancliffe, Bob Delgado, Jim McAlister, Tom Spencer and Steve Derrett.

DICK HABBIN (Striker) Dick made his name with Reading where he made his League bow in 1969/70 and was top scorer the following season. He moved to Rotherham last season and has scored six goals this season.

League Record: Reading 204(14) aps. 42 gls. Rotherham 50 aps. 16 gls.

Tom is
from
Jim
At the
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JOHN GREEN (Defender) John developed in the juniors at Millmoor and made his League debut at the beginning of this season against Southend United. He quickly settled and has held the right-back spot for most of the season.

League Record: Rotherham 28 aps.

PAUL STANCLIFFE (Defender) Another Rotherham discovery to be introduced to the first-team this season, Paul opened the season at centre-back and hasn't missed a game since. He has scored three goals.

League Record: Rotherham 32 aps. 2 gls

ROTHERHAM UNITED



"By courtesy of the Rotherham Advertiser"

Crawford, Trevor Phillips, Jim Goodfellow, Richard Finney, Dick Habbin
Stancliffe, Bob Delgado, Jim McDonagh, Barry Wagstaff, John Breckin,
Steve Derrett.

MARK RHODES (Midfield) Mark won his League debut against Walsall in November and has since won a regular place.

League record: Rotherham 16 aps. 2 gls.

MICHAEL LENG (Midfield) Another local discovery, Michael first came into the senior side in 1971/72 and is now approaching his 100th League appearance.

League Record: Rotherham 92(3) aps 2 gls.

BARRIE WAGSTAFF (Midfield) Barrie joined Rotherham from Reading last season after 5 years with the Berkshire club. He began his career with Sheffield United where he was a regular member of their First Division side.

League Record: Sheff Un. 106 (10) aps 5 gls; Reading 197 (6) aps 22 gls. Rotherham 19 (1) aps 1 gl.

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DAVID GWYTHYR (Striker) David has only recently joined Rotherham from Halifax. A former Welsh under-23 international, he made an early impression at Swansea where he was leading scorer for his last four seasons until transferring to Halifax in 1973.

League Record: Swansea 213 (4) aps. 59 gls; Halifax 104 aps. 26 gls; Rotherham 3 aps. 1 gl.

ALAN CRAWFORD (Striker) Alan grew up with Rotherham but made his League debut while on loan to Mansfield in 1972/73. It wasn't until the following season that he got his chance in the Rotherham side.

League Record: Mansfield (loan) 1 (1) aps. Rotherham 106 (4) aps 11 gls.

aps.

Third Division Scene by Tony Pullein

Some do come back ...

Professional football is notorious for the manner in which it so arbitrarily discards some of its best talent. Dozens of today's most accomplished players were once rejected by one club or another. Alan Ball was turned away by both Bolton and Wolves, Bill Shankly told Ted MacDougall he would never make it, Sir Matt Busby opined that Hugh Curran, later to become a Scottish international, had no future in the professional game.

There are many, many more. That the Balls and the MacDougalls fought against expert advice, later to become big hits, is a tribute to their own determination and belief in their abilities. Yet one is moved to ask --- for every Alan Ball who made it how many more might have done so, given just a little more encouragement?

When one sees so much money ploughed by the big clubs into extensive scouting networks, particularly in the hurly-burly chase for school-boy talent, one has to ask if a percentage of this cash might not be better used inviting some of the rival clubs' free-transfer men to undergo a course of special training.

The Third Division this season provides many outstanding cases of players who have come back from the scrapheap. Cardiff City have a striker, Tony Evans, who got only a handful of games in Blackpool's first-team before being released last summer. Now he is Cardiff's top scorer with 18 goals. All he needed was the confidence of a manager to give him a run in the team, just the chance to prove his own abilities.

Gillingham have unearthed a scoring sensation in young Danny Westwood who has hit eight goals in the few weeks since his transfer from Queen's Park Rangers. The situation here was somewhat different in that Rangers, with a highly successful first-team, were not in a position to offer Westwood more than the occasional first-team game. But the Evans case is different for Blackpool, his old club, are desperately short of a consistent goalscorer.

