

ANOTHER CHANC

By ERIC WHITE

What an extraordinary season this is turning out to be. The latest twist in our fortunes came at Swindon on Saturday. Two down with 25 minutes to go manager Fred Callaghan took a calculated gamble by putting on a fourth striker Keith Bowen and removing defender Terry Rowe. The substitution paid off with Keith getting the first and Gary Roberts getting a last gasp(ing) equaliser.

All quite amazing in view of Gary's scoring success in the Milk Cup ties with Swansea City. He was, incidentally, yesterday presented with the Pernod award for November given in association with the Middlesex Chronicle. Jim McNichol will receive this evening the Ealing Gazette Player of the Month trophy.

So now we meet Swindon here this evening in our 10th Cup tie this season, to decide the right to receive Aldershot on January 8th, 1983 (KO 3.00pm).

So we will either be at home to Aldershot or Wigan on that date. If we beat Swindon it will be our first 3rd Round tie since 1976 when we lost to Bolton Wanderers in a replay at BURNDEN PARK.

At the time of writing Jim McNichol was still having treatment to his injured ankle which has caused him to miss 3 games but it is hoped he will be fit to resume.

WELCOME TO SWINDON

We extend a warm greeting to Swindon manager John TROLLOPE and his team. We know from last Saturday's tie that they will give 110% and we cannot afford to assume because we are are home that things will be any easier. John, holder of the M.B.E., will certainly have his team firing on all cylinders. His team, relegated last season, are favourites to return to the 3rd Division at the first attempt having lost only 3 League games this season.

Personalities in the Swindon ranks include ex-Derby and Bury striker Andy ROWLAND, scorer of over 100 goals, keeper Jim ALLAN, hero of over 350 Swindon games, former Birmingham and Bristol Rover midfield man Gary EMMANUEL and highly rated striker Paul RIDEOUT.

Swindon Town

Brentford and Swindon have crossed swords three times in the F.A. Cup in recent years.

In 1977-78 a Steve Phillips penalty conversion failed to prevent us going down 2-1 at the County Ground in a Second Round tie witnessed by 8447 paying customers, while two years later Swindon again blocked the road to Wembley when at the same venue they romped to a 4-1 (Smith) victory in the first round. Swindon had a 100% record against us in our six League and Cup meetings



Keith Bowen and Gary Roberts, scorers of our goals at Swindon on Saturday, in F.A. Cup action against Colchester last season.

E OF CUP GLORY

between December 1977, the season in which we rejoined them in the Third Division, and December 1979. Since then, however, the pendulum has swung the other way. Honours were shared in the two League encounters in 1980-81, 1-1 (Kruse) here, and 0-0 at the County Ground on the last day of the season, a point which, it transpired, gave the Robins a twelve month stay of execution from relegation. We had two comprehensive wins last season, 3-0 (Johnson, G., Bowen, Kamara) away on November 3rd as Swindon began their headlong dive from the top of the Division into the relegation quick sands, and 4-2 (Hurlock, Bowen, Bowles, McNichol) at Griffin Park on April 19th to leave them needing a miracle to escape their first experience of Fourth Division football. Swindon have earned a deserved reputation as Cup fighters over the last 15 years.

Their grandest day, of course, came in 1969 when they beat Arsenal 3-1 at Wembley to become only the second Third Division side to win the League Cup, but they have

had their moments since.

In 1979-80, for example, Swindon reached the semifinals of the League Cup and fourth round of the F.A.

Cup.

In the League Cup they disposed of Portsmouth 3-2 and Chester 2-1, both on aggregate, then Stoke 2-1, after a 2-2 draw at the Victoria Ground and Wimbledon 2-1, before returning to haunt Arsenal by drawing 1-1 at Highbury and then winning an exciting replay 4-3.

Swindon won the home leg of the semi-final against Wolves 2-1, but a 3-1 defeat at Molyneux ended all dreams of becoming the first Third Division side to reach

a Wembley final twice.

The F.A. Cup, meanwhile, had seen them beat Brentford, Torquay and Luton before losing out to Spurs

2-1 in a replay at White Hart Lane.

Those days seem a long way off now, as the Robins strive to make their stay in the Fourth Division as brief as possible. To their credit they did not make manager John Trollope a scapegoat for their failings last season, and at the time of writing are well in the running for a place in the promotion boat. John has been at the County Ground for well over 20 years, the majority of which were spent on the playing staff. He made his debut in August 1960 and went on to make an all-time record 770 League appearances, nudging aside the one club record previously held by the late Jimmy Dickinson at Portsmouth in October 1980.

John, a member of Swindon's successful League Cup side in 1969, also holds the club's consecutive appearances record with an unbroken sequence stretching to 368 League and Cup games between April 1961 and August 1968.

John also starred in Swindon's Third Division promotion years in 1963 and 1969 and in 1978 was awarded the MBE for his services to football.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1982

We would be interested to receive from supporters letters or articles on their Brentford highlights of 1982.

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

SATURDAY DECEMBER 18th
K.O. 3.00 P.M.

BRENTFORD V EXETER CITY
LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

TUESDAY DECEMBER 28th
BRENTFORD v GILLINGHAM
LEAGUE DIVISION THREE
K.O. 3.00 P.M.

CAPITAL GOAL LEAGUE

BRENTFORD	40
FULHAM	39
WIMBLEDON	38
WATFORD	35
WEST HAM	31
QPR	31
SPURS	28
CHARLTON	25
PALACE	22
CHELSEA	21
MILLWALL	21
ARSENAL	21
ORIENT	17

Why not use our Club facilities for your Christmas or New Year Party.
Telephone Lee Bowers on 560 8235.

TONIGHT'S LINE-UP

SWINDON BRENTFORD Shirts: Red & White Stripes Shorts: Black Shirts: Blue Shorts: Blue 1 Jimmy ALLAN **Paddy ROCHE** 2 Charlie HENRY **Terry ROWE** 3 **Graham WILKINS** Kevin BADDELEY 4 **Gary EMMANUEL** Bob BOOKER Alan WHITEHEAD 5 Russell LEWIS 6 Terry HURLOCK Mike GRAHAM 7 **Howard PRITCHARD** Chris KAMARA 8 **Paul BATTY** Francis JOSEPH 9 **Tony MAHONEY** Paul RIDEOUT 10 Andy ROWLAND Stan BOWLES 11 **Gary ROBERTS** Leigh BARNARD **Jimmy QUINN Keith BOWEN** 12

TONIGHT'S OFFICIALS

REFEREE: J.E. MARTIN (Alton)

B. O'LEARY (Dagenham) Red Flag J.F. HILL (Redhill) Yellow Flag

BALL SPONSOR

This evening's match ball has been kindly donated by

MERCURY AVIATION SERVICES Unitair Centre Feltham, Middx.