



OFFICIAL MATCH DAY MAGAZINE 15p

SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

SWINDON TOWN
v

CAMBRIDGE UNITED

Swindon Town Football Co Limited

Registered Office County Ground
Swindon

Telephone No. 22118
President Mr. W. J. Castle
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WOULDN'T A PINT GO DOWN WELL TONIGHT?



Bits and Pieces

The origins of Cambridge United go back almost sixty years, but the club played under the title of Abbey United until 1949.

After progressing through minor leagues to the re-organised Southern in 1958, Cambridge struggled most seasons to improve on a mid-table position. Twice United reached second place - in 1961, scoring one hundred goals and again two years later. But there was little joy as local rivals Cambridge City took the championship by three clear points.

United had to wait until 1969 before gaining that top spot and in retaining the title twelve months later, won sufficient support to oust Bradford Park Avenue from the Football League.

It took Cambridge three seasons to climb out of the Fourth Division but the club struggled in the higher sphere and went down again a year later. Just 450 people witnessed United's visit to Rochdale on February 5, 1974. Three days later, top scorer Brian Greenhalgh was sold to Bournemouth for a club record £35,000.

The gate of 10,998 for Cambridge against Peterborough on January 2 this year is the highest League attendance ever recorded at the Abbey Stadium. A friendly match against Chelsea in May 1970 attracted an estimated fourteen thousand crowd.

Alan Biley, top scorer for Cambridge this season, needs just seven League goals to take him past the club record of 47 held by Brian Greenhalgh.

Although this is the first League visit of Cambridge United to the County Ground, a Cambridge side

has appeared here before. The City club, known until 1950 as Cambridge Town, came here in the F.A. Cup during the 1946-47 season. It was a First Round tie, played on November 30, before a crowd of 16,161. Swindon defeated the Spartan League side by four goals to one - Billy Lucas and Bill Stephens each scoring twice.

Swindon's Easter tally of five out of six points is the best that the Town has managed for this holiday period since the promotion year of 1969. Then, Good Friday saw a 2 - 1 win at Crewe and the following day a point was brought back from Shrewsbury.

The Town rounded off with a 3 - 0 home victory over Bournemouth on the Monday - watched, incidentally, by a crowd of 22,464!

Peter Leggett, who made fifteen League appearances for Swindon during 1964, turned out for Cambridge in the club's first Football League season - 1970/71. He appeared 21 times and scored three goals including one in United's first ever League win, 3 - 1 against Oldham Athletic on August 29. Also on the Cambridge payroll at that time was a player who later joined the Town from Kettering - Ron Howell. He appeared eleven times for Cambridge and added a further 25 during his stay at Swindon.



Peter Leggett



Ron Howell

Fact finder

CAMBRIDGE UNITED

COMPLETE FOOTBALL LEAGUE RECORD:

	Div	P	W	D	L	F - A	Pts	Pos	F.A.C	F.L.C	Avg Round Reached Home Lge Gate	Top League Goalscorer
76-77	: 4	46	26	13	7	87-40	65	1st	1st	2nd	4,445	Alan Biley 19
75-76	: 4	46	14	15	17	58-62	43	13th	1st	1st	2,566	Tommy Horsfall 15
74-75	: 4	46	20	14	12	62-44	54	6th	3rd	1st	3,021	Bobby Shinton 15
73-74	: 3	46	13	9	24	48-81	35	21st	3rd	2nd	4,377	Brian Greenhalgh 10
72-73	: 4	46	20	17	9	67-57	57	3rd	1st	1st	4,227	Brian Greenhalgh 18
71-72	: 4	46	17	14	15	62-60	48	10th	2nd	1st	4,891	Brian Greenhalgh 19
70-71	: 4	46	15	13	18	51-66	43	20th	2nd	1st	5,045	Ivan Hollett 11
TOTAL :		322	125	95	102	435-410	345					

to end of last season

Talk of the Town

By the Chairman

I hope that by the time you read these notes we shall still be in a challenging position for promotion. After our Easter programme, having gained five out of six points, we are now faced with the difficult task of having more away matches than at home, but recently, we have shown, that we can win points away from home. Tonight Cambridge United visit us with very definite hopes for promotion. We must congratulate Cambridge on their progress since gaining admission to the Football League and they like Oxford United and Hereford United, have proved that Southern League Clubs of their former standards, can more than hold their own in the Football League. This must be very encouraging to clubs like Yeovil and Bath City who are trying hard to gain admission to the League. The sadness when a club loses its league status, with all its serious consequences to the Club concerned, is the deciding factor with league clubs when voting on new applications.

Ron Atkinson, who did such a good job for Cambridge before leaving for West Bromwich, is well known in our area and we wish him luck in his new job and he must be delighted that Cambridge are doing so well.

