



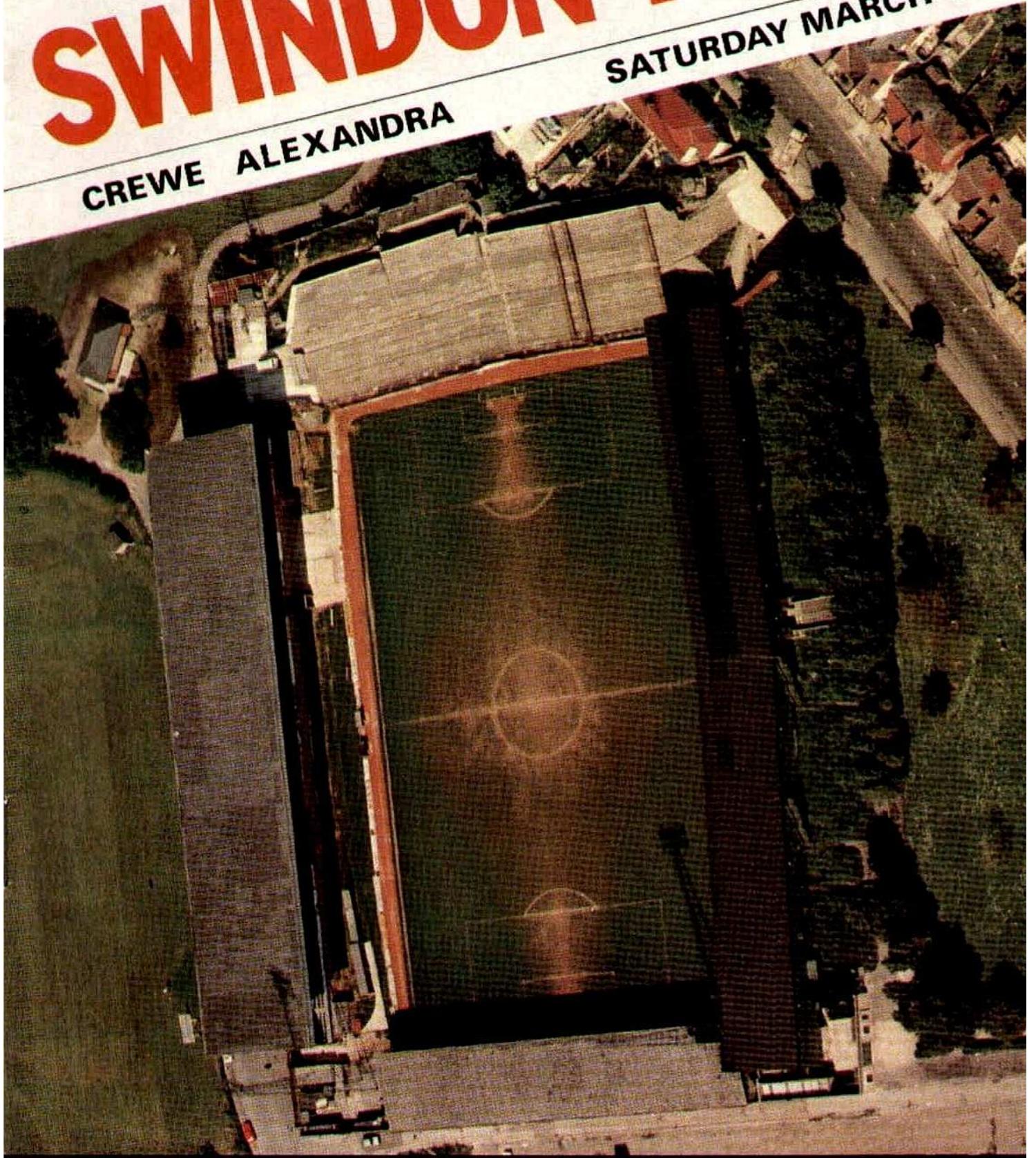
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SATURDAY MARCH 16

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Chairman's Comments



This afternoon we welcome to the County Ground the Directors, Players and Supporters of Crewe Alexandra and hope that we all have an enjoyable game such as the last one here against Bury.

First of all may I say congratulations to Jamie Reynolds who heard earlier this week that he has been selected in a group of sixteen players to visit France in April to play in tournament with the England Youth Team. Jamie visited Lilleshall for an extended training and coaching session earlier in the season and obviously impressed to earn this ideal opportunity and we wish him all the best when the time comes and look upon this as an honour to our Club.

Last Saturday's game at Port Vale was a tremendous disappointment to lose when after giving a fairly competitent performance in the first half. We let ourselves down badly in the second with a very inept display and consequently let our hosts in for a comparatively easy win which, in the first half, had not looked even remotely possible.

