



SWINDON TOWN
v

PLYMOUTH ARGYLE



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Administrative Manager/Secretary **R. J. Jefferies**

Bob Smith says.....

In our last two home games against Cardiff City and Walsall not only have the team displayed a high standard of football, they have scored seven goals in the process. Much of our training is geared to getting players into scoring positions within the penalty area and it is satisfying to the players to see a reward for the work they put in. I consider at the present time that not only is the play of high standard, it is also extremely entertaining and I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the team, to thank you, the supporters who have been attending regularly this season for the vocal encouragement you have given to the players. I make no apologies for once again mentioning how important your support is to the team and, with still half the season to go, I would emphasise that you have a vital role to play in any continued success.

I think it will be of interest to you to mention our trip to the Lilleshall Sports Centre last week. The purpose of the visit was two-fold, firstly to enable us to play on an Astro Turf all weather pitch during the adverse weather conditions and secondly to detach ourselves from our own environment in order to re-assess our intentions for the remainder of the season. Our first aim was thwarted because of a heavy fall of snow but the second was highly successful. On a lighter note, on one evening at the Sports Centre we held a general know-



ledge quiz, the players being split into teams. The quiz was devised, very seriously, by Wilf Tranter and Brian Hamilton and suffice to say that it may surprise you to hear that we have one or two quite learned people within our playing staff. As the referee of this contest my adjudicational decisions were not always received with universal popularity.

Once again, thank you for your continued support and please get behind the lads with your encouragement.

Bits and Pieces

In the last twelve months or so, players leaving Plymouth have been making a name for themselves in the goalscoring records of their new clubs. At the end of last season three clubs in the Third Division alone had former Argyle marksmen as top scorers. Bill Rafferty hit eighteen for Carlisle United before joining Wolves and two of the relegated sides had Don Hutchins (Bradford City) and Steve Davey (Hereford United) topping their lists. The story continues this season with John Delve having scored as many goals in thirty-odd appearances for Exeter City as he did in the whole of 127 whilst at Home Park. At Hull City, there is Bruce Bannister - currently on nine goals, just four behind the leading scorer and on the same mark is Terry Austin. He came to the County Ground on Tuesday with Walsall - and scored. Austin wasted little time after leaving Plymouth, scoring six goals in just eleven games up to the end of last season.

Turning the clock back just over forty years - another goalscorer to leave Argyle came here in the summer of 1936, JIMMY COOKSON. He started his career at Chesterfield and claimed 44 of their century of League goals for 1925-26. It took him just 87 games to register 100 League goals - which he reached in December 1927 whilst with West Bromwich Albion. By the end of that season he topped Albion's scoring chart with 38 and only Dixie Dean surpassed that figure in the entire Football League. Jimmy scored 25 times in 33 League appearances during his first season with the Town - 1936-37 - but after getting just six in the following campaign, he lost his place through injury - first to Cyril Woods and then to the new £1,000 signing from Torquay United, Ben Morton.



JIMMY COOKSON
(Photo courtesy TONY MATTHEWS)

CARDIFF CITY CROSSWORD SOLUTION

ACROSS

1. Throws
4. Moss
9. Plymouth
10. Elated
12. Lion
13. Golac
14. Area
17. Head
18. Harland
21. Emanuel
23. Coin
26. Chic
27. Break
28. Pele
31. Rotate
32. Floodlit
33. Nine
34. Meadow

DOWN

1. Taylor
2. Riot
3. Watford
5. Owls
6. Saturday
7. Apply
8. Edwards
11. Bath
15. Venue
16. Train
19. Red Tape
20. Hamilton
22. Lord
23. Charlie
24. Yellow
25. Heath
29. Stan
30. Wood

Finally, for those who are angered by the 'fact and fantasy' that occurs each time the Pools Panel presides the current phrase 'Didn't they do well?' must surely apply to the recent F.A. Cup 'results'. Up to last Tuesday 25 of the 32 Third Round ties had actually got under way and looking back to January 6 the Panel managed to get a total of ten correct. But - as some would put it - if they had too high a success rate they might well be given the job every week!

John Ward talks to

BOB JEFFERIES

"Have you any money for us, George?" asked Bob Jefferies encouragingly down the telephone. There was a pause while the Fulham secretary pondered the non-arrival of an instalment of Chris Guthrie's transfer fee. "Well it hasn't arrived here," said Bob. "If it doesn't turn up I'll ring you Wednesday." Bob Jefferies put the telephone down and said jokingly, "He says he posted the cheque a week ago. I bet there's someone rushing down to the postbox now." Before we could start the interview the telephone rang again: it was Birmingham City. Yes, they were prepared to postpone their reserve team game against Swindon which was due to be played on Tuesday evening, thereby allowing Swindon's re arranged game against Walsall to go ahead. What was more they were not insisting on playing it on the Wednesday afternoon, which would have clashed with a Midland Youth League match. The problems of finding players to fill the reserve and youth teams on the same day didn't bear contemplating. Next Bob had to ring the Football League so that they could arrange a referee and linesmen for Tuesday evening. Then he was free to talk.