What a pity that our exciting game with Oxford United should be marred by the shocking behaviour of some of the visitors from Oxford. This minority should be barred from every football ground in the Country. Every person convicted in our courts should be reported to the football league and instructed to stay away from all grounds, failure to do this to result in heavy penalties. Football gives so much pleasure to hundreds of thousands of people that the behaviour of these hooligans, must not be allowed to spoil it. The police do a wonderful job keeping these idiots under control inside our grounds, but cannot be expected to look after them when they roam the streets. Everybody is calling for stiffer penalties and sentences, how long will it be before the Government acts. This cancer in our society is not confined only to football crowds unfortunately.

Our Town End supporters, really did us proud on Easter Monday and proved that they can sing and chant in the way we all like to hear it done.

The Easter weather proved a nightmare for players trying to cope with gale force winds which usually seem to blow from one end of the pitch to the other and we the supporters expect split second reactions to be so accurate. It was very pleasing to see how well our lads played against the strong

winds and speaks well for our coaching system. Talking of coaching John Trollope is taking to his new job like a duck to water and this in spite of still having to keep himself fit enough to play in our first team, while Danny needs him.

John's latest success was the Youth teams win over Bristol City youths at Bristol last week, by two goals to nil. With our injury list as it is John has had to practically turn out his youth team in the London Combination fixtures. Mick French is making a comeback after his cartilage operation and is doing a good job encouraging our youngsters and I understand that he is quickly getting fit himself.

On Easter Sunday Jack Conley and his staff organised an Easter Bonnet Parade in the Supporters Club. This parade took place during the interval held between his bingo sessions which prove so popular. The Easter Bonnet parade also proved popular with twenty five entries everyone of whom had obviously put a lot of hard work and thought into the making of their entries. I am sure that this will be the

forerunner of an annual event and everyone concerned in this successful event must be congratulated.

Doug Buswell also held an important event on Easter Monday after the match in the Rendezvous Club, when he and his staff organised the draw for Lottery Number 4 giving away the thousand pounds first prize and sixty other prizes ranging from the two hundred and fifty pound second prize down to the smallest prize of five pounds. Doug is soon going to give these prizes away weekly so keep in touch with your local agent to make sure that you do not lose this wonderful opportunity to partake in our future lotteries.

Bob Jefferies tells me that he still has a few places open for our Club Dinner and Dance to be held at the Blunsdon House Hotel on Wednesday, 12th April. Give him a ring or visit if you are interested. Heres hoping that you will enjoy tonights game and once again thanks for your support.



Swindon striker Chris Guthrie, well surrounded by Oxford United defenders, heads the ball goalwards during the Town's win on Easter Monday.

From the COMMERCIAL OFFICE

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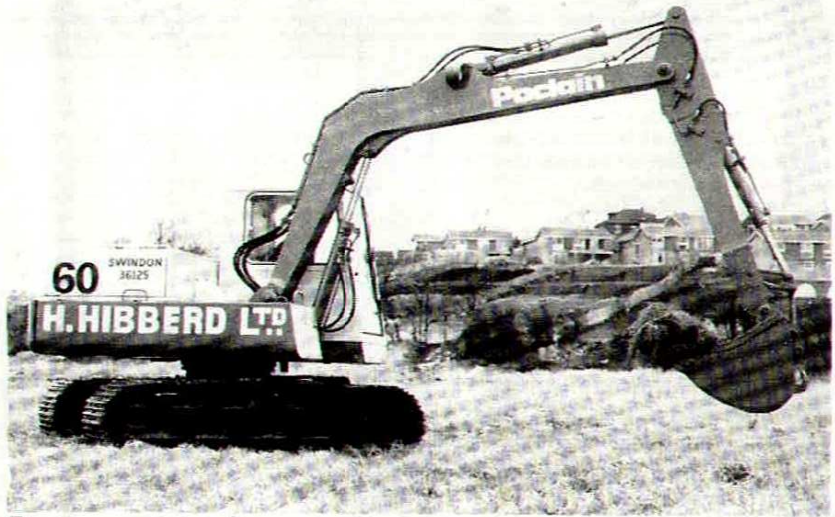
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DIVISION THREE LEAGUE TABLEup to and including Saturday April 1, 1978

