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Division IV

Tuesday December 27th

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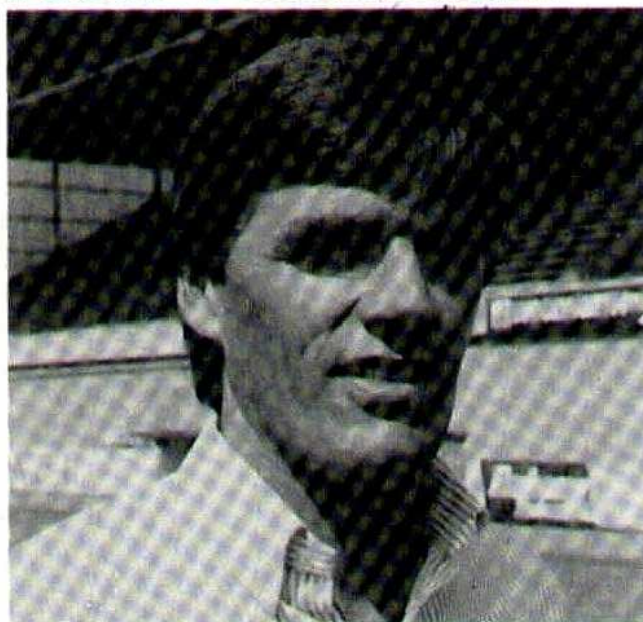
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From the desk of Ken Beamish



May 1, on behalf of the Swindon Town Football Club extend a warm welcome to the players, officials and supporters of Wrexham and of course to you, our own supporters whose presence, match after match we value so much.

These notes are written before the Boxing Day match at Torquay takes place but hopefully we will have made up for the disappointment of the home draw against Bury by gaining three away points at Plainmoor. Obviously after the game against Bury the dressing room was full of disappointment but we must be careful not to let disappointment become disillusionment, for there is no doubt during a season, regardless of how good the form and the run of results we are bound to have hiccups, the Bury game being a case in point.

I did not feel our performance was all that bad, the difference being on the day that the chances created did not produce the goals as they have in recent weeks. Our goal tally over the last nine or ten games has been excellent but it was obvious by Bury's formation playing with a sweeper that they had come here for a draw, hoping to catch us in break aways. To see a team of Bury's standing in the Fourth Division setting their stall to gain a point was not what you might expect from one of the fancied teams for promotion.

Unfortunately, Simon Gibson has been suspended for two games, this being the second game. It rather bewilders me how the wording of an incident in a Referee's report can influence the punishment awarded by the Football Association. In this case a dangerous kick from what was to everyone present a dangerous tackle, made the difference from dangerous to serious foul play and consequently a one match incident became a two match suspension.

Once again, thank you for supporting us this afternoon and please give the players your full support throughout the afternoon.

Front cover inset **Scott Endersby**

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

In all my years on the Board I have never known better team spirit on and off the field and great credit must go to the manager for bringing this about.

I can tell you that all the Directors and everyone employed at the Club has one aim in view and surely with this attitude we shall succeed.

Ken Beamish will have reported in his notes on the game against Bury but I must add that I was delighted with the attendance of 3551. It is considered to be the worst day of the football season for crowd attendances, yet with the exception of Blackpool who had a few more than us, we had the best crowd in Division IV. Thank you all for coming.

I have been quoted in the Evening Advertiser regarding the forthcoming fixture with Bristol City and the unfortunate incidents that occurred when Bristol visited us last year. Through these notes I again appeal to you to avoid confrontation wherever possible.

We all know that it is only a few people who start the violence, they cannot be called football supporters for they bring the game into disrepute yet as you well know, we go through the season at the County Ground with no problems whatsoever except when they are very local derbies. We have talked to the Police who are extremely helpful and I believe that the additional measures that will be taken this season should ensure that scenes we witnessed last year will not re-occur.

This afternoon we extend a warm welcome to the players and officials from Wrexham Football Club.

It wasn't long ago that Wrexham were flying high in the Second Division, now they're down with us in the basement of the Football League and will be as anxious as we are to move up a Division. So today's game will be keenly contested.

These notes are written before the Boxing Day fixture at Torquay. It's never easy at Plainmoor as over the past few years Torquay's home record has been very good. When we last played there in the Cup we drew 1-1 and beat them at the replay.

The players are having Monday and Tuesday, 19th and 20th December free to do their Christmas shopping, then are back in training on Wednesday right through and including Christmas Day in preparation for the stiff league programme of games on Boxing Day and on the following day we are at home (that is today's game). We are away on Saturday at Peterborough and then the important local derby game on January 2 against Bristol City. These four games must produce at least 8 points if we are to stay in touch with the league front runners but I am still confident that we have the skill, ability - above all, the right attitude from the players, to gain promotion.



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John Ward talks to ALAN MAYES

"I'm always asked whether I consider my stay at Chelsea was unsuccessful", Alan said, not for the only time anticipating what I was going to ask him. "When he signed me, Geoff Hurst told me he needed other players to turn us into a successful side. For various reasons he could not get them and before long he had to make way as manager for John Neal. In my first full season under him I scored sixteen goals but I always had the impression he didn't really fancy me. For instance, I had scored six goals in twelve games and yet without any warning he dropped me for a game against Liverpool in the Cup! Of course, I did my best when I was brought back into the side, but from that moment on, I had doubts about my future at Chelsea.

"In my third and last season, I only played fourteen games in the First team. But I guess John Neal was never sure about me; he would not give me a straight decision. It was a pity it didn't work out because Chelsea are a great club with a great tradition.

Disappointing

I was given a free transfer at the end of last season. To be honest there were only a few offers and that was disappointing. It seems a lot of good players found themselves in the same position because clubs are so short of money. There were two ways of looking at where I went next, from the financial viewpoint and the potential for winning something. I must confess that Swindon were the only club I would ever have considered joining in the Fourth Division. I did have one chance of staying in the top two but it would have meant moving house. By rights, Swindon ought to be in the Second Division. I still want success and Ken convinced me that, potentially, we had the team to get out of the Fourth.

"Last time I was here, I was playing in a very good side in the Third Division, pushing for promotion. I certainly notice the difference in quality in the Fourth, but all the same, as far as we are concerned we are a side that needs to play, even though a lot of games are battles; we have to win those first, then we can improve our skills on the game. That's when I can come into my own. I found it difficult at first because I was tending to be by-passed by the game; I'm not so good at the hustle and bustle and I was finding it difficult to get involved. But now the team is discovering my strengths and I'm

enjoying it more. I am getting my confidence back after the last three years. What we need now is more discipline: we must stop giving away silly goals. The squad should be good enough to go up; what we need now is belief in ourselves."