Last Tuesday evening here against Bury was surely game one of our most honest performances of the season when our lads, with one or two players playing in strange positions due to injuries, rolled up their sleeves and got on with the job and thanks to a penalty earned by Peter Coyne and duly tucked away into the back of the net by him, our lads truly earned the standing ovation given to them by everyone in the ground and it was also nice to have four hundred or more people than normal to witness this performance and hope that they will have returned today.

Also last week at the Rendezvous Club on Monday evening a Sports Quiz, organised by the Supporters Co-operative, was won by our Directors' Team followed closely by the Supporters' Team and then the Players. The evening was enjoyed by everyone and hopefully another such evening will be arranged in due course.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank our Match Sponsor and Ball Donor for today, Mr Dave Hale of Melksham.

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YOUTH TEAM FEATURE

BY JOHN TROLLOPE

After a period where the Reserves and Youth team had very few games due to bad weather, we have had a busy time in the last two or three weeks.

The Reserves continue to find results hard to come by due mainly to the availability of players through injury, First Team calls and non-contract players having other commitments. We have played six games, winning one, drawing one and losing four and, all but the Arsenal game, when unfortunately we met a very strong side, we managed to put up reasonable performances. As you probably read in previous programmes, the club are considering entering into a reserve league consisting of clubs in the West Country and as most of these carry around the same full-time staff as ourselves, the make up of the sides should be more suitable to us.

On the Youth front, the big disappointment was our exit from the F.A. Youth Cup having been beaten by Coventry in a replay, after playing so well in the away tie which we should have won. It turned out to be a big let down for everyone for on the night we didn't have

the fight we had shown in the previous rounds.

In the South East Counties League we have played two games losing away 1-0 at West Ham and drawing 0-0 at home to Southend United. Both games were played without several of our regular players as some were playing for Wiltshire Youth and the Reserves, but it gave us a chance to play other lads and although we like to win, it's the improvement in the lads we are looking for.

Jamie Reynolds attended a youth trial a few weeks ago with the England under 17 squad and having done well was included in the shadow squad for the full England Youth Team U 18's. This week Jamie heard that he had been selected for the England under 17 Youth Tournament Cannes early in April. He is the second youth player to get international honours in the past two or three seasons for we had Paul Rideout play also. Not only is it an honour for the lad but it shows that clubs like ours in the lower divisions are capable of bringing youngsters through good enough for their Country.



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Welcome to Crewe Alexandra

BY DAVE KING

Few of the Town followers who watched our away fixture with the 'Railwaymen' on that Autumn afternoon of October last, will forget the blistering opening to a match, which saw the emotions of our supporters turn from the ecstasy of a first minute goal by Peter Coyne, against his former club, delve to abysmal depths within the following seventeen minutes. When Gary Blissett, Peter Farrell and John Crabbe with a penalty virtually settled the match in the Northern railway town's favour. A penalty by Alan Mayes six minutes from time roused the flickering hopes of its Southern counterparts, but The Gresty Road Club held onto record their fifth win of the season.

Victory that afternoon signalled the first of four successive home wins, results since have been inconsistent although the squad that manager Dario Gradi brings to the County Ground this afternoon have recorded wins in their last two away matches at Rochdale 3-1 and Chester 2-0. Included in that squad are the following:-

Goalkeeper NICK LONGLEY has appeared in the Clubs last three League matches to bring his total of League appearances to six. The 23 year old Mexborough born keeper's first three League matches were during the 1981/82 season. Nick made his League debut in a 3-0 away defeat at Wigan on April 10th 1982.

Former Anfield apprentice PETER KING joined the Club on a free transfer in 1983. Twenty year old Peter made his League and Club debut at Rochdale on the opening day of last season. He scored four goals in his forty two League matches last term. Peter has not been such a regular member of the team this season and his only goal to date came in the 8th minute of a 3-2 win at Scunthorpe on September 18th.

London born DAVID PULLAR was a former Portsmouth apprentice who made his League debut for Portsmouth at home to Orient on April 13th 1976, when he came on as substitute for George Graham, now the Millwall Manager. Twenty six year old Dave went onto make 93 League appearances for Pompey scoring four goals, before joining Exeter City in 1979 for £12,000. He scored ten goals in his first season with City, Dave eventually appeared in 130 League matches scoring twenty two goals. He joined Crewe in 1983 making 34 League

appearances scoring six goals. Dave has yet to score this season.

Nineteen year old Birmingham born STEVE DAVIS was a Stoke City apprentice before joining Alexandra. Steve also made his League and Club debut in last seasons opening day defeat at Rochdale. He went onto make 24 League appearances last season. Steve is still waiting to score his first League goal.

After making his League debut for Wigan Athletic on September 8th 1979 at Bournemouth, twenty six year old NIGEL HART had to wait until September 5th 1981 before making an appearance in the Football League again. This time it was for Blackpool at Scunthorpe, also included in the Bloomfield Road Club's line