He was still seething from the referee's late decision to postpone the game on Saturday. Not so much for the additional problems it had caused him - they are all part of the job - or even the £1000 it had lost the club (although the programmes could still be used on Tuesday, the police had reported and had to be paid for, as had the visiting team's travelling expenses and the wasted catering food). Rather it was the effect upon the image of Swindon Town with the game called off just over an hour before the kick-off. On these occasions the referee alone is responsible for deciding if the game can be played. Last Saturday the referee was asked in to give a decision at eleven o'clock but he finally made this decision at one-thirty. By then hundreds of people had set out and Swindon Town got the blame for something quite outside their control.

That afternoon Bob Jefferies was going to Bristol at HTV's invitation to take part in a television programme with the Manager of Bristol City who had played in conditions which turned the game into a farce while Swindon had been frozen off. The chance to explain Swindon's problem to a wider audience took precedence over the fact that this would have been Bob's first half day off for three weeks. He normally works a six day week. On Sunday, New Year's Eve he was helping shovel snow from 10.30 - 4.00 p.m. in a vain attempt to get the ground fit for next day's game against Oxford United. On match days Bob likes to arrive by half past eight. He first goes out to look at the pitch in case there is a need for an early inspection. He remembers vividly going out one morning before a match against Cardiff City. Their supporters had travelled overnight and had

daubed "Cardiff City" in emulsion paint over all the ground advertisements. The paint was still wet so Bob and Ron Morse set to immediately to wipe it off before it dried.

An avid Swindon fan from childhood Bob made his career with British Rail. Twelve years ago however, when there was speculation about the closure of British Rail's works at Swindon, Bob answered an advertisement for Assistant Secretary to Swindon Town and in spite of having no previous experience in football administration was given the job. From that date the Secretary, Ron Morse became increasingly occupied with the club's finances leaving Bob to concentrate on the soccer administration. This trend was acknowledged in two internal reorganisations of the club in 1970 and 1976 when Bob became Secretary and then Administration Manager.

If anyone thinks that being Secretary of a League club is a cosy way of watching football free on a Saturday afternoon they are in for a shock. As the game starts Ron Morse and Bob stand by to receive the gate and programme monies. No sooner is that sorted out ready for collection by Securicor than it is time to link up with Exchange Telegraph to swop half time scores with other teams in the west country. The same has to be done for full time so if the Administration staff are lucky they watched about twenty minutes of the second half. For the recent evening cup game against Cardiff it was five minutes and even while he is watching his mind is not entirely on the game: he is looking to see if the ball boys are standing in front of the ground advertisements or if there is any crowd misbehaviour. At first it was frustrating to miss so much football, particularly since the offices were under the Town End and with Swindon having a successful run the noise up above was enormous. Now Bob is resigned to it although the tension still communicates through to the office. If there is no home reserve game on a Saturday he travels to watch the first team playing away which gives him his only chance to see a whole match. He suffers no temptation to watch other clubs in midweek: by now he finds that there is no pleasure in watching a game unless he has an affinity with one of the teams involved.

His daily schedule gives Bob Jefferies little time for relaxation. "People are coming into the office throughout the day," he says "and each time I stop doing my work to talk to them it means that I have to catch up later." He aims to get away for two weeks' holiday each year - last year and this to Italy - both because he thinks that a complete break is important so that he can do his job better and to be fair to his wife. Fortunately she too is an avid Swindon fan. She accompanies him to away games and does not object if he brings his worries home. She has been known to

Continued on Page 11

Talk of the Town by the Chairman

I would like to commence these notes with a sincere apology from our Club to all our supporters who were put to the unnecessary expense and trouble of having to travel to the County Ground for last Saturdays match. I think that we have explained our position both in the press and through the television media. Bob Jefferies our secretary, travelled to Bristol on Monday last and expressed the Clubs views on the very disturbing facts of having a game postponed at so late an hour. I would like to see a strict rule that a decision must be made at least three hours before a kick off time, to enable the television and radio to put the facts on the air. We the Club are left with all the problems and first and foremost of these is trying to keep faith with our supporters. We shall do everything we can to see if things can be improved towards this end for the future, but decisions of this nature are not done overnight with the Football League.

Today we entertain Plymouth Argyle and will be looking to avenge our defeat at their hands.

We hope that todays game will be as entertaining as our mid week game against Walsall, and the response from our supporters was terrific. Games of this kind must surely bring back the crowds to the County Ground.

As I remarked in the Walsall programme, Mick Lewis and Mick Conley are arranging travel to Aldershot by a special train at the rail fare of £2.50p. If you cannot call at the Supporters Club or Squash Club, please phone either 21240 or 22511. There are no seat tickets available for sale for this match, our allocation of 439 was sold out immediately after the Walsall match and as you will realise 439 tickets amongst our thirteen hundred Season Tickets holders is insufficient to meet the demand. This is not an all ticket match and there should be plenty of room on the terraces.

Many of our supporters will be pleased to know that our clock is being repaired. The works have been disturbed through debris deposited by pigeons etc., this clock must be useful to many of us, some having to leave early to catch transport, some to see if the referee's watch is right and last but not least, the players must surely use it when the end of a game is in sight. At least it is one thing that is not on strike.