Management Studies

Alan was in a serious, occasionally even sombre mood. I couldn't help contrasting this with his carefree approach the last time I interviewed him during the heady days of Cup and League triumphs. Whatever else the intervening years at Chelsea have done, they have clearly made him think deeply about his priorities and about the future.

In his spare time Alan has been taking courses in Management Studies, oriented towards the administration of sports centres, and he hopes shortly to start a marketing course run by the Institute of Marketing.

"It hasn't been easy," Alan admitted, "Footballers tend to be lazy: you get out of the habit of doing things because you have such a lot of time and find yourself doing nothing with it, especially if it's anything concerned with the future! I felt it was necessary for me to do something like this. I don't desperately enjoy it, in fact I find it hard. But I'm not yet sure what use I now put it to: I've no inclinations towards a specific field. I could even stay in Football."

Commuting

One of the factors which influenced Alan in choosing Swindon, was that he would not have to move from High Wycombe. "I am very happy at home," he explained. "It took me eighteen months to sell my house in Highworth when I went to Chelsea and I was not prepared to go through the same performance again. I convinced Ken that it would be all right for me to commute; I was delighted when he was prepared to be flexible. I break up the travelling because in addition to our day off each week, I have a day for my college courses. My wife drives me over on one of the training days and for matches, so it's not too bad."

"Nobody should underestimate the importance of the psychological aspect of being a footballer. It all hangs on getting the mind right on a Saturday."

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Town Facts & Figures

Season 1983/84

Date	Opponents	Home Score	Att.	F - A	Allan	Henry	Baillie	Emmanuel	Gray	Graham	Hockaday	Richardson	Rowland	Mayes	Nelson	Quinn	Batty	Baddeley	Barnard	Endersby	Gibson
Aug 27	Chatterfield	3343	0-1	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
Sep 3	Plymouth Argyle M.C.I (1)	2891	4-0	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
Sep 6	Chatter	3635	2-3	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
10	Halifax Town		0-1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
13	Darlington		1-4	1	5	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
17	Plymouth Argyle M.C.I (2)	2867	0-0	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
23	Stockport County		3-1	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
27	Aldershot		1-2	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
Oct 8	Rochdale	2626	0-2	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
15	Crewe Alexandra		2-1	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
17	York City	2517	3-2	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
22	Tranmere Rovers		1-2	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
29	Colchester United	3079	2-1	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
Nov 1	Reading		2-2	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
6	Hereford United	3645	3-0	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
12	Northampton Town		0-2	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
16	Hartlepool United	3074	3-2	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
19	F.A. Cup 1 Kettering Town		7-0	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
26	Marfield Town		2-2	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
Dec 3	Dorchester Rovers	3545	2-1	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
10	F.A. Cup 2 Millwall		3-2	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
17	Bury	3553	0-0	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
26	Torquay United		0-0	1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
27	Wrexham			1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
31	Peterborough United			1	1	2	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11					
1984																					
Jan 2	Bristol City																				
7	Chatter (F.A. Cup 3)																				
14	Chatterfield																				
21	Blackpool																				
28	Darlington (F.A. Cup 4)																				
Feb 4	Rochdale																				
7	Milk Cup SF (1L)																				
11	Stockport County																				
14	Milk Cup SF (2L)																				
15	Hereford United																				
18	Reading (F.A. Cup 5)																				
25	Colchester United																				
Mar 2	Tranmere Rovers																				
6	Northampton Town																				
10	Hartlepool United (F.A. Cup 6)																				
18	Crewe Alexandra																				
24	York City (Milk Cup Final)																				
30	Halifax Town																				
Apr 7	Aldershot																				
14	Dorchester Rovers (F.A. Cup SF)																				
20	Wrexham																				
21	Torquay United																				
29	Marfield Town																				
May 5	Bristol City																				
7	Peterborough United																				
12	Bury																				

GOALSCORER SUMMARY

League	Cup	Total
A. Mayes	9	9
J. Quinn	4	8
A. Rowland	5	6
P. Batty	2	4
L. Barnard	2	4
D. Hockaday	2	4
G. Emmanuel	2	3
S. Gibson	1	2
G. Nelson	1	2
C. Henry	1	1
C. Batty	1	1

Appearances	Substitute	Goals
Lge. Cup	Lge. Cup	Lge. Cup
8	2	1
13	4	1
19	4	2
18	4	
9	1	
19	4	
14	4	2
7	1	1
17	3	1
12	2	1
6	3	1
13	1	2
5	1	2
13	2	1
11	2	1
8	2	1

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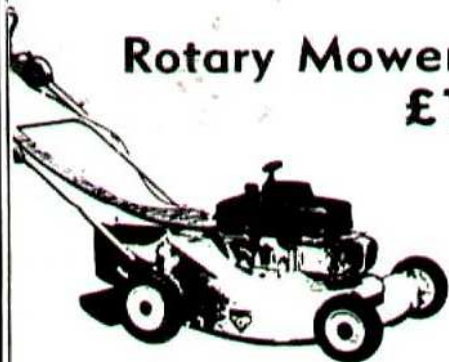
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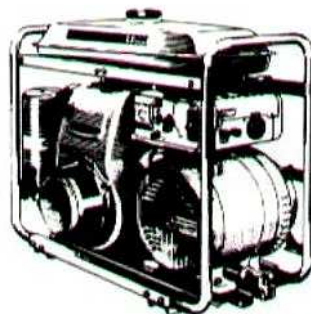
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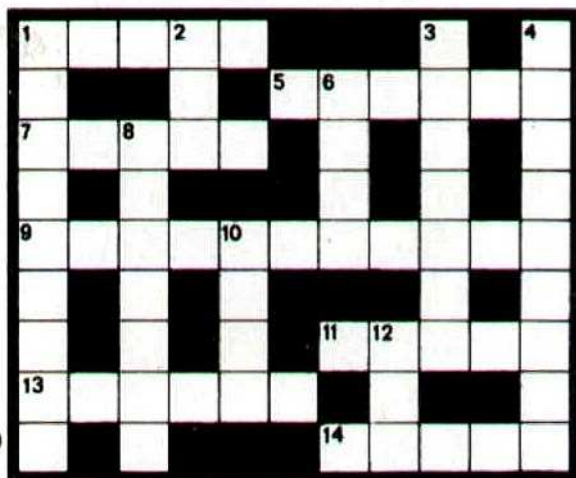
HONDA