Chesterfield's top scorer, with 15 goals, is Terry Shanahan who was discarded not by one club, but two. Spurs allowed him to leave without giving him a first-team game; Ipswich, grudgingly, gave him four League outings. After drifting out to Halifax he became a successful striker.

Just occasionally a club has the chance to rectify its own misjudgement. Back in the mid sixties,

Mike Cullerton was Port Vale's leading scorer. But in 1969 they gave him a "free". He signed for non-League Stafford Rangers and became such a regular scorer that Vale paid £5,000 to get him back again last summer. Now he is their top scorer again with 18 goals.

The present economic state of the game means that we shall see a larger-than-usual free transfer list at the end of this season. And, because clubs all over are reducing staffs, there will be even fewer opportunities for the determined ones to get another chance. So managers have even more pressure put on them to assess which of their youngsters really has a soccer future and which should be released.

The difficulty is in deciding at what stage a lad has reached his full potential. Some, like Jimmy Greaves, are sensations as 13 year-olds and never lose their touch. Others, as Manchester City's Colin Bell, need an awful lot of reassurance and time before they develop the confidence to display their full abilities.

Part of the fascination of any sport is in its uncertainty. One manager may back a player to make it big, only to be badly let down. Another may make an over-hasty decision to release a boy, only to see him delivering the goods for another manager.

It's just another example of the many frustrations of a manager's job!

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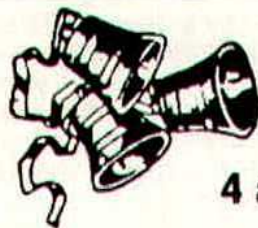
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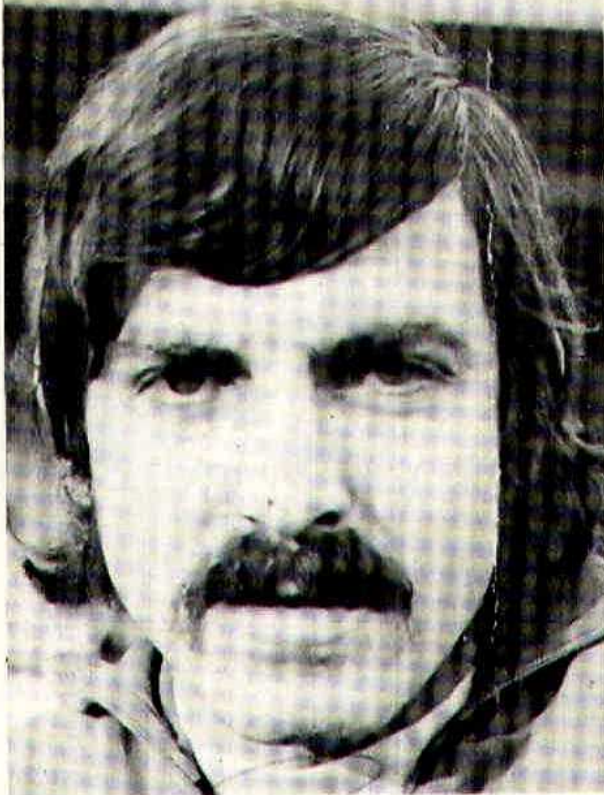
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TWENTY

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VOUCHER 1975
1976



Don Returns

For the Record

Division Three 6th March, 1976

SWINDON TOWN 0

Barron, Butler, Trollope, Stroud, Burrows, Prohett, Moss, Dixon, Eastoe, McLaughlin, Anderson, (s) Syrett

SOUTHEND UNITED 0

Webster, Dyer, Hadley, Moody, Ford, Little, Nicholl, Foggo, Bentney, Parker, Cunningham (s) Brace

Football Combination 6th March, 1976

ORIENT 0

SWINDON TOWN 0

Allan, Hooman, Tanner, Thompson, Broom, T. Brinkworth, A. Gilligan, Gardner, Farr, Jenkins, R. Brinkworth. (s) J. Gilligan

FROM OUR NOT SO TAME STATISTICIAN

Dr B E Cooper

Open wide. No, I am not referring to our hard worked defence. The time has come again to take the team's performance temperature.