Wrexham	37	13	6	0	40-16	9	4	5	26-20	54	1st	18th	9989	16281	*Dixie McNeil 28(16)
Cambridge U	40	16	3	1	44-10	4	7	9	22-36	50	1st	24th	5319	10998	Alan Biley 23 (20)
Preston N E	39	14	4	2	41-17	3	10	6	12-16	48	1st	19th	8192	11920	Alex Bruce 25 (23)
Gillingham	39	10	8	2	33-19	4	9	6	26-29	45	1st	15th	7228	10978	Ken Price 18 (17), Danny Westwood 18 (16)
Peterborough U	37	10	7	1	21-11	5	7	7	9-14	44	2nd	22nd	5601	10156	*Trevor Anderson 12 (7), Tommy Robson 9 (8)
Tranmere R	39	12	4	3	35-16	3	8	9	15-25	42	1st	6th	4267	7280	Ronnie Moore 15 (15)
Walsall	38	9	7	3	27-14	4	9	6	19-25	42	5th	17th	5407	8341	Alan Buckley 27 (22)
Swindon Town	37	11	5	3	37-19	3	8	7	20-28	41	2nd	17th	7635	11054	Dave Moss 21 (15)
Chester	39	10	8	1	31-20	0	13	7	14-30	41	7th	18th	4119	9514	Paul Crossley 13 (9)
Bury	39	7	10	3	30-18	6	4	9	25-28	40	2nd	14th	5218	9783	Andy Rowland 14 (13)
Chesterfield	37	11	6	2	27-10	3	6	9	17-26	40	1st	19th	5048	12395	Ron Fern 11 (10)
Colchester U	39	9	8	2	32-14	4	5	11	16-28	39	1st	13th	4709	6447	Bobby Gough 16 (12)
Shrewsbury T	39	7	7	5	30-18	5	6	9	19-31	37	1st	15th	3621	6116	Ian Atkins 8(8), Sam Irvine 8(8)
Carlisle U	39	7	8	4	25-24	3	9	8	22-28	37	11th	23rd	5598	11309	* Dave Kemp 22 (17)
Lincoln C	40	7	8	5	26-22	5	5	10	17-30	37	13th	24th	4995	8811	Peter Graham 8(8)
Sheffield W.	38	10	6	3	23-12	2	6	11	18-33	36	13th	24th	11180	18803	Tommy Tynan 18(13)
Exeter C.	39	9	6	4	24-15	3	6	11	16-36	36	2nd	20th	5134	8334	Tony Kellow 15(12)
Oxford U.	39	10	8	2	32-17	1	4	14	22-40	34	2nd	18th	4769	8746	Peter Foley 20(18)
Port Vale	39	7	9	3	27-18	1	8	11	14-38	33	12th	23rd	3822	5136	Ken Beamish 13(10)
Rotherham U.	36	9	4	5	22-14	2	6	10	22-37	32	2nd	23rd	5128	12630	Richard Finney 15(12)
Bradford C.	39	10	6	4	35-23	1	3	15	12-41	31	11th	24th	5183	12857	Bernie Wright 10(10)
Plymouth A	38	4	6	8	21-24	4	8	8	25-32	30	8th	23rd	6657	12635	Terry Austin 11(11)
Hereford U.	38	9	7	4	26-18	0	4	14	5-31	29	14th	24th	4727	6392	* Billy Holmes 9(7)
Portsmouth	40	4	10	6	28-31	1	6	13	7-35	26	13th	24th	10204	13152	* Colin Garwood 13(8)

*Dixie McNeil 4(3) goals for Hereford Utd. Dave Kemp 21(16) goals for Portsmouth
Trevor Anderson 9(4) goals for Swindon T. Billy Holmes 7(5) goals for Wimbledon
Colin Garwood 12(7) goals for Colchester Utd.
No. of League goals scored in brackets

DIVISION 3 1977/78

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

Date	Opponents	Ground	Score	Scorers	Attendance
1977					
Aug. 13	League Cup (1) Swansea City	A	3 - 1	11 - 3 - 9	5878
Aug. 16	League Cup (2) Swansea City	H	2 - 1	7 - 11	5415
Aug. 20	Sheffield Wednesday	A	1 - 1	8	12095
Aug. 23	Peterborough United	H	2 - 0	9 - 10	7117
Aug. 27	Portsmouth	H	3 - 1	8 - 10 - 7	9396
Aug. 31	League Cup 2 Cardiff City	H	5 - 1	9 11(2) 7 10	8919
Sept. 3	Walsall	A	0 - 2		4717
Sept. 10	Chesterfield	H	2 - 1	9 - 12	6847
Sept. 13	Preston North End	A	1 - 1	11	6014
Sept. 16	Bury	H	1 - 1	9	8139
Sept. 24	Wrexham	A	1 - 2	7	8002
Sept. 27	Cambridge United	A	2 - 5	7 - 10	4423
Sept. 30	Shrewsbury Town	H	5 - 0	8-5-7-9-3	6809
Oct. 4	Bradford City	H	0 - 1		7569
Oct. 8	Lincoln City	A	1 - 3	9	4852
Oct. 15	Port Vale	H	1 - 1	5	6132
Oct. 22	Chester	A	0 - 1		3539
Oct. 25	League Cup 3 Portsmouth	A	1 - 1	7	14955
Oct. 29	Exeter City	H	4 - 0	7 - 10 - 11(2)	7021
Nov. 1	League Cup 3 Portsmouth	H	4 - 3	8 - 11 - 7 - 10	9378
Nov. 5	Gillingham	H	3 - 2	5 - 7 - 11	7080
Nov. 11	Colchester United	A	0 - 2		4788
Nov. 19	Rotherham United	H	2 - 0	10 - 9	6008
Nov. 26	F.A.C. 1 Boreham Wood	A	0 - 0		2242
Nov. 29	Replay Boreham Wood	H	2 - 0	7 - 10	7016
Dec. 3	Hereford United	A	1 - 1	10	4547
Dec. 7	League Cup 4 Wrexham	A	0 - 2		10015
Dec. 10	Carlisle United	H	2 - 2	7 - 4	5889
Dec. 17	F.A. Cup 2 Brentford	H	2 - 1	6 - 10	8447
Dec. 26	Oxford United	A	3 - 3	8(2) - 9	8746
Dec. 27	Plymouth Argyle	H	3 - 1	7 - 9 - 8	9732
Dec. 31	Gillingham	A	2 - 2	7 - 8	7477
1978					
Jan. 2	Tranmere Rovers	H	1 - 0	10	11054
Jan. 7	Nottingham Forest	A	1 - 4	7	28953
Jan. 14	Sheffield Wednesday	H	2 - 2	10(2)	7609
Jan. 20	Portsmouth	A	2 - 1	7 - 8	11451
Feb. 25	Shrewsbury Town	A	3 - 2	4 - 7 - 8	3112
Feb. 28	Bury	A	0 - 0		4423
Mar. 4	Lincoln City	H	1 - 0	19	6945
Mar. 7	Preston North End	H	0 - 2		10211
Mar. 11	Port Vale (6)	A	0 - 1		3723
Mar. 14	Wrexham	H	1 - 2	7	7697
Mar. 17	Chester (LCF)	H	1 - 1	8	4275
Mar. 22	Exeter City	A	0 - 0		4449
Mar. 25	Plymouth Argyle	A	2 - 0	13 - 9	9174
Mar. 27	Oxford United	H	3 - 2	7 (3)	9517
Mar. 28					
Mar. 31	Tranmere Rovers	A	1 - 1	9	2812
April 4	Cambridge Utd.	H			
April 8	Colchester United (SF)	H			
April 11	Walsall	H			
April 15	Rotherham United	A			
April 18	Peterborough	A			
April 22	Hereford United	H			
April 26	Bradford City	A			
April 29	Carlisle United				
May 3	Chesterfield	A			
May 6	F.A. Cup Final				