IN NORTH WILTSHIRE

Season 1983/84

Reserve Facts & Figures																													
Season 1983/84																													
Date	Opponents	Score	Endersby	Gould	Baddeley	Batty	Quinn	Hatter	Osborne	Fulbrook	Slattery	Gardiner	Barnard	Elliott	Gray	Matthews	Payne	Wollen	Hughes	Mayes	Henry	Richardson	Kelly	Robinson	Hockaday	Nelson	Blackler	Rowland	Nash
1983																													
Wed Aug 31	West Ham United	H 0-2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9
Wed Sep 14	Leicester City	A 0-0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9
Sat Sep 17	Watford	A 1-1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9
Tue Sep 27	Crystal Palace	H 4-1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9
Sat Oct 1	Arsenal	A Postponed																											
Tue Oct 4	Ipswich Town	H 2-2	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9	
Wed Oct 12	Millwall	A 0-4	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9	
Tue Oct 18	Birmingham City	H 0-3	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9	
Sat Oct 22	Tottenham Hotspur	A 0-2	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9	
Tue Oct 25	Fulham	H 1-0	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9	
Tue Nov 1	Queens Park Rangers	A 0-7	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9	
Tue Nov 8	Norwich City	H 2-3	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9	
Tue Nov 15	Chelsea	A 1-4	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9	
Tue Nov 22	Brighton & Hove Albion	H 1-1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9	
Sat Nov 26	Luton Town	A 1-4	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9	
Tue Dec 29	Luton Town	H Postponed																											
Tue Dec 6	Southampton	H 2-3	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9	
Sat Dec 10	Swansea City	A 1-4	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9	
Tue Dec 20	Bristol Rovers	H 1-4	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	8	3	1	1	10	11	4	9	
1984																													
Sat Jan 7	Reading	A																											
Tue Jan 11	Norwich City	A																											
Sat Jan 14	West Ham United	A																											
Tue Jan 24	Leicester City	H																											
Tue Jan 31	Crystal Palace	A																											
Tue Feb 7	Watford	H																											
Sat Feb 11	Ipswich Town	A																											
Tue Feb 14	Oxford United	H																											
Tue Feb 21	Arsenal	H																											
Sat Feb 25	Tottenham Hotspur	H																											
Tue Feb 28	Fulham	A																											
Wed Mar 7	Oxford	A																											
Sat Mar 10	Queens Park Rangers	H																											
Tue Mar 13	Swansea City	H																											
Wed Mar 21	Bristol Rovers	A																											
Tue Mar 27	Birmingham City	A																											
Sat Mar 31	Reading	H																											
Tue Apr 3	Charlton Athletic	A																											
Tue Apr 10	Chelsea	H																											
Tue Apr 17	Brighton & Hove Albion	A																											
Tue Apr 24	Charlton Athletic	H																											
Tue May 8	Millwall	H																											
Sat May 12	Southampton	A																											

Ninety-Niner Crossword devised by David Peck



ACROSS

1. One of the two goal-getting Deans involved in the Gillingham-Millwall swap in March 1983 (5)
5. The first name of the first England manager Jimmy Greaves played for. (6)
7. Striker who had been doing well with Doncaster until he had to retire in 1982. (5)
9. Division Four ground (one miles from Mersey Square) which saw its record attendance when Liverpool went there in a 1950 Cup game. (7, 4)

11. Wales Under-21 defender with over 200 turn-outs for Bristol Rovers behind him before he went to Wrexham in 1981. (5)
13. Defender who played his 300th League game for Stockport last season. (6)
14. Kellock, could be. (5)

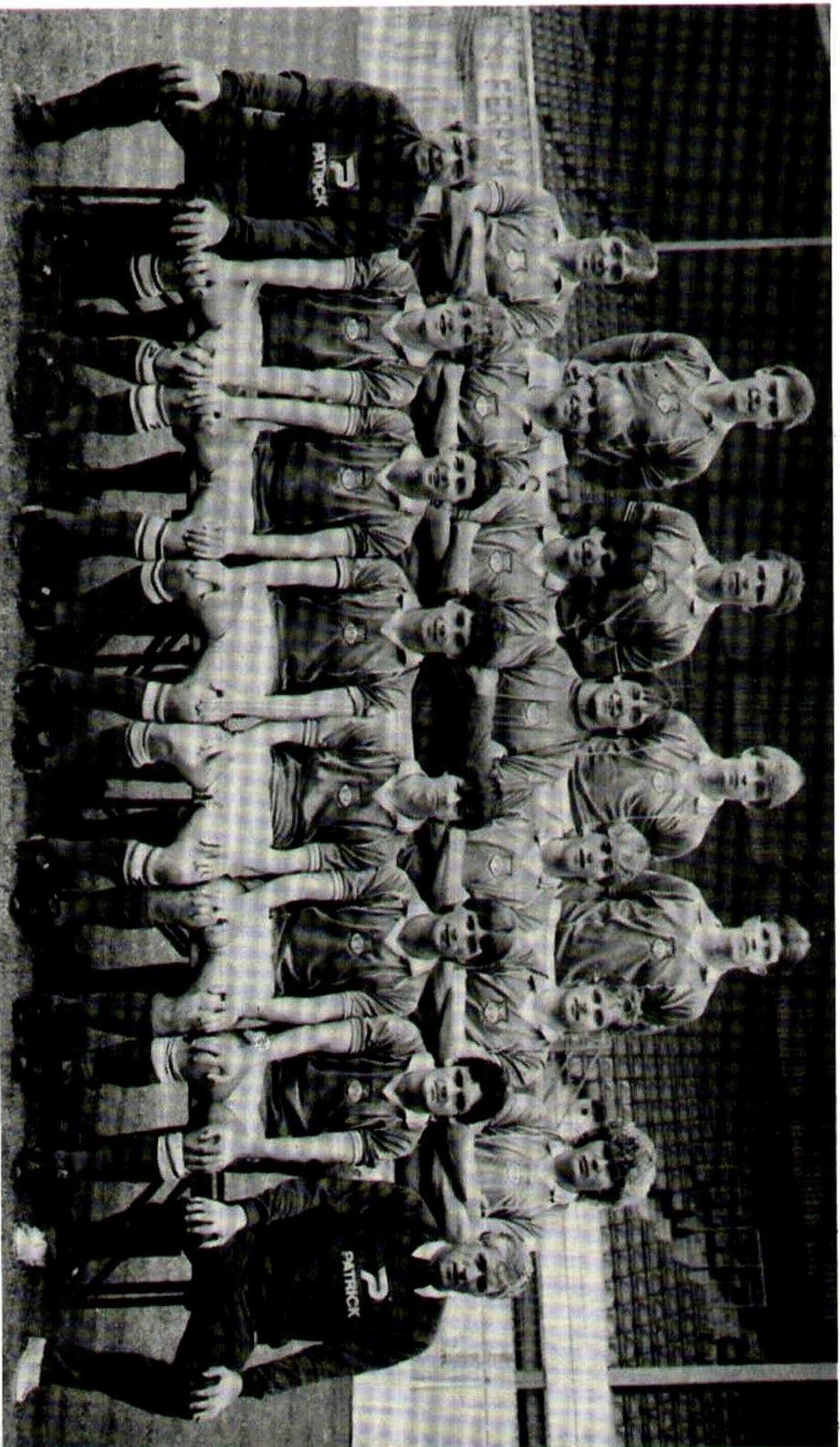
DOWN

1. When Luton Town first joined the League, they displaced Burton ---. (9)
2. English, for instance. (3)
3. Irish international loaned to Millwall by QPR last season. (7)
4. An ever-present for Leeds last season, he took his club tally past the 250 League games mark. (5, 4)
6. --- Thorpe, team-mate of 13 ACROSS in the last 200 or so. (4)
8. Irish international seen spasmodically in the 1970s with Spurs, Millwall (on loan) and Manchester United. (7)
10. Go down. (4)
12. The ex-Kop Cogen. (3)



I'VE BEEN A DIRECTOR FOR TEN YEARS... AND NOT ONE COMPLAINT!