We hope that many of you will support our Schoolboy Team on Tuesday next when they meet Slough on the County Ground. Our boys are in the last sixteen in the country and this is no mean feat to go so far in the Schoolboys Shield. The match starts at 7.30 p.m.

Thank you for your support and try and bring a friend along next time.

Midland Youth

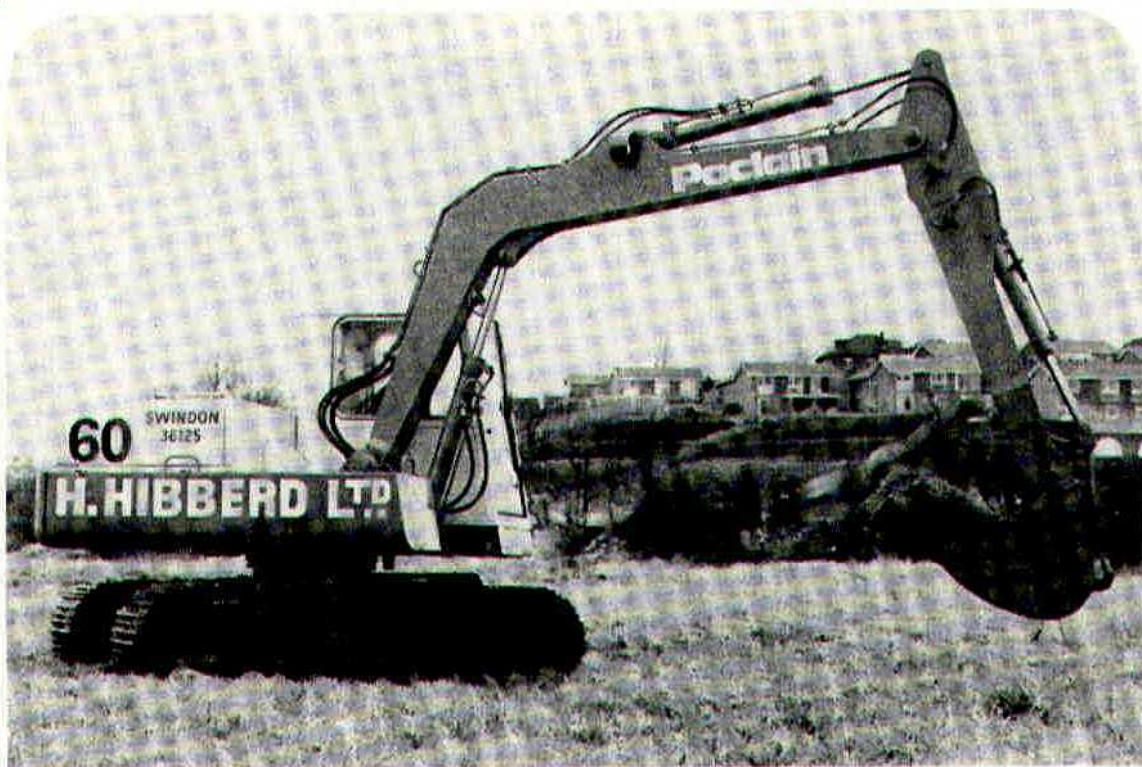
Aug	24	West Bromwich Alb	A	0 - 4
Aug	29	Leicester City	H	1 - 4
Sep	6	Wolves	A	0 - 5
Oct	12	Derby Co.	A	2 - 4
Oct	19	Coventry City	H	1 - 1
Oct	26	Luton Town	A	1 - 2
Nov	16	Northampton Town	H	1 - 0
Dec	11	Northampton Town	A	1 - 4
Jan	10	Bristol City	H	1 - 0
Jan	17	Coventry City	A	

MIDLAND YOUTH CUP

Sep	19	Luton Town	H	0 - 1
Sep	28	Luton Town	A	0 - 1

FOOTBALL COMBINATION GOALSCORERS

Gus Gilligan	6
Andy Rowland	3
Paul Collicut	2
Mick Page	2
Nigel Barry	1
Ken Hehir	1
Russell Lewis	1
Brian Williams	1
Dave Cunningham	1
(since transferred to Aston Villa)	