What a strange set of results since my last article. Nine matches have been played since then. In the first five the team collected nine points. I began to think that they had read my article and were getting ready to claim all the credit. Then the last four matches happened producing no points at all. After nine points from five games it is hard to take four consecutive losses. It is small consolation that taking all nine matches the point per game average is actually better than the team's performance before these matches.

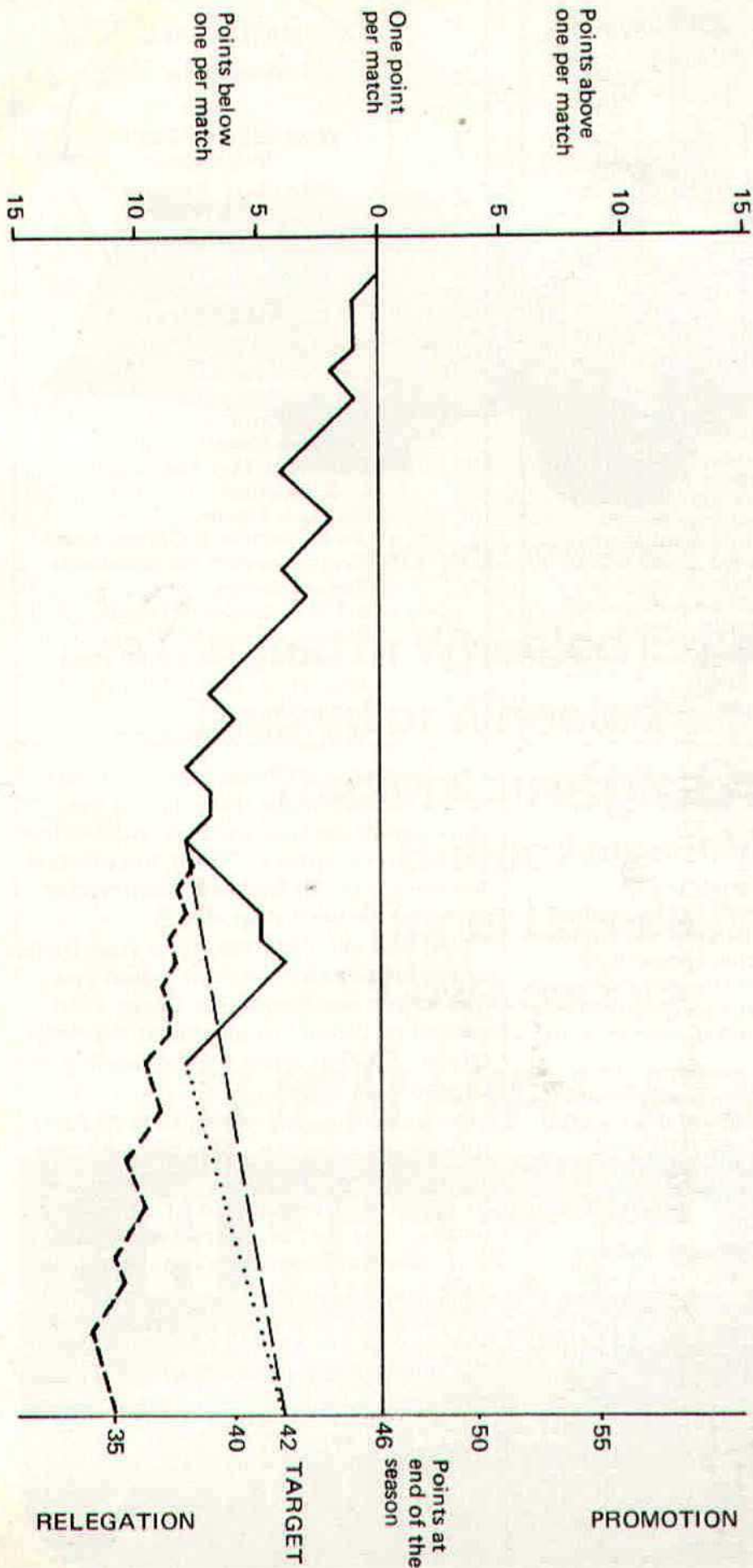
I have produced my performance diagram again to show what must now be done to remain in Division 3. Instead of re-computing the forecast I have reproduced the earlier forecast calculated after 23 matches. This is shown as a broken line down to end at 35 points at the end of the season. The straight line drawn as dashes ending at 42 points is the target line set by Danny. It is the line the team should be following - or be above. After the great start the position is now 1 or 2 points below target. The line of dots drawn from the current position and ending at 42 points is the line the team must now follow to reach Danny's target. It is clearly steeper than the previous target line.