WREXHAM



Back Row - left to right: Jackie Keay, Jake King, Mark Emmerson, Medwyn Evans
Middle Row: Dave Gregory, Andy Edwards, Steve Jones, Stuart Parker, Shaun Cunningham, Darren Baker, John Williams
Front Row: George Showell (Physio), John Muldoon, Seamus Heath, Simon Hunt, Steve Buxton, Phil Bater, (now with Bristol Rovers), Ian Arkwright, Bobby Roberts (Manager).

PEN PICTURES

STUART PARKER, Goalkeeper. Aged 20, hails from Winsford (Cheshire). Was a member of Wrexham's successful youth side three seasons ago. He joined the Club straight from school on apprentice forms and with the departure of Eddie Niedzwiecki at the end of last season, has now become the first choice goalkeeper.

DARREN BAKER, Defender. Aged 18, comes from Wednesbury, West Midlands. Made his first league appearance for the Club in September of last season while on the groundstaff and has signed professional forms for the Club during the close season.

STEVE JONES, Defender. Another 18 year old, born in Wrexham. He also made his first team debut last season while on the groundstaff and has just signed professional forms with the Club.

JAKE KING, Defender. Born Glasgow, Jake moved to the Racecourse before the start of last season from neighbours Shrewsbury Town on a free transfer. Jake was captain of Shrewsbury where he was a regular in the first team for nine years. Has now been made the captain of Wrexham.

JACKIE KEAY, Defender. Another Scot, was a team mate of Jake King at Shrewsbury. He joined Wrexham shortly after Jake for a fee of £10,000.

IAN ARKWRIGHT, Midfield. Joined Wrexham in a £100,000 deal from Wolves in May, 1980 after a spell on loan at the Racecourse. Hails from Barnsley and he joined the Wolves staff in 1977 but found his first team chances limited at Molineux. Was given a free transfer by Wrexham at the end of last season but was then quickly re-signed by the Club.

MEDWYN EVANS, Midfield. Yet another 18 year old, born in Anglesey. Made his first league appearance for the Club during last season and another who has signed professional forms for the Club during the close season.

SEAMUS HEATH, Midfield. Born in Belfast, Seamus was with Luton Town until he was released at the end of last season. From there he went on to play for H.I.K. of Finland and has now joined Wrexham on a free transfer.

SIMON HUNT, Midfield. Aged 21, is another product of the Wrexham Youth teams having signed professional forms after two years on the groundstaff. Born Chester, Simon is an exciting midfield player who was a vital part of Wrexham's youth team three seasons ago.

STEVE BUXTON, Forward. A diminutive, aggressive forward who was born in Birmingham but moved with his family to North Wales. He joined Wrexham straight from school and progressed via the youth teams. Became a regular member of the first team last season.

ANDY EDWARDS, Forward. Yet another 18 year old, born in Wrexham. Made his first team debut at the beginning of last season. He also signed professional forms for the Club during the close season.

DAVID GREGORY, Forward. A strong striker who began his career with his home town Club of Peterborough United before having spells with Stoke, Bury and Portsmouth building up an impressive scoring record. Moved to Wrexham on a free transfer at the start of last season from Portsmouth.

JOHN MULDOON, Forward. Aged 18, comes from Little Sutton (Wirral). Signed professional during last season after two seasons on the groundstaff. Made his first League appearance during September last year and in the following match came on as substitute for his home debut and scored the winning goal. Was also voted player of the month for November last year.

Senior Groundstaff possibly in first team:

SHAUN CUNNINGTON, a defender aged 17 from Bourne, Lincs. Made his first team debut last season.

MARK EMMERSON, a 17 year old midfield player from Cuddington. He also made his first team debut during last season.

JOHN WILLIAMS, a 17 year old defender from Bala (North Wales). Another member of the groundstaff to make his first team debut last season.

'FESTIVE FARE' by DAVE KING

At this time of the year when we all indulge in the Christmas Festivities, spare a thought for the players who appear in this afternoons match. They all have to forego what we regard as the normal yuletide activities, in seasons passed though there have been in some clubs results abnormally high scoring, whether this can have been attributable to participating in the yuletide fare is questionable. When matches were played on both Christmas and Boxing days very often a complete reversal of the previous days results often occurred with more than a streak of vengeance.

Some clubs experience a most rewarding holiday in terms of points gained. In recent seasons how have we at Swindon fared in the Christmas period? For sure all clubs can satisfy their bank managers in respect of finance, attendances are traditionally higher over holiday periods.

In recent seasons the innovation of New Years Day as a public holiday, and the refrain by League clubs in playing on Christmas Day, has altered the balance of fixtures from those seasons when the terraces vibrated with Christmas morning carol singing, when the normal practice for some clubs was to play prior to Christmas lunch. At one time it was very often a characteristic of clubs fixtures to play the same opponents, home and away on the holiday days, but this is no longer a feature of the fixture list.

The fixtures from 1970 onwards have seen us experience varying fortunes. The Christmas fixtures of 1970 saw that we were away to Cardiff City on December 26th, where a Don Rogers goal gained us a point in a 1-1 draw, before a crowd of 24,812, Sutton netting for Cardiff.

The following year on December 27th we were at home to Portsmouth again in a Division 2 fixture when a crowd of 20,494 saw a 3-1 victory, again with Don Rogers proving a liking to Christmas soccer with two goals, Ray Bunkell scoring the other, Norman Piper scoring the Pompey consolation. On the same day the Reserves lost 1-2 at Bournemouth, where Trevor Tinson scored for us, John Sainty recently manager of Chester was one of the Cherry's scorers.

The following year a reversal of the previous Christmas fixtures saw us at Portsmouth where a Peter Noble effort gained a point in a 1-1 draw, Brian Lewis was the Pompey target man, this being the third Christmas without defeat, a dip in the crowd figure, 7,941 being present.