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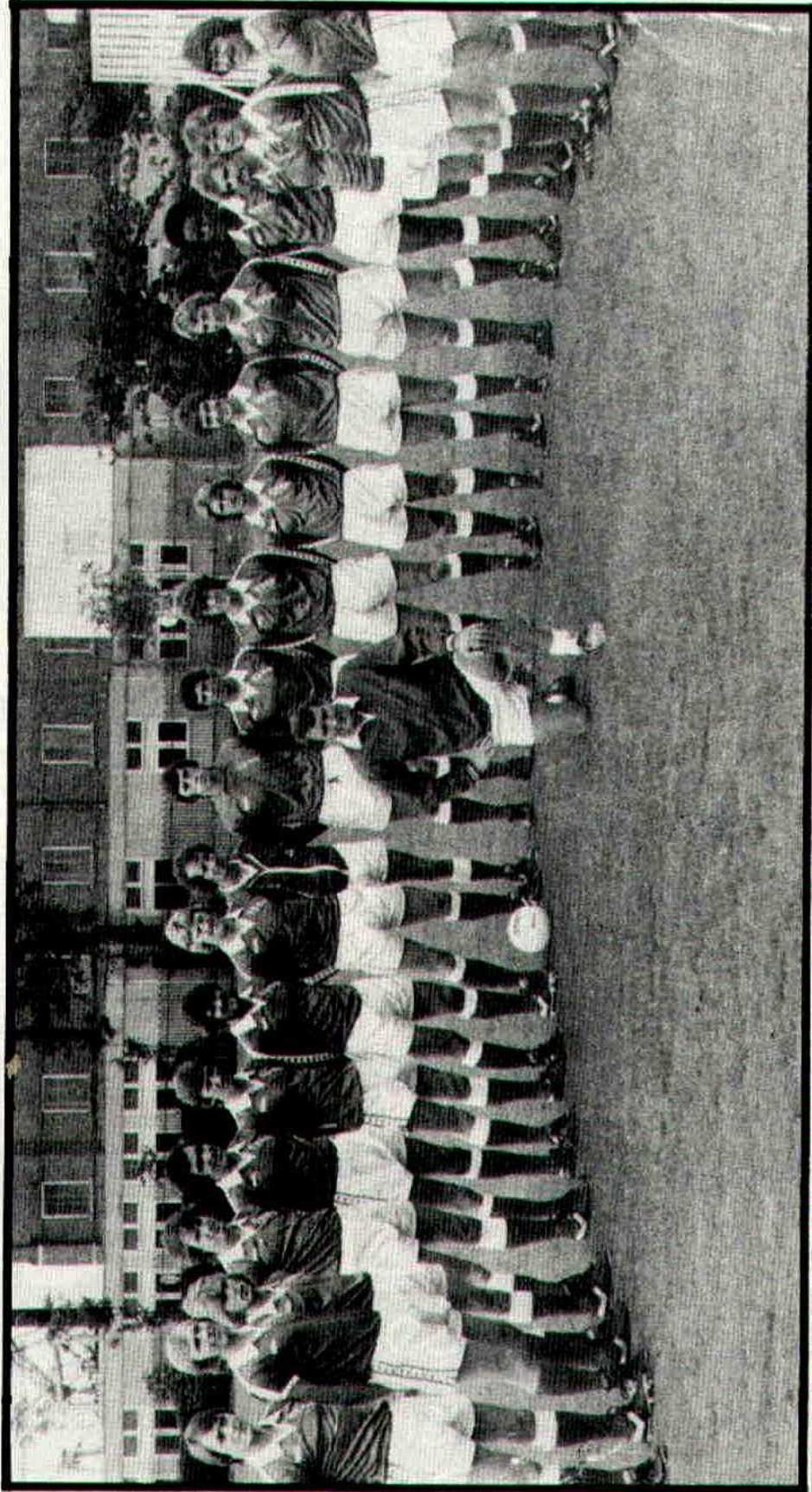
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IN TOWN TODAY



From Left to Right:

Steve Brennan, Brian Johnson, Gary Ball, Mike Trusson, Steve Perrin, Alan Rogers, Brian Bason, George Foster, Lennie Lawrence (Assistant Manager), Martin Hodge, Anthony Levy, Gary Megson, Kevin Hodges, Chris Harrison, John Uzzell, Tyrone James, Keith Fear, Brian Taylor, Fred Binney, Malcolm Allison (Team Manager) in front.*

PLEASE NOTE! * NO LONGER WITH US.

PLYMOUTH ARGYLE

IN TOWN TODAY

ARGYLE GO FOR NEW BLOOD

Plymouth Argyle, who were among the promotion favourites at the end of September, have been suffering a depressing run of results more recently and one run of seven games without a win sent them tumbling down the table. At the turn of the year they looked back on a run of only one win in 13 League games -- and they were also knocked out of the F.A. Cup by non-League Worcester City.

Former manager Malcolm Allison was certainly not the kind of man who accepted this sort of situation and he busied himself all season in his search for new blood. Now new manager Bobby Saxton is continuing the search for a winning combination.

In building his team, Mr. Allison went back to his old club Crystal Palace to sign several players.

The most recent arrival at Home Park was mid-field man Barry Silkman, who originally joined them on a month's loan from Palace. He has now signed on a permanent basis.

Barry was quite happy playing in the Southern League for Barnet until Hereford gave him the chance to play League soccer in 1974/75. When freed in 1976, he joined Crystal Palace and he remained at Selhurst Park until his transfer to Argyle in October last year for a club record £53,000.

During the close season Mr. Allison signed veteran goalkeeper Tony Burns from Palace whilst last season he secured the signatures of Palace men Steve Perrin and John Craven. Craven has now moved on again but the others remain. Burns played First Division football for Arsenal and then joined Brighton in 1966. Charlton signed him two years later and in 1971 he went to South Africa to play for Durban City. Crystal Palace signed him in 1973. Perrin made 48 League appearances for Crystal Palace before his £30,000 transfer to Plymouth last season. He has scored three times this term.

One other summer signing was centre-back Colin Clarke who, after 12 successful years in the Oxford United side, spent the summer in America and returned to this country to join Argyle at the beginning of this season. Colin began his career with Arsenal.

When Alan Rogers was injured, Mr Allison paid Bristol City £20,000 for left-back Brian McNeil as the replacement. At around the same time he signed coloured striker Clevere Forde from Hounslow for £5,000.