These fixtures are the copyright of The Football League Limited.

FOR THE RECORD

22nd March v. Exeter City (DIV III)

Allan, McLaughlin, Ford, Stroud, Carter, Prohett, Moss, Kamara, Guthrie, Bates, Trollope

25th March v Plymouth Argyle (DIV III)

Allan, McLaughlin, Ford, Trollope, Carter, Prohett, Moss, Kamara, Guthrie, McHale, Cunningham (Bates)

27th March v. Oxford United (DIV III)

Allan, McLaughlin, Ford, Trollope, Carter, Prohett, Moss, Kamara, Guthrie, McHale, Cunningham.

31st March v. Tranmere Rovers

Allan, McLaughlin, Ford, Trollope, Carter, Prohett, Moss, Kamara, Guthrie, McHale, Cunningham.

Date	Opponents	Ground	Score
1977			
Aug. 20	Birmingham	H	1 - 1
Aug. 31	Reading	A	1 - 2
Sept. 3	Ipswich Town	H	0 - 3
Sept. 10	Luton Town	A	2 - 1
Sept. 13	Crystal Palace	H	1 - 0
Sept. 20	Orient	H	0 - 0
Sept. 24	Oxford United	H	0 - 1
Oct. 4	Queens Park Rangers	A	1 - 8
Oct. 8	Bristol Rovers	H	4 - 3
Oct. 15	Tottenham Hotspur	A	1 - 3
Oct. 22	Cardiff City	H	2 - 1
Oct. 26	Chelsea	A	0 - 2
Nov. 12	Norwich City	H	2 - 2
Nov. 16	Crystal Palace	A	1 - 4
Nov. 19	West Ham United	A	0 - 3
Nov. 26	Leicester City	H	0 - 5
Dec. 3	Plymouth Argyle	H	1 - 1
Dec. 13	Bristol City	A	3 - 1
Dec. 17	Southampton	A	0 - 4
1978			
Jan. 21	Ipswich Town	A	0 - 3
Feb. 7	Arsenal	H	2 - 0
Feb. 11	Orient	A	6 - 3
Feb. 14	Birmingham City	A	P
Feb. 18	Oxford United	A	1 - 3
Feb. 25	Chelsea	H	3 - 3
Feb. 28	Fulham	A	1 - 2
Mar. 7	Bristol Rovers	A	1 - 2
Mar. 11	Tottenham Hotspur	H	0 - 2
Mar. 15	Cardiff City	A	1 - 2
Mar. 21	Luton	H	1 - 1
Mar. 25	Southampton	H	1 - 2
Mar. 27	Arsenal	A	0 - 4
April 1	Bristol City	H	1 - 1
April 5	Norwich City	A	
April 8	Leicester City	A	
April 12	Hereford	A	
April 15	West Ham United	H	
April 18	Fulham	H	
April 22	Plymouth Argyle	A	
April 25	Queens Park Rangers	H	
April 29	Hereford United	H	
May 2	Reading	H	

First Team Appearances and Goals 1977-78

Totals include subs (Goals in parentheses)