On December 26th 1973 saw a Dave Syrett goal at Ninian Park fail to prevent a 1-2 defeat where goals from John Farrington and Don Murray helped Cardiff to provide a Happy Christmas for the majority of the 10,071 present.

Boxing Day 1974 provided a thrilling game at Home Park, Plymouth, a crowd of 18,027 saw Plymouth scrape home by the odd goal in seven. Dave Moss with two goals and John McLaughlin failing to wrestle the advantage from the goals provided by Colin Randell, John Delve, Paul Mariner, and a Bill Rafferty penalty despite a 2-1 half time advantage.

Trevor Anderson, Peter Eastoe, Frank Burrows and Wilf Dixon sent a crowd of 10,003 home happy the next Boxing Day with a 4-0 home win over Welsh visitors Cardiff City. The next day a 0-0 draw at Millwall before 7,022 kept the holiday spirit high, an Ian Farr goal gave the Reserves a 1-0 home win over Bristol Rovers the same day.

Oxford United were Third Division visitors on December 27th 1976 when a Colin Prophett goal gave a narrow 1-0 win, a crowd of 12,125 being present.

The following Christmas a fine fight back at Oxford after a 3-0 half time deficit where Peter Foley with two goals and one by Stott had seen the Oxford Club gain a unassailable lead according to those Oxford fans in the 8,746 watching, but Chris Kamara with a brace of goals and one for Chris Guthrie and Chris Kamara give a 3-1 advantage to us in answer to a Fred Binney goal for our Devon visitors Plymouth.

Boxing Day 1978 saw a fine display at the Vetch Field where Chick Bates and Paul Gilchrist scored in reply to John Toshack's goal for Swansea, in those times 16,770 were to witness. How the Swans could do with some of those as they struggle playing wise and financially in this seasons second Division.

Exeter City were Boxing Day visitors in 1979 gaining a 3-2 win with goals from Keith Bowker with two and one from David Pullar, shocking a crowd of 11,606 who had seen first half efforts from Brian Williams and Bill Tucker give us half time lead.

Chris Kamara and Russell Lewis with a goal each were to send Town fans back happy over the Severn Bridge after our 2-0 defeat of Newport where against all the odds 7,086 were to see a rear-guard action with Andy Rowland having to replace the injured Jimmy Allan in goal surviving any Welsh threat on Boxing Day 1980.

The following year an Andy Rowland goal failed to save us from a 2-1 defeat at Plymouth where goals from Hodges and Cook before 8,185 proved to explain the dampening spirit on our Christmas hopes.

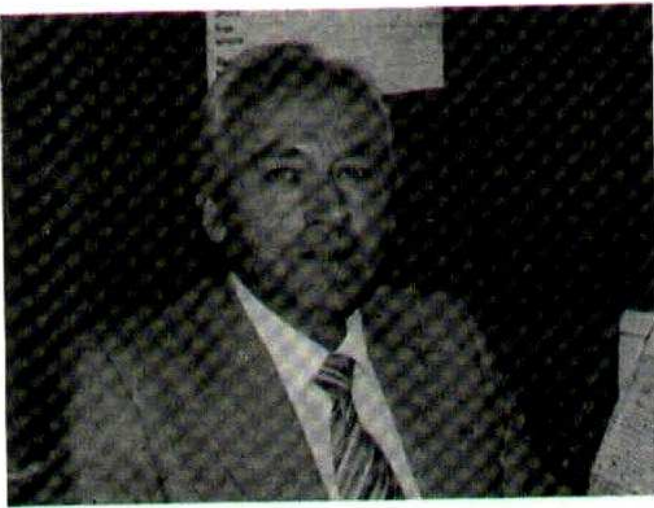
Last year Russell Lewis gained us a point at Aldershot in a 1-1 draw with former Town player Howard Goddard scoring for the Hampshire club in front of 5,087 people.

The following day a John Leslie goal served a depressing finale to festive feelings when Wimbledon defeated us here at the County Ground before 8,164 fans.

For many Christmas is made more palatable by the efforts of men in Red! not the accepted childs view. Note that 'Dreaming of a White Christmas' is only a dream, not one postponement in this period. Hope I have not tempted the fates, if you are reading this I know I will not have. Happy New Year.

BEHIND THE SCENES

by Bob Jefferies



As disappointed as we all are with the third round draw of the Football Association Cup I am sure that a number of the dedicated supporters will undertake the long trek to Cumbria to give the team encouragement to win their way through to the next round. For those who intend to do so, Carlisle tell me that they do not intend printing stand tickets for the game and, as they have some two thousand seats available for the match, no one who wishes to sit should be disappointed. I cannot imagine for one moment that this game will attract a big crowd, for Carlisle have three matches in eight days, the first being against Kevin Keegan's Newcastle United, the second against the Second Division leaders, Sheffield Wednesday, Swindon Town being the third. Unemployment is quite high in that area and it is only logical to think that any money the folk there have to spare will be spent on the first two games. It is important therefore that as many of our own supporters as possible support the team. Stand seats will cost £3.60 and £3.40 (a reduction on their normal prices), standing will cost £2.00 in the paddock and £1.80 elsewhere. Should a replay of the match be necessary, this will take place on the County Ground on Tuesday, 10th January at 7.30 p.m.

A number of folk have asked me recently about the disciplinary procedures when players are booked or sent from the field of play so perhaps I can take this opportunity to give brief details on the subject. A player who is dismissed from the field of play for persistent misconduct after having been cautioned is suspended automatically commencing on the fourteenth day from the match in which he is sent off, until such time as his Club's recognised senior team has completed one match in an approved Competition. A player who is dismissed for violent conduct, serious foul play or for using foul or abusive language, whether he has previously been cautioned or not, will be suspended, again from the fourteenth day following the incident taking place until the senior team has completed two matches in approved competitions. Any suspension, or part thereof, which remains outstanding at the end of a season must be served at the commencement of the next following season.

If a player accumulates 21 or more penalty points between the opening day of the season and the last Saturday in November, he will be suspended for a period covering three first team matches, for 21 points between the start of the season and the last

Saturday in February the suspension is for two games, for 21 points between the commencement of the season and the last Saturday in April he will not be able to play for one game and for 21 points during the whole of the season he will be censured and warned as to his future conduct. Going on from there, if a player accumulates 31 points he will again be suspended for a further two first team matches and any really naughty lad who totals up 41 or more points will be required to attend a meeting of the Football Association Disciplinary Commission. Although the majority of disciplinary points are gained in Football League games it is the Football Association who deals out the punishments.

In addition to the player having disciplinary points totted up against him, the club has the total of all players counted against them and any club whose players accumulate a total of 150 points in first team matches may be required to appear before a Commission of the Disciplinary Committee and shall be liable to be warned or fined for having permitted its players to violate the laws of the game. In so far as this regulation applies, 10 penalty points are added to the Club's total when a player is sent off for persistent misconduct (although the player receives only four points) and 12 points if the player is dismissed for violent conduct etc.