McNeil made only a couple of League appearances for Bristol City, both as substitute. Injuries added to Argyle's problems. Goalkeeper Martin Hodge, who took over from Arsenal-bound Paul Barron, suffered a broken bone in a hand and is unlikely to be fit for today's game. This means that the veteran Tony Burns will continue in goal.

The injury to left-back Rogers means that the back four usually comprises Brian Bason, Colin Clarke, George Foster and new boy Brian McNeil.

Bason played in midfield in his Chelsea days and Plymouth paid £30,000 for him last season to do that job. But he switched to full-back at the end of last season and now plays right-back. Foster served his apprenticeship at Home Park and made his League debut in 1973/74. Two seasons ago he was loaned to Torquay but he returned and was ever-present in the Argyle side last season.

Steve Perrin has been another injury victim and, with Brian Johnson suffering a lapse in form, the middle of the field has included Barry Silkman, Keith Fear and Gary Megson.

Johnson is a former Plymouth apprentice who graduated to the first-team in 1973/74. He celebrated his 100th League appearance last season. Megson was introduced to League soccer last season with some success but he made a really explosive start to this season by scoring in his first three League games. He is the son of former Bristol Rovers' manager Don Megson.

Fear was transferred from Bristol City to Plymouth for £20,000 last season and he has scored three times this season. He had been with Bristol City since his schoolboy days and made over 150 League appearances for the Ashton Gate Club. Fred Binney remains very much the striking force in attack and he is way ahead of all his rivals in the scoring list with 16 goals, including a match winning hat-trick at Sheffield Wednesday in September.

The young Mark Graves and Clevere Forde could well make up the attack.

Binney began with Torquay but joined Exeter in 1970 and he was on three occasions their best marksman. A move to Brighton in 1974 brought more success but he moved to Plymouth after losing his place in 1977. Graves made his first League appearance last season and has been given further opportunities this term.

Plymouth have won three away games in the League -- at Chesterfield (3-1), Bury (2-1) and Sheffield Wednesday (3-2). They have drawn at Carlisle (1-1), Chester (0-0) and Lincoln (3-3) but have been beaten on their remaining visits to Southend (1-2), Tranmere (1-2), Walsall (1-2), Colchester (1-2), Brentford (1-2) and Gillingham (0-2).

Argyle got only as far as the second round in the League Cup. They beat Torquay 3-2 on aggregate in the first round but, after drawing 1-1 at Oxford in round two, they were beaten at home 1-2 in the replay.

Plymouth suffered their severest blow when they visited Southern League Worcester City in the first round of the F.A. Cup -- and lost 0-2.

It was a case of returning to his old club for Bobby Saxton when he was appointed manager this month. Mr Saxton began his playing career with Derby County and joined Plymouth in February 1968 for £10,000. He gave them invaluable service in defence until moving to Exeter as a player in 1975. He was appointed player-manager of Exeter in January 1977.

DIVISION 3 - 1978-79

Date	Opponents	Ground	Score	Scorers	Attendance
Aug. 12	Portsmouth	FLC1	A	0 - 0	9261
15	Portsmouth	FLC1	H	4 - 2 Aizlewood, Miller, Williams, Guthrie	7165
19	Bury	H	H	2 - 1 Bates, Miller	5428
21	Tranmere Rovers	A	H	1 - 1 Carter	2150
26	Shrewsbury Town	A	A	0 - 0	2672
30	West Ham	FLC2	A	2 - 1 Miller, Guthrie.	19672
Sep. 2	Mansfield Town	H	H	1 - 0 Bates	6195
9	Walsall	A	H	1 - 4 Williams	5024
12	Brentford	H	H	2 - 0 McHale, Bates	6685
16	Plymouth Argyle	A	H	0 - 2	6099
23	Blackpool	H	H	0 - 1	6609
27	Chester	A	H	0 - 2	3556
30	Sheffield Wednesday	H	H	3 - 0 Bates, Rowland, Gilchrist	5857
Oct 3	Peterborough	FLC3	A	1 - 1 Aizlewood	6132
6	Colchester United	A	H	2 - 3 Gilchrist, Bates	3324
10	Peterborough	FLC3R	H	0 - 2	7674
14	Rotherham United	H	H	1 - 0 Bates	4476
17	Peterborough United	H	H	3 - 1 Bates 2, Carter	4352
21	Lincoln City	A	H	3 - 0 McLaughlin, Williams, McHale	2982
28	Carlisle United	A	H	0 - 2	5141
Nov 4	Southend United	H	H	1 - 0 Gilchrist	5647
11	Mansfield Town	A	H	1 - 0 Bates	4721
18	Shrewsbury Town	H	H	2 - 1 Gilchrist, Aizlewood	7317
25	F.A. Cup 1 March Town	H	H	2 - 0 Bates, Gilchrist	5633
Dec. 9	Hull City	H	H	2 - 0 Miller, Carter	5697
16	Enfield (FAC2)	H	H	3 - 0 Bates, Carter, Gilchrist	5681
26	Swansea City	A	H	2 - 1 Bates, Gilchrist	16159
30	Watford	A	H	0 - 2	15292
1979					
Jan. 6	Cardiff City (FAC3)	H	H	3 - 0 McHale, Kamara (2)	9983
16	Walsall	H	H	4 - 1 Kamara o.g., Bates, Gilchrist	7282
20	Plymouth Argyle	H	H		
27	Aldershot (FAC4)	A	H		
Feb. 3	Chester	H	H		
10	Sheffield Wednesday	A	H		
17	Colchester United (5)	H	H		
24	Rotherham United	A	H		
28	Chesterfield	A	H		
Mar. 3	Lincoln City	H	H		
10	Carlisle United (6)	H	H		
16	Southend United (LCF)	A	H		
24	Tranmere Rovers	H	H		
27	Bury	A	H		
31	Gillingham (SF)	A	H		
Apr. 3	Exeter City	H	H		
7	Chesterfield	H	H		
11	Exeter City	A	H		
14	Swansea City	H	H		
16	Oxford United	A	H		
21	Watford	H	H		
24	Peterborough Utd.	A	H		
May 1	Oxford United	H	H		
5	Gillingham	H	H		
12	F.A. Cup Final				

FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND GOALSCORERS

(TOTALS INCLUDE APPEARANCES AS SUB)

Goals in parentheses	Lge.	FLC	FAC	TOTAL
Kevin Roberts		1		1
John McLaughlin	18(1)	3	3	24(1)
Andy Ford	22	5	3	30
Ray McHale	22	5	3(1)	30(3)
Steve Aizlewood	21(1)	5(2)	3	29(3)
Kenny Stroud	21	5	2	28
Ian Miller	20(2)	4(2)	3	27(4)
Chris Kamara	20(1)	5	3(2)	28(3)
Chic Bates	22(11)	5	3(2)	30(13)
Brian Williams	15(2)	3(1)		18(3)
Roy Carter	22(3)	4	3(1)	29(4)
Chris Ogden	21	4	3	28
Russell Lewis	6	2	1	9
Paul Gilchrist	14(6)		3(2)	17(8)
Andy Rowland	5(1)			5(1)
John Trollope	3			5
Jimmy Allan	1			1
Bryan Hamilton	1			1

Also appeared: Chris Guthrie (transferred to Fulham) - 9 apps. 2 goals. Dave Cunningham (transferred to A.Villa) - 4 apps.

Football Combination

DATE 1978	OPPONENTS	F	A
Aug.	19 Ipswich Town	A	0-4
	22 Fulham	H	0-0
	26 Tottenham Hotspur	H	1-3
Sept.	2 Plymouth Argyle	A	0-2
	9 Leicester City	H	0-1
	16 Birmingham City	A	1-1
Oct.	26 Bristol Rovers	A	0-0
	7 Hereford United	A	0-2
	14 Norwich City	A	0-4
	21 Oxford United	H	2-3
Nov.	24 Luton Town	A	1-0
	4 Orient	A	0-3
	7 Chelsea	H	0-1
	11 Ipswich Town	H	0-5
	18 Tottenham Hotspur	A	1-3
	21 Plymouth Argyle	H	1-3
Dec.	25 Queens Park Rangers	A	1-1
	2 Crystal Palace	H	2-2
	9 Bristol City	A	0-0
	12 Southampton	H	3-2
	20 Cardiff City	A	4-3
Jan.	20 Reading	A	
	27 Hereford Utd.	H	
Feb.	30 Bristol Rovers	H	
	10 Luton Town	H	
	24 Norwich City	H	
Mar.	3 Oxford Utd	A	
	10 Chelsea	A	
	17 Orient	H	
	24 Fulham	A	
	31 Queens Park Rangers	H	
Apr.	7 Crystal Palace	A	
	14 Southampton	A	
	18 Reading	H	
	21 West Ham Utd	A	
	24 Cardiff City	H	
May	28 Bristol City	H	
	5 Arsenal	A	
To be arranged:			
	Birmingham City	H	
	West Ham Utd	H	
	Arsenal	H	
	Leicester City	A	

Continued from Page 5

come in and work in the office in an emergency. During the summer they try to get away in the car to the coast for the day so as to be removed from the football environment: even if they go out for a drink or a meal locally the chances are that somebody will want to talk about Swindon Town before the evening is out. A year ago they took up golf but recently Bob has developed a "frozen shoulder" which makes it difficult for him to raise his right arm and has put a stop to that particular hobby.

In addition to the tasks already mentioned and dealing with players' contracts, taking minutes at board meetings, players contracts liaising with other clubs, making travel arrangements, Bob is responsible for ensuring that the rules and regulations of the Football League and Football Assoc. are adhered to, editing the match programmes, the ground advertisements, the club souvenir shop and the various sponsorship schemes. To do a job like this it is essential that you can rely on the people around you. "Fortunately," said Bob "I have two in the club's general office. There is my very efficient secretary, Jenny Wood. As well as being my secretary and seeing to the wage bill each week she is the club's receptionist and is on the receiving end of the rude calls we get if a match is postponed at the last moment. Then there's Bert Middleton. He is in charge of all ticket sales. That's his job and I know that I can leave him to get on with it. There's very little more responsibility in a First Division Secretary's job. You all have to comply with the same regulations. The only difference is the number of people who come in through the turnstiles. What is more a First Division club Secretary has more staff. I went into a First Division office before a match recently. There were so many people working there I thought I was back with British Rail. The Secretary was in his office half an hour before kick off. He had his feet up watching television!"