	Total	League	F.L.C.	F.A.C.
1. Allan	45	36	5	4
2. McLaughlin	45	36	5	4
3. Trollope	44(2)	34(1)	6(1)	4
4. Stroud	41(2)	31(2)	6	4
5. Aizlewood	34(3)	25(3)	6	3
6. Prohett	46(1)	37	5	4(1)
7. Moss	46(21)	36(15)	6(4)	4(2)
8. Kamara	45(11)	35(10)	6(1)	4
9. Guthrie	40(12)	32(10)	4(2)	4
10. McHale	46(13)	36(9)	6(2)	4(2)
11. Anderson	27(9)	19(4)	6(5)	2
12. Ford	32(1)	26(1)	4	2
13. Cunningham	12	11(1)	1	
15. Gilligan	3	3		
16. Roberts	2	1	1	
17. Lewis	4	2	1	1
18. Carter	16	16		
19. Bates	9	9(1)		

IN TOWN TODAY

MALCOLM WEBSTER (Goalkeeper)

Made his League bow with Arsenal in 1969 but was soon transferred to Fulham where he held his place for three years. Southend signed him in 1973 and he moved on to Cambridge at the beginning of last season.

League record: Arsenal 3 aps.; Fulham 95 aps.; Southend 96 aps. Cambridge 73 aps.

TREVOR HOWARD (Defender)

Trevor has switched from centre-back to right-back following the departure of Brendan Batson to West Bromwich. Trevor is a former Norwich player and he came on as substitute for them at Wembley in the 1973 League Cup final

League record: Norwich 81(43) aps., 13 gls; Bournemouth 86 aps., 11 gls; Cambridge 83 aps., 5 gls.

DAVID STRINGER (Defender)

David is another ex-Norwich player and he was a stalwart in the Canaries' defence for 11 years, appearing in two League Cup finals at Wembley. He joined Cambridge at the beginning of last season.

League record: Norwich 417(2) aps., 19 gls; Cambridge 77 aps., 1 gl.

STEVE FALLON (Defender)

Steve developed in the junior sides and made his League debut in 1974/75. The following season he took over the regular place he has since held. Apart from being an important member of the Cambridge defence, Steve has contributed seven goals this season.

League record: Cambridge 121(5) aps., 12 gls.

IAN BUCKLEY (Defender)

Ian returned from South Africa this season to sign for Cambridge. He began his career with Oldham, making his debut in 1971/72. It wasn't until transferring to Stockport in 1975 that he began to play regular League soccer.

League record: Oldham 5 aps; Rochdale (loan) 6 aps; Stockport 55(10) aps., 2 gls; Cambridge 10(2)

GRAHAM WATSON (Midfield)

Graham made his reputation with Doncaster Rovers, making his League bow in 1966 and completing more than 150 senior games for them before signing for Cambridge in 1972.

League record: Doncaster 152(4) aps., 34 gls; Cambridge 215(2) aps., 23 gls.

CAMBRIDGE UNITED



Back Row (left to right): Trevor Howard, Floyd Streete, Dave Lyon, Phil Walker (now Rotherham), Malcolm Webster, Steve Fallon, Paul Kent.
Centre Row: Peter Melville (Trainer), Jamie Murray, Jerry Hutton, Terry Owen (now Rochdale), Graham Watson, John Clarke, Roger Avery, John Docherty (Manager).
Front Row: Alan Biley, Steve Spriggs, Ron Atkinson (former Manager), Brendon Batson (now W.B.A.), Paddy Sowden, David Stringer, Tom Finney.

STEVE SPRIGGS (Midfield)

Steve made his early League appearances with Huddersfield in 1974/75 but he left at the end of that season to join Cambridge. Since then he has been a fixture in midfield.

League record: Huddersfield 2(2) aps.; Cambridge 116(1) aps., 18 gls.

FLOYD STREETE (Midfield)

West Indian born Floyd has been given several runs in the side this season and has been rapidly gaining in experience. He turned professional with Cambridge in July 1976 and made a couple of appearances in their League eleven last season.

League record: Cambridge 15(5) aps., 4 gls.

TOM FINNEY (Forward)

Tom is a Northern Ireland international with seven caps. He left his home land and Crusaders on a £17,000 transfer to Luton in 1973 but a year later the Hatters sold him to Sunderland for £70,000.

League record: Luton 13(1) aps., 5 gls; Sunderland 8(7) aps., 1 gl. Cambridge 77(1) aps., 28 gls.

ALAN BILEY (Forward)

Alan was released by Luton in 1975 without getting a chance in their League eleven. But he came into his own last season when he aided Cambridge's Fourth Division championship effort with 20 goals. He has netted 22 times this season.

League record: Luton nil aps; Cambridge 90(5) aps., 41 gls.

SAMMY MORGAN (Forward)

Sammy has been capped by Northern Ireland on 17 occasions. His first League club was Port Vale and he made his League debut for them in 1970/71.

League record: Port Vale 109(4) aps., 24 gls; A. Villa 35(5) aps., 9 gls; Brighton 19(16) aps., 9 gls; Cambridge 31(2) aps., 4 gls.

JOHN COZENS (Forward)

John was playing for Hillingdon Borough, in the Southern League, when Notts County spotted him in 1970. For a while he held a regular place in the Notts' side but he moved on to Peterborough in 1972.