Points are allocated as follows:

One point for illegal marking of the pitch or for entering or re-entering the field of play without the Referee's permission: two points for intentional handling of the ball or encroachment: three points for intentional obstruction, encroachment within 10 yards of the ball or persistent infringement of the laws of the game: four points for intentional tripping, dangerous or foul play, foul tackle or showing dissent.

Clubs are not permitted to pay the player more than his basic wage during the period of suspension. Finally, a Commission shall have the discretionary power to rule that a match shall not count towards the completion of a suspension if it is satisfied that the game has been especially arranged with a view to enabling the player to complete his suspension to qualify him to play in a specific match.

I hope that this more than few words will give you a clearer insight into the happenings after the Ref. takes out his infamous little book.

I hope you all spent an enjoyable Christmas and that this afternoon's game will complete your celebrations in satisfactory style. Thanks for coming.

COMPREHENSIVE LEAGUE TABLE (Up to and including Sunday, December 18th)

Last Season Final Position	Total Home Goals	Average Goals Per Game	Highest Goals in One Game	Home	Playing Record	Away	Aggregate Goals	This Season's Average Goals Per Game	Leading Goal Scorer	Total Goals	Where Scored (inc cups)	Career Goals H/A/Cups
7	41,021	4,102	3,243	6,287	19 8 1 1 28 8 YORK CITY	4 2 3 15 11 39 34,500	3,833	John	14	9	5	44
21	38,217	3,821	3,002	4,439	19 7 0 3 15 8 BLACKPOOL	4 2 3 9 10 35 26,435	2,938	Bryne	8	3	5	97
6	21,857	2,185	2,552	3,402	19 8 2 0 32 9 COLCHESTER	1 3 5 9 13 32 21,444	2,404	Wells	18	12	6	41
DIV 3	32,281	3,228	3,247	5,918	19 8 2 0 32 9 READING	1 3 5 13 22 32 29,193	3,243	Torrey	24	18	6	32
9	32,441	3,244	2,795	4,400	19 7 2 0 22 5 PETERBOROUGH	2 3 5 13 17 32 28,445	2,844	Adcock	24	18	6	32
18	20,129	2,012	1,928	3,195	20 5 3 2 14 13 ALDERSHOT	4 2 4 10 14 32 19,197	1,191	Senior	7	6	1	86
14	59,430	5,943	4,695	10,827	19 7 0 2 21 4 BRISTOL CITY	3 1 6 6 10 31 28,005	2,800	Hawlin	11	4	7	39
DIV 3	30,000	3,000	3,516	4,994	19 6 3 0 22 10 DONCASTER	2 4 4 11 15 31 35,770	3,577	Banton	8	7	1	31
15	27,426	2,742	2,595	3,835	19 5 4 1 13 7 NORTHAMPTON	2 5 2 12 12 30 17,875	1,986	Pritchard	10	10	—	21
8	31,428	3,142	3,994	3,645	19 7 2 1 21 10 SALINGDON	1 2 4 9 15 28 26,393	2,932	Douglas	10	6	4	101
5	22,921	2,292	3,092	3,258	18 4 4 1 16 10 BURY	3 2 4 10 12 27 17,988	1,987	Austin	9	4	5	123
16	25,086	2,508	2,303	2,602	20 4 3 3 15 12 STOCKPORT	3 3 4 15 18 27 24,958	2,495	Mares	11	5	6	96
19	20,923	2,092	2,789	2,789	19 4 3 2 14 11 TWANEE	2 4 4 9 12 25 20,891	2,089	Craig	15	5	10	58
12	16,305	1,631	2,312	2,312	19 3 4 2 11 7 TORQUAY	3 2 5 14 23 24 27,448	2,744	Madden	6	5	1	13
23	21,451	2,145	2,244	2,945	18 5 2 2 12 11 CREWE	2 1 4 5 16 24 24,834	2,759	Aspinall	5	2	3	80
DIV 3	38,809	3,880	3,251	6,488	19 3 7 0 12 8 CHESTERFIELD	1 4 4 10 14 23 26,791	2,976	Sims	5	4	1	24
17	15,328	1,532	1,454	2,181	19 5 1 4 9 7 DARLINGTON	2 1 6 6 12 23 21,428	2,388	Waller	6	4	2	81
24	27,627	2,762	2,234	5,875	18 3 3 2 6 6 HEEFORD	2 5 3 9 15 23 23,347	2,334	Black	14	8	6	96
10	21,710	2,171	2,312	3,327	19 4 2 3 19 11 MANFIELD	1 3 6 6 21 20 29,454	2,945	Walsh	9	5	4	41
20	15,283	1,528	1,689	1,926	19 4 4 2 18 14 ROCHDALE	1 1 7 7 21 20 20,149	2,238	Phillips	12	10	2	43
11	12,534	1,253	1,925	1,735	19 4 3 2 12 11 HALIFAX	1 2 7 7 22 20 34,162	3,416	Dave	5	2	3	84
DIV 3	20,134	2,013	2,710	5,472	18 3 3 3 15 11 WREXHAM	0 4 5 8 16 16 33,139	3,482	Stanforth	5	4	1	17
13	14,992	1,499	1,903	2,284	19 2 3 5 11 16 CHESTER	0 4 5 6 16 13 21,614	2,401	Simon	5	4	1	17
22	12,419	1,241	1,369	2,012	19 1 4 4 8 12 HARTLEPOOL	0 1 9 6 31 8 25,103	2,510	Hunt	5	2	3	98

GOALS - THREE OR MORE:

Trevor Senior (Reading)	3 v Stockport
John Bryne (York City)	3 v Colchester
Alan Crawford (Bristol C)	3 v Chester
Mike Quinn (Stockport)	3 v Torquay
Dave Caldwell (Manfield)	3 v Crewe
Dave Waller (Crewe)	3 v Aldershot
Howard Pritchard (Bristol C)	4 v Hartlepool
Keith Bowen (Colchester)	3 v GPR
	3 v Mossley
	3 v Corinthian Casuals
	3 v F.A. Cup Nov 19th 3.0
	3 v F.A. Cup Nov 23rd 4.0
	3 v F.A. Cup Dec 10th 4.0

PENALTY SCORERS TO DATE:

3 - Adcock (Colchester)
2 - Each (Quindon), Farrell (Rochdale), Birch (Chesterfield),
2 - Each (Blackpool), McDonald (Aldershot), 1 Snodin (Doncaster),
1 Cook (Halifax), Barracough (Manfield), Chard (Peterborough),
1 Curle (Torquay), Pollard (York), Richie (Bristol City), Walsh
1 Each:
Hatke (Blackpool), Jakub (Bury), Brumhall (Bury), Zalium (Chester),
Ball (Chesterfield), Waller (Crewe), Harvey (Hereford), Dugworth
(Manfield), O'Neill (Northampton), Morris (Reading), Beavon (Reading),
Quinn (Stockport), Holmes (Torquay).