Bob Jefferies has watched the club grow from the point where the dressing rooms and facilities were shacks behind the Town End to the present complex under the main stand. "How people can say Swindon aren't ambitious I just don't know," he says. "To repay the finance for these facilities we need a higher grade of football if it's First Division so much the better. I find the support so disappointing. Ten years ago we were averaging 19,000 for league games. Two years ago it was only 7,500. To-day it's barely that." Bob has worked loyally for the club for the past twelve years but, especially now that his children are grown up, he makes no bones about his personal ambition to administer a successful club. "I only hope it will be Swindon," he said.



Chic Bates

The Town's Leading Goalscorer

11 League + 2 FA Cup Goals

DIVISION THREE LEAGUE TABLE.....up to and including Tuesday January 16, 1979

	Home					Away					Pts	TOP GOALSCORERS (incl. Cup)
	P	W	D	L	F - A	W	D	L	F - A			
Watford	24	9	2	2	27-11	7	1	3	21-14	35	Ross Jenkins 27, Luther Blissett 19	
Shrewsbury T	22	5	6	0	15- 6	5	4	2	14-10	30	Paul Maguire 11, Ian Atkins 9	
Swansea City	23	9	2	1	30-16	4	2	5	12-15	30	Jeremy Charles, Alan Curtis, Robbie James 14	
Gillingham	23	8	4	1	22-11	1	7	2	9-10	29	Danny Westwood 8, Ken Price 7	
SWINDON TOWN	22	10	0	1	21- 5	3	2	6	10-17	28	Chic Bates 13, Paul Gilchrist 9*	
Exeter C	23	8	4	2	24-11	1	3	5	6-12	25	Keith Bowker 10, John Delve 5	
Carlisle U	22	4	6	0	14- 5	2	7	3	8-10	25	Dave Kemp 11	
Rotherham U	22	8	0	3	15- 9	2	4	5	11-15	24	Dave Gwyther 11, Richard Finney, Trevor Phillips 10	
Southend U	23	6	2	3	17- 8	1	7	4	12-15	23	Gerry Fell, Derrick Parker 7	
Chesterfield	23	5	3	3	18-16	2	6	4	12-14	23	Rod Fern 10, Phil Walker 5	
Chester	22	7	2	1	18- 7	2	3	7	8-21	23	Ian Edwards 17, Ian Mallor 9	
Plymouth A	22	4	5	1	14-11	3	3	6	17-20	22	Fred Binney 16	
Blackpool	22	7	2	2	16- 5	2	2	7	7-21	22	Tony Kellow 11*, Derek Spence 8	
Oxford U	22	5	5	2	13-10	1	5	4	9-16	22	Peter Foley, Jason Seacole 8	
Hull C	21	5	4	1	21- 8	3	1	7	10-17	21	Keith Edwards 13, Bruce Bannister 9	
Colchester U	21	6	4	1	15- 9	0	4	6	5-15	20	Bobby Gough 12	
Sheffield W	21	2	6	2	8- 9	3	4	4	12-17	20	Brian Hornsby 12, Roger Wylda 9	
Mansfield T	23	2	6	2	9-10	2	5	6	13-19	19	Kevin Bird, Dave Goodwin 4	
Brentford	23	7	2	3	12- 8	0	3	8	7-19	19	Andy McCulloch 8, Dean Smith 5	
Peterborough U	24	4	5	4	13-12	1	4	6	11-22	19	Joe Cooke 10*, Barry Butlin 7	
Bury	21	2	6	3	16-16	1	6	3	8-11	18	Dave Gregory 15*, Ken Beamish 11*	
Walsall	24	4	3	4	20-16	2	3	8	14-23	18	Terry Austin 9, Alan Birch, Roy McDonough 5	
Tranmere R	22	3	5	2	15-13	0	2	10	9-26	13	Ronnie Moore 9, Steve Peplow 7	
Lincoln C	23	1	5	5	10-20	1	1	10	7-24	10	Glenn Cockerill, Gordon Hobson 3	

* Includes goals for other clubs this season

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NATION WIDE

By Tony Pullein

Altrincham Town demonstrated so superbly at White Hart Lane how much the gap has narrowed between non-League football and the First Division of the Football League. There was absolutely no fluke about their 1-1 draw and, in many respects, they were unfortunate not to have won!

Manager Tony Sanders has done a magnificent job with a bunch of fitters, porters, school-teachers and the like and his non-League outfit matched Spurs both in tactics and in stamina. Watching the two teams in action it was difficult to distinguish which was the First Division side - apart from the moments when Osvaldo Ardiles had the ball. He stood head and shoulders above everyone else on the field. John Davison hit the bar for Altrincham before Spurs went ahead with a Peter Taylor penalty. Late in the game, when I had expected to see Altrincham tire, they fought back like tigers. John Rogers was only a couple of inches over with a header and, finally, Jeff Johnson rammed home a splendid equaliser with five minutes to go.