To take my own advice I should not be over influenced by the latest match or two but should look at the group of nine matches as a whole. As I have said above nine points in nine matches does actually represent an improved performance and if this were to be maintained we would have 38 points at the end of the season rather than the 35 previously forecast. The boundary between relegation and safety was at 38 last season. Thus we need a further improvement in performance to be sure of survival.

We still have to play most of the bottom clubs. Wins against these clubs would be particularly valuable. It is within the team's own power to avoid relegation. Team save thyself! I want to see you beat Oxford and Reading next season before huge local crowds.

See chart on opposite page

1975/76
Season



2	L D D L	Chesterfield
4	L D D L	Walsall
6	L D D L	Gillingham
8	L D D L	Shrewsbury
10	L D D L	Sheffield Wed.
12	L D D L	Port Vale
14	L D D L	Hereford
16	L D D L	Colchester
18	L D D L	Rotherham
20	L D D L	Halifax
22	L D D L	Wrexham
24	L D D L	Bury
26	L D D L	Grimsby
28	L D D L	Southend
30	L D D L	Crystal Palace
32	L D D L	Preston
34	L D D L	Peterborough
36	L D D L	Brighton
38	L D D L	Mansfield
40	L D D L	Chester
42	L D D L	Cardiff City
44	L D D L	Millwall
46	L D D L	Gillingham
	L D D L	Port Vale
	L D D L	Sheffield Wed.
	L D D L	Bury
	L D D L	Crystal Palace
	L D D L	Aldershot
	L D D L	Preston
	L D D L	Peterborough
	L D D L	Hereford
	L D D L	Grimsby
	L D D L	Southend
	L D D L	Rotherham
	L D D L	Halifax
	L D D L	Brighton
	L D D L	Mansfield
	L D D L	Chester
	L D D L	Chesterfield
	L D D L	Colchester
	L D D L	Shrewsbury
	L D D L	Aldershot
	L D D L	Cardiff City
	L D D L	Millwall
	L D D L	Walsall
	L D D L	(Wrexham)



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Jimmy McGuigan (Rotherham's Manager)

History repeated itself for Jimmy McGuigan last season when he successfully led Rotherham to promotion to the Third Division. He did the same thing for his previous club Chesterfield who were a struggling Fourth Division side when he took over. He lifted them into Division Three and only narrowly missed further promotion to the Second Division.

Glasgow-born McGuigan began his professional footballing career with Sunderland shortly after the last war. As a winger he was rather overshadowed by Len Duns, an established First Division star, and his League appearances were few and far between.

Following a transfer to Stockport in 1949 he began to carve a niche for himself but it was after signing for Crewe a year later that he really made a name for himself. In six seasons he made more than 200 League appearances for the club. Then he left to complete his playing days with Rochdale.

He returned to Crewe to take the trainer's job and, in June 1960, he was appointed manager, a post he held for over four years until resigning to accept a similar appointment at Grimsby. After leaving Blundell Park he went to Chesterfield at the beginning of the 1967/68 campaign.