ALL ABOUT TODAY'S VISITORS:

NAME OF GROUND: Racecourse
GROUND CAPACITY: 30,000
HIGHEST LEAGUE POSITION: 15th Div 2
MOST GOALS IN A SEASON: 166 Div 3 - (1932/33)
MANAGER: Bobby Roberts

RECORD ATTENDANCE: 34,445 v Man Utd F.A. Cup, Jan 28th 1937
RECORD VICTORY: 10-1 v Hartlepool Utd Div 4, Mar 3 1962
RECORD DEFEAT: 0-9 v Brentford Div 3, Oct 13th 1963
MOST LEAGUE GOALS IN A SEASON: Tom Bamford - 44 Div 4
MOST LEAGUE GOALS IN CAREER: Tom Bamford - 175
PLAYER MOST CAPTED AT CLUB: Dai Davies - 18 (Males)

GOAL-SCORERS THIS SEASON (INC. F.A. CUP AND MILK CUP)
Hunt 5 (4H, 1A), Edwards 3 (2H, 1A), Aspinall 3 (2H, 1A),
King 3 (Home), Near 2 (Away), Hunt 1 (Home), Evans 1 (Away).

SURVEY ON DIVISION IV

by Dave King

(A week by week report on our Division)

The second managerial casualty of the season in our Division is Mick Docherty of Hartlepool, who are currently bottom of the League. The 31 year old former Burnley, Manchester City and Sunderland defender had only moved into a new house in the area 48 hours before his dismissal.

Hampered by a shortage of cash and a small playing staff he paid the penalty for only one win in twenty two League and Cup games. In the meantime Billy Horner has been appointed caretaker manager. He had previously been in charge of United until last season and had stayed with the club in an advisory capacity due to the lengthy contract he had.

This dismissal along with Terry Neill leaving Arsenal, means that since November 15th 1973 when Southampton appointed Lawrie McMenemy, now leaving him the longest serving manager in the Football League with one club, that 124 managers have been sacked while 81 have resigned.

Recent transfers have included Bury signing Oxford United Reserve goalkeeper John Butcher on loan as cover for their goalkeeper David Brown.

Billy Bremner, manager of Doncaster Rovers, made Southend defender Steve Yates his first cash signing for three years when he paid the Essex Third Division club £7,500, but he failed to sign Grimsby midfielder Phil Bonnyman when his £20,000 bid was rejected. Bremner denies he is about to sell one of his highly rated youngsters to fund transfer deals. Time will tell!

Ken Stroud looks certain to stay at Ashton Gate after his loan expires on December 29, Terry Cooper City manager says of Ken, "He has fitted in well since joining us and is capable of even better performances, our young players can learn a lot from him because he plays the game simply, Terry Cooper expects Newport to have no objection to extending the loan. "They are happy to have Ken off their wage bill", he said. The retention of City midfielder player Wayne Bray by Alliance League club Weymouth for a further month enables City to extend their loan of our former player.

Former Liverpool player Ray Kennedy celebrated his debut for his new club Hartlepool with a twenty first minute goal but it did not prevent his team crashing to a 5-1 defeat at Reading who managed five without any help from Trevor Senior.

Late goals were the feature of the games involving promotion contenders Aldershot, Blackpool and Bristol City. A goal two minutes from time by Dale Banton enabled Aldershot to take three points from their visit to Darlington, with our former winger Howard Pritchard doing likewise at Rochdale with the winning and only goal of the game two minutes from time. A penalty, nine minutes from time by Steve Hetzke for Blackpool in their home match with Torquay allowing the seashiders

to retain second place in the table.

Our Division boasts the most clubs with unbeaten home records with Colchester, Reading, Peterborough, Doncaster and Chesterfield all undefeated to date, in the Third Division Oxford United, Sheffield United, are the only two clubs with the same record, and in the Second Division Sheffield Wednesday, Charlton, Grimsby, and Blackburn can claim the same but every club in the First Division has been beaten at home.

The Fourth Division also claims the Football League's highest scoring club in Reading with forty five to their credit in League matches, their nearest rivals are York City and Second Division Chelsea with forty-one each. Reading also have the Leagues top goalscorer in Trevor Senior and they would probably say that Chelsea are only in contention because they signed Kerry Dixon from them in the close season.

Only mighty Liverpool by one goal have conceded less than another of our clubs in Bristol City, whilst our next opponents in the F.A. Cup Carlisle United have a record on par with City with fourteen conceded.

While we all desperately desire Third Division soccer again, the often derided Fourth Division does have its merits, although Hartlepool with one win this season along with Third Division Port Vale and First Division Wolverhampton Wanderers hold the least unenviable record although they can gain some cheer from the fact that they have eight points compared with Port Vales six.

STATISTICS FOR DEC. 16th/17th/18th:

Home Wins: 6; Away Wins: 2; Draws: 4; 0-0: 1; Goals: 30; Highest Attendance: 3,955 Blackpool v Torquay; Aggregate Attendances: 28,194; Lowest Attendance: 1,191 Chester v Peterborough; High Aggregate Score 6: Reading 5 v Hartlepool 1.

One of the most unusual loan deals at present is Peterborough player Ivan Linton who unable to command a regular place at Peterborough is now on loan to First Division Birmingham City and he made his debut for them when he appeared as a substitute in their away match with Southampton last weekend.

Russell Lewis who was with us last season scored his first goal for Northampton in their 2-1 home win with Mansfield last Sunday.

Mick Cook Colchester full back was sent off in their 4-1 home win something which he can ill afford to do if he wants to achieve his aim of passing John Trollope's 770 League appearances for one club, he is due to make his 600th appearance next month and up to this season he has been averaging forty appearances a season. Mick, who is 32, has been a model of consistency, giving Colchester 14 years of valuable service. He says "I have been very lucky and managed to avoid serious injury. I've broken both cheekbones and a rib, but thankfully my knees and ankles are all right."

Goal-maker Alan Mayes (right) in the thick of the action once again in the match against Doncaster.

Bottom Left

Doncaster goalkeeper Peacock in action during the Town's 2-1 win at the County Ground.

Top Right

Doncaster's Snodin (right) slams home a penalty beating Town 'keeper Scott Endersby for the visitors' only goal.

Bottom Right

Watched by Simon Gibson and Dave Hockaday, Charlie Henry (left) challenges for a Town corner against Doncaster.