League record: Notts. Co. 41(5) aps., 13 gls.; Peterborough 127(5) aps., 41 gls; Cambridge 12(4) aps., 2 gls.

John Ward talks to Kenny Stroud

Kenny Stroud is very friendly, relaxed and easy to talk to. He continually sees the funny side of things. He was born in London, but moved to Swindon when he was only two or three and his father came to work for Plesseys. He has two sisters and two brothers, one of whom plays centre half for Trowbridge. He always wanted to be a professional footballer and after playing for Swindon schoolboys it was natural that when Swindon were the first Club to make him an offer he should sign for them. That was seven years ago. Now aged twenty four he is anxious to play in a higher division but if Swindon were promoted he would think again. In spite of wanting to get into the higher divisions he appears to be on the best terms with everyone in the club. He clearly thinks that the best way to realise his ambition is to play really well and attract attention on the field rather than by sulking off it.

Although he is ready to play in midfield when asked he prefers to have the role of sweeper in the back four and considers this to be his best position. If he plays in midfield he is expected to concentrate on picking up opposition players which, he feels, limits his attacking potential. Instead he would rather pick them up at the back and then break forward with the ball from defence. He gets into good scoring positions in either role. This season, however, he has not been putting the balls away unlike last year when his spectacular effort against Everton won him a television award. Was that a particularly noteworthy event? Not really, it seems. It led to a few extra letters and requests for autographs, but far more memorable was the replay at Goodison which contained his worst moment on the field. The last ten minutes of that game are still vividly etched on his mind, particularly the two Everton goals which wiped out one of Swindon's best ever displays "We all thought the referee had given a free kick to us instead of against Ray McHale and then for the second one the full back just ran on and on and on". I shall never forget that entirely as long as I live.

The other black moment in his career took place off the field. At the age of eighteen he was troubled by a nagging knee injury. At one stage it became so bad that he could hardly run. Indeed throughout Dave Mackay's entire period as Manager he was not

fit for selection. Nobody could diagnose what was wrong and he was told that he would have to finish playing football. He resigned himself to going to college with a view to becoming a physiotherapist. Then as a last chance he saw a specialist in Bristol and a new type of X-Ray showed a piece of bone loose in his knee. That was removed and since then all has been well. Kenny now considers himself to be one of the runners in the team. Certainly he is deceptively fast. "Frank Burrows used to say that you'd never think I was quick, but I was able to beat people for speed who you would have reckoned to be much faster than me." I asked if he knew who was the fastest runner in the team "We're pretty much the same in sprints", was his reply. Did this mean they were all timed over say a hundred yards? Kenny was greatly amused by this idea. "A hundred yards? When footballers talk about sprints we mean around ten yards. A hundred yards is more like a marathon!"

I asked about the different Managers he had played under. "Les Allen and Gordon Eddleston made us do a lot of physical work; plenty of running. All the others have built up our physical fitness in pre-season training and then concentrated on work with the ball. I was surprised to find that Fred Ford could show a different side from the

friendly, avuncular figure in his television interviews. "He could be frightening if he got angry. He was a hard man. You certainly respected him. He was a joker too. When I left school I was no good in the air. I never thought of heading the ball. Fred Ford said that was one part of my game which I really could improve. One day he took us for heading practice in front of one of the goals. He lined up all the players including the first team. He called me out, a seventeen year old apprentice, and told me to head the cross bar. Of course the others nearly died laughing!" In fact Kenny has acquired his present ability to outjump players far taller than himself by sheer hard work. "I would go out for half an hour a day with two apprentices who would throw the ball for me to head". Today they don't make him head the cross bar. "Instead there is a lead belt fastened round the waist to practice heading, then when you take it off and jump you feel fantastic and it makes you get up much higher."

I asked Kenny what would keep him going for the last few games of the season with nothing really left to play for. "Pride in my performance", he replied. "Besides which, you never know who's watching you".



Swindon's hat-trick star David Moss taking on two Oxford United players during the Town's win on Easter Monday.

SUCCESS SURVEY

With the visit of Cambridge United today, only ten clubs have yet to play here in a Football League fixture - Arsenal, Chelsea, Everton, Liverpool, Manchester United, Stoke City, Tottenham Hotspur, West Ham Unit-

ed, Wolverhampton Wanderers and newcomers Wimbledon.

All except Wimbledon have appeared here in Cup ties and three - Stoke, Tottenham and West Ham - have played Swindon in Southern League matches.

Swindon's overall performances against the other eighty League clubs since 1920 are summarised below, with the rate of success shown to the nearest one percent. Figures in brackets are the number of games played between the clubs.