After the game, Mr Sanders told me: "I've always said we are a very good team. Now, perhaps, some people will take a bit of notice of us. We played the game well tonight and I think we were a little unlucky not to have won; I thought there was some doubt about the penalty award and then we hit the bar and had at least one narrow miss."

It is the second time in four years that Altrincham have drawn away from home to a First Division club in the F.A. Cup. In 1975 they took the lead at Everton and, again, it was only a penalty goal --- from Dave Clements --- that denied the non-League club outright victory. "We played even better against Spurs," maintained Mr Sanders.

The replay was scheduled to have taken place this week on Manchester City's ground and, by the time you read this, the result should be known. But I was backing Altrincham to win. In the same round Madistone United, of the Southern League, scored first away to Second Division Charlton Athletic and held on for a 1-1 draw. That was the match in which

Charlton's two strikers Mike Flanagan and Derek Hales were ordered off late in the game for fighting each other.

Many Charlton fans left the ground smiling. "It was more like Flanagan and Allen," quipped one.

It was the first case in F.A. Cup history of any player being sent off for "fouling" a member of his own team. Presumably, the referee took his dismissal decision on the grounds that both players had been guilty of ungentlemanly conduct.

Hales was later sacked by the club whilst Flanagan was fined £250. Both players are appealing against their sentences.

The two players, apparently, had not been the best of friends since Hales re-joined Charlton last summer. The decision to part with one of them was not surprising, neither was the choice. Partly due to injuries, Hales has never recaptured the goalscoring form of his previous spell with the club while Flanagan is leading their scorers (with 16 goals) for the third season in succession.

Hales first made his mark at Charlton in 1974/75 when he scored 21 goals. He netted 31 the following season and, in 1976/77, Derby signed him for £280,000. But he never found his feet in the First Division and he moved on to West Ham for £110,000 in 1977. Charlton paid £60,000 for him last summer.

Cambridge United's Alan Biley hit three goals in a 10-minute second-half spell to turn his club's tough Second Division encounter into a walkaway win over Cardiff City last Saturday. It was Biley's first hat-trick in top-class football and took his goals tally for the season to 18. Cambridge manager John Docherty recently turned down a £175,000 Norwich offer for Biley but looks like having difficulty in hanging onto his star striker who has now hit 66 goals in some 140 games for the club since his arrival from Luton. Biley served his apprenticeship at Kenilworth Road but never made the Luton first-team. One of the clubs keen to sign him is West Bromwich Albion, managed by Ron Atkinson --- the man who originally signed Biley when he was manager of Cambridge.

Mr. Atkinson is constantly on the lookout for attacking players in spite of the superb form of men like Cyrille Regis, Laurie Cunningham and Ally Brown who are already on his staff.

A few days after paying a new British cash record of £516,000 for Middlesbrough's David Mills, he kept his expensive buy on the substitute's bench! It was still not clear this week who would make way for Mills but it's a very happy position for a manager to have a surplus of attacking stars.

The Throstles' leading scorers after last weekend's game were Cyrille Regis (14), Laurie Cunningham (12) and Ally Brown (12).

Richie Morgan has not enjoyed the happiest of starts to his managerial career with Cardiff.

They were crushed 5-0 at both Brighton and Cambridge and went out of the Cup here at the County Ground by 3-0.



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SATURDAY 20th JANUARY 1979

SWINDON

1. C. OGDEN
2. B. HAMILTON
3. A. FORD
4. R. McHALE
5. S. AIZLEWOOD
6. R. LEWIS
7. I. MILLER
8. R. CARTER
9. P. GILCHRIST
10. P. BATES
11. C. KAMARA
12. B. WILLIAMS

at 3.00pm



PLYMOUTH

1. M. HODGE
2. B. BASON
3. B. McNEIL
4. C. CLARKE
5. G. FOSTER
6. K. FEAR
7. B. SILKMAN
8. G. MEGSON
9. M. TRUSSON
10. F. BINNEY
11. A. ROGERS
12. To be named

NEXT MATCH

Saturday 27th January, 1979

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

HEREFORD UNITED

K.O. 3.0 p.m.

LINESMEN:

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REFEREE:

REGINALD ROBINSON (Woodbridge, Suffolk)

Started refereeing in 1960 and progressed through junior and local leagues to the Eastern Counties League and Football Combination to the Football League list. Was senior linesman at the 1974 F.A. Amateur Cup Final and has officiated in Sardinia, Italy and Spain in Anglo-Italian and U.E.F.A. Cup matches.

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- A Brentford v Peterborough
- B Carlisle v Lincoln
- C Chester v Gillingham
- D Chesterfield v Hull City
- E Exeter v Oxford Utd.
- F Rotherham v Southend
- G Sheffield Wed. v Mansfield
- H Walsall v Blackpool
- I Watford v Bury
- J Birmingham v Norwich
- K Bolton v Arsenal
- L Coventry v Liverpool
- M Everton v Aston Villa
- N Ipswich v Wolverhampton
- O Manchester City v Chelsea
- P Nottm. Forest v Manchester Utd.
- Q O.P. Rangers v Middlesbrough
- R Southampton v Bristol City
- S Tottenham H. v Leeds
- T West Brom. Alb. v Derby