Photo Call

BY DAVE EVANS



Commercially Speaking

by DOUG BUSWELL

On Monday 19th December the draws were made in our Supporters Club at The Grand Christmas Draw and The Robins Reviver Monthly Draw. The lucky persons to hold winning tickets are as follows:

- 1st Prize £250: Mrs. J. McGinn, 37 Sywell Road, S.S.M. Swindon.
2nd Prize £100: Mr. S. Knowles, 110 Elmore Eldene, Swindon
3rd Prize £50: J. Boyce, 5 Lansdown Rd. Faringdon, Oxon
4th Prize £50: I. Dowell, Wicklesham, Faringdon, Oxon.

The holders of the following 25 ticket numbers each received £10:

13185	13166	33803	21458	22812
09172	22552	01814	33024	27899
19848	34768	23713	27814	07198
30303	16621	23692	09652	35358
24629	10693	07000	27899	06771

Robin Reviver Draw 10.12.83 Closing Date 19.12.83

The following ten people were lucky and each received Dewhurst Meat Vouchers to the value of £200.

1. Mrs. D. Cooke, 68 Walcot Rd. Swindon
2. Mrs. Rice, 20 Fieldways, Studley Green, Trowbridge.
3. W. J. Duke, 128 London Rd. Wheatley, Oxford
4. D. Morgan, 72 County Road, Swindon
5. Mrs. Butler, 8 St Leonards Rd. Bulford
6. M. J. Sawyer, 56 Penhill Drive, Swindon
7. Mr. Clarke 66 Oakham Drive, Toothill
8. A. Smart, 438 Ferndale Road, Swindon
9. P. Padbury, 22 Stert St., Abingdon, Oxon.
10. Mrs. S.R. Noriaga, 17 Christie Close, Liden, Swindon.

All winners have been notified.

We would like to express our thanks to all of you who contributed to these draws either by buying or selling of tickets. Your support is very much appreciated from everyone in the Commercial Department. A Happy New Year to you All.

Soccer Ninety-Niner Answers 12

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5. Walter (Winterbottom)
7. Nimmo
9. Edgeley Park (Stockport)
11. Bater
13. Rutter
14. Billy

DOWN

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2. Tom
3. Stewart
4. Frank Gray
6. Andy
8. McGrath
10. Lose
12. Avi.

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We are pleased to accept advertisements at a cost of 2p a word to be included in this column. If you wish to use a box number please add an additional 16p Enquiries to the Secretary.

WANTED: Swindon Town League Cup Final Tie 1969; Also Swindon Home Programmes 1958/9 to 1966/7 at reasonable prices. Mr. M.A. Bennett, 605 Ferndale Road, Swindon SN2 1DQ or Tel. 692170.

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YOUTH TEAM FEATURE

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Pretty
Things



Featuring the Reserve and Youth Teams

The future of many clubs must be their youth policy, as they can no longer afford the transfer fees or wages demanded these days. We are no exception and as has been proved, lads can be found and brought through to make 1st team players. The most notable times this has happened here at Swindon was in the early sixties when a batch of 6 or 7 came through from the ranks and in the last 2 or 3 years with players like Charlie Henry, Brian Hughes (now Torquay), Paul Batty, Colin Bailie and Paul Rideout (Aston Villa). Not only does it provide us with first team players, it can supply us with much needed revenue from their sales. The sale of Paul Rideout to Aston Villa in the summer enabled the club to strengthen the playing staff by bringing in more experienced players, for although it is nice to have youngsters in the side this has to be off set with experience.

The finding of youngsters is becoming harder due mainly to a much wider range of sports. A lot of time and hard work is put in to find these boys with the help of unpaid scouts, who do it for the club and to see the lads get a chance. Over the last few years we have signed our fair share and with so many clubs chasing so few good youngsters its hard to attract them to a lower division club. Our reputation stands us in good stead, as a club who en-

PAUL BYRNE was born at R.A.F. Wroughton on the 17th March, 1967. He attends the Ridgeway School at Wroughton for whom he plays football. He has also had trials for the County side.

Paul is another of our South East Counties Junior team, playing at either right or left full back.

He enjoys most sports but, apart from soccer, his main interests are golf and cricket.

courages and will give youngsters a chance, coupled with the excellent facilities to make sure the lad is looked after. Due to the financial situation we prefer local lads or from within 20 - 30 miles, as the expense to keep them and travelling expenses can put the cost per week as much as a professional.

With this in mind we encourage lads to come here as we can offer training sessions and also provide them with competitive football when they reach 15. We stress that all school work and activities must come first, but in holidays and Saturdays they can join us and play, leading up to an apprenticeship for the better lads. We play them in our South East Counties side, which enables us to assess their capabilities as to whether they have a chance of a career in football.

This year we have had the help of sponsors to enable the club to continue the youth policy and I feel this is probably the only way it will prosper in the future in bringing other lads through. If you are able to help either by sponsorship or recommendations don't hesitate to contact us, as we badly need all the help we can get.

John Trollope



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Scott Endersby	1
Charlie Henry	2
Colin Bailie	3
Paul Batty	4
Nigel Gray	5
Mike Graham	6
Dave Hockaday	7
Gary Emmanuel	8
James Quinn	9
Alan Mayes	10
Leigh Barnard	11
	12

WREXHAM

Stuart Parker
Jake King
Shaun Cunningham
Simon Hunt
Phil Coleman
John Keay
Steve Wright
Ian Arkwright
Mike Sturridge
Dave Gregory
Neil Salathiel

REFEREE:

MR. RAY S. LEWIS

- (Great Bookham, Surrey)

Commenced refereeing in the Kingston and District League in 1962, and progressed through the Isthmian League to the Football League List. Was Senior Linesman at a U.E.F.A. Cup Quarter-Final Tie - Levski Spartak v. Barcelona, and F.A. Cup Semi-Final 1977.

A married man with one daughter, he is an Area Catering Executive who likes reading and playing bowls.

LINESMEN:

RED FLAG: MR. B. S. LOCK

(East Chinnock, Nr. Yeovil)

YELLOW FLAG: MR. L. L. WATSON
(Coventry)

Mascot

Darren Errington
from Longcot

Ball Donor

Mr. Tony Britten
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KEY OF THE BOARD

A	Blackpool v Hartlepool
B	Chester v Mansfield
C	Chesterfield v Bury
D	Colchester v Aldershot
E	Darlington v Doncaster
F	Northampton v Peterborough
G	Reading v Torquay
H	Rochdale v Halifax
I	York City v Tranmere
J	Arsenal v Birmingham
K	Aston Villa v Tottenham H
L	Liverpool v Leicester
M	Luton v West Ham Utd.
N	Manchester Utd. v Notts County
O	Norwich v Ipswich
P	Southampton v Watford
Q	Sunderland v West Brom. Albion
R	Wolverhampton v Everton
S	Carlisle v Newcastle
T	Bolton b Oxford Utd.