THIS SEASONS RESULTS ARE NOT INCLUDED

- 100% - Crewe (2)
- 75% - Rochdale (2), Sheffield United (4)
- 71% - Wrexham (12)
- 70% - Aldershot (42)
- 67% - Chesterfield (12)
- 62% - Bolton (8), Lincoln (4), Manchester City (4), Oldham (8), Sheffield Wednesday (12), Southport (4)
- 61% - Oxford (18)
- 60% - Barnsley (10), Hull (20), Rotherham (10)
- 59% - Cardiff (34), Grimsby (22)
- 58% - Bradford City (6), York (6)
- 57% - Exeter (64)
- 56% - Mansfield (24), Newport (66), Portsmouth (26), Scunthorpe (8), Shrewsbury (34), Walsall (54)
- 55% - Northampton (76), Southend (78), Swansea (22)
- 54% - Tranmere (14)
- 53% - Bristol Rovers (62)
- 51% - Gillingham (66)
- 50% - Aston Villa (6), Blackburn (6), Bury (18), Chester (4), Colchester (32), Darlington (2), Hartlepool (2), Huddersfield (10), Leeds (2), Orient (58), Stockport (6), West Bromwich Albion (2)
- 49% - Brentford (44), Bournemouth (76), Reading (72), Torquay (58)
- 48% - Notts County (28), Watford (84)
- 47% - Millwall (60), Port Vale (30)
- 46% - Brighton (80), Carlisle (12), Halifax (14), Norwich (66), Q.P.R. (76)
- 45% - Crystal Palace (68)
- 44% - Charlton (32), Luton (44)
- 43% - Fulham (14)
- 41% - Peterborough (16)
- 40% - Ipswich (24)
- 38% - Coventry (42), Bristol City (56)
- 37% - Blackpool (8), Derby (4), Leicester (4), Middlesbrough (16)
- 36% - Preston (18), Southampton (22)
- 33% - Plymouth (38)
- 30% - Sunderland (10)
- 25% - Birmingham (6), Burnley (4), Hereford (4)
- 19% - Nottingham Forest (8)
- 12% - Doncaster (4), Newcastle (4)

Since the Town joined the League, the highest number of home wins has been recorded against Northampton (26), Bournemouth (24) and Southend (24). The club to have won here on most occasions is Watford (12). Away from home, Swindon has been most successful at Southend (10 wins) and has suffered the most defeats at Brighton and Q.P.R. (both 24).

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The Evening Advertiser

Spotlight on Division 3

WREXHAM WILL NOT SLIP THIS TIME

By Tony Pullein

Wrexham have really developed the killer instinct! After their traumatic experience of last season - - - When they failed to win any of their last five games and had promotion snatched from them on the final day - - - it is clear they don't intend to make the same mistake again.

Before last weekend they had run up an amazing sequence of seven successive victories with wins over Exeter (h) 2 - 1, Tranmere (h) 6 - 1, Swindon (a) 2 - 1, Walsall (h) 1 - 0, Bury (a) 3 - 2, Bradford City (h) 2 - 0 and Carlisle (a) 4 - 1.

Graham Whittle scored all four goals in that win at Carlisle.

At the end of the Exeter programme Wrexham were five points ahead of both Preston and Cambridge and nine points clear of the fourth club. Even so, bearing last season in mind, they will not be easing up yet.

This was the situation as the Third Division's promotion chase went into its final furlong last season.

	P	Pts
Brighton	42	57
Wrexham	41	56
Mansfield	42	56
C. Palace	41	51
Rotherham	41	51

Yet Wrexham picked up only two points from their five remaining games and Mansfield, Crystal Palace and Rotherham all finished above them. The tragedy was that four of those games were against their deadliest rivals - - - they lost twice to Crystal Palace, drew at home to Brighton and, finally, lost at home to Mansfield.

Wrexham, this season, are fortunate to possess so many natural goal-scorers. Even though they have been without the injured Dixie McNeil (scorer of 24 goals), Bobby Shinton continued to find the target and had taken his total up to 21 before the weekend and Graham Whittle has come right back into form. His four-goal hit at Carlisle took him up to 19 for the season.

Even young John Lyons, who was called up in place of McNeil, played his part well with three goals in two successive games.

It really does seem to be a question of who will go up with Wrexham now. And Cambridge, who come to the County Ground today, are favourites to go up with Preston. Cambridge, though, will have to proceed with the utmost caution for, as March closed, they were showing signs of slipping. Their final four games in March produced only three points and it was as well for them that Gillingham, their closest rivals,

were showing similar signs of stress. If there is a dark horse then it could be Walsall who have recovered so brilliantly under the managership of Dave Mackay. They enjoyed one magnificent unbeaten run of 13 games into Easter before they, too, began to totter a little.

Tranmere blew up some while back so that, if anyone at the top should slip as Wrexham did last season, then it is clear that the team best placed to steal promotion is - - - SWINDON!

In reality the gap looks rather too large to close at this late stage but a grandstand finish could still just turn it in our favour - - - particularly as nearly all the clubs above us, except Wrexham, have been showing visible signs of nervousness.

I think we can now prepare to say our final farewells to hapless Portsmouth. Only a miracle can now save this famous old club from its first-ever spell in the Fourth Division and, even sadder, there are scant signs that Pompey have the talent to make a very quick return to the Third Division.

During their recent years of deadline Portsmouth have used four managers and it is clear now that none of John Mortimer, Ron Tindall, Ian St. John or Jimmy Dickinson can be blamed for the club's collapse.