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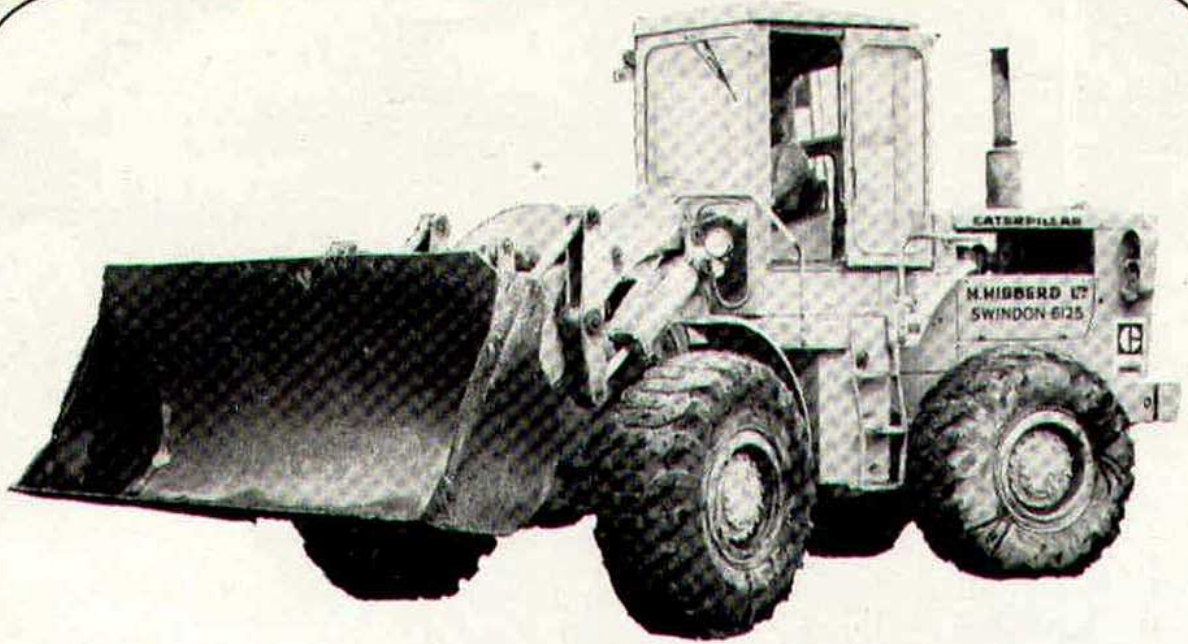
Could you sell a few tickets to your friends or workmates each week or would you like to join our Moonraker Draw. If so we will be pleased to see you at the Pools Office. £900 in prizes are just waiting to be won each week.

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Here's hoping we see a good match and may the best team win. May that team be Swindon.

Yours,
Doug Buswell, Pools Manager.



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TUESDAY, MARCH 9th , 1976

K.O. 7.30 p.m.

SWINDON

- 1 Barron
- 2 Butler
- 3 Trollope
- 4 McLaughlin
- 5 Burrows
- 6 Prophet
- 7 Moss
- 8 Rogers
- 9 Syrett
- 10 Dixon
- 11 Anderson
- 12 Stroud



ROTHERHAM

- 1 McAllister
- 2 Green
- 3 Breckin
- 4 Rhodes
- 5 Stancliffe
- 6 Derrett
- 7 Finney
- 8 Habbin
- 9 Gwyther
- 10 Goodfellow
- 11 Crawford

Referee: Mr. K. W. BAKER (Rugby)
Linesmen: Red Flag: Mr. E. J. ATTWOOD (Radstock)
Yellow Flag: Mr. B. R. STOCKLEY (Swanage)

KENNETH WILLIAM BAKER (Rugby)
A chief security officer with a large industrial company, he served with the Metropolitan and Warwickshire Police Forces for 12 years rising to the rank of Detective Sergeant. Began refereeing in 1959 and went on The League Line in 1967. Promoted to the Supplementary List in 1970 and the full list a year later. Was a lineman for last season's Northern Ireland v Wales match and the F.A. Cup semi-final replay, Fulham v Birmingham City. A married man with four children he is Chairman of the Rugby and District referees' Association and the Rugby and District Junior League and plays tennis for his local police team.

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Thank you for your support
and please don't forget
Division Three

WREXHAM
Tuesday March 16th, 1976
K. O. 7.30 p.m.