The board embarked on a risky, if exciting, policy designed to put the club in the First Division. But all the players they purchased in haste rapidly lost their value, the club fell instead of rising, and ever since there has been a danger of it disappearing down a whirlpool of financial despair. It is doubtful if any manager in the land could have rescued Portsmouth from their present plight.

CAMBRIDGE UTD

By Tony Pullein

Cambridge United created club history in January when they went to the top of the Third Division table and now, less than 12 months since they won the Fourth Division championship, they look likely to gain further promotion and go up into the Second Division for the first time.

During less than eight years as a League Club, Cambridge have already celebrated two promotion campaigns yet there are clubs who have been in the competition for over 50 years who still cannot claim that distinction!

Cambridge have made remarkable progress over the past 17 years. It wasn't until 1961 that they even aspired to Premier Division status in the Southern League.

They had been admitted to the Southern League initially in 1958, gaining promotion to the senior section in 1961. The following season they lifted the southern League Cup and, a year later, they finished runners-up in the League behind local rivals Cambridge City. Indeed, for some years their neighbours were the stronger of the two clubs and appeared the more likely to gain League status. But with the assistance of a first-class supporters' club United built both their ground and their team. They won the Southern League Cup again in 1965 and then took the league championship for the first time in 1969, a feat they repeated a year later.

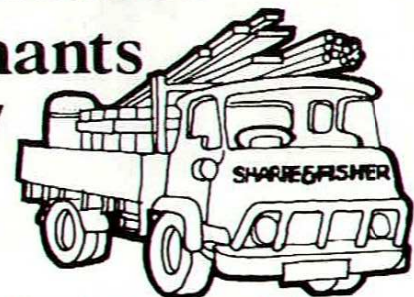
They were perhaps a little fortunate to reach their peak at the moment when Football League support for Bradford P.A. was at its lowest and, to their delight, Cambridge were elected to replace the Yorkshire club in 1970. Cambridge made an excellent start to their Football League career, losing only one of their opening six games. Indeed, by mid-October there was speculation that they might emulate Peterborough's feat of 1961 by gaining promotion first time out.

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Then came a losing run to kill those hopes and, in the end, they faced quite a struggle to avoid the last four re-election positions.

They eventually finished fifth from bottom.

A year later they crept into the top half of the table but in 1972/73 --- their third season in the competition ---Cambridge won promotion. Their final match of that season, against Mansfield Town was watched by their then-record League attendance of 10,542, decided things. After being twice in arrears, Cambridge won 3-2 to make sure of promotion.

The club's remarkable rise had been due to the hard work of manager Bill Leivers but, unfortunately, life in the Third Division proved too tough and the club suffered immediate relegation. Following a bad start to the season Mr. Leivers was succeeded by Ron Atkinson.

Relegation came as big blow to this progressive club but they quickly re-adjusted themselves and were only three points short of promotion at the end of the following season. In 1975/76 they held a mid-table position but last season there was never much doubt that they would regain their place in Division Three.

One undefeated run of ten games took them to the top of the Fourth Division, a position they held continuously from New Year's Day until the end of the season. They ended up with a club record total of 65 points.

In view of their success, Cambridge's support was disappointing. Their average crowd of 4,445 was only their third highest in seven seasons of League football.

An even bigger blow was the measure of their early support once they were back in the Third Division this season. Their first two home games drew less than 3,500.

True, they did make a dismal start by losing 0-4 at Bradford City and they won only one of their opening five League games but they have since made a remarkable recovery.

Their home game with Peterborough over the New Year drew their best-ever League attendance of 10,998 and they are now averaging above the five thousand mark. They seem certain to end with their highest attendance figures since they entered the League.

It was inevitable that Ron Atkinson's managerial achievements would be noted at a higher level and it came as no surprise when First Division West Bromwich Albion invited him to take over their affairs earlier this season. The club is now managed by John Docherty, the one-time Brentford, Sheffield United and Reading player and Brentford manager.

Cambridge have won four away League games at Plymouth (1-0), Exeter (4-2), Oxford (3-2) and Tranmere(1-0). They drew at Chester (0-0), Shrewsbury (3-3), Hereford (0-0), Portsmouth (2-2), Walsall (0-0), Carlisle (1-1) and Port Vale (1-1).



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7. STREET F.
8. SPRIGGS S.
9. MORGAN S.
10. FINNEY T.
11. BILEY A.
12. To be named

REFEREE:

MR. DENNIS SMITH (Hornchurch, Essex)

Started refereeing in 1965 in Essex local leagues, then graduated via the Isthmian and Athenian Leagues to the Football League list. Has refereed three County Cup Finals, and has also been in charge of an F.A. Amateur Cup quarter-final and an F.A. Vase semi-final.

A married man, he is a Maintenance Engineer. He played football, as an amateur, for Millwall and is interested in all sports but particularly in cricket.

Linesmen: Red Flag: MR. W.C. HARVEY - REDDITCH Yellow Flag: MR. P. JACKSON - HENSTRIDGE

NEXT MATCH

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DIVISION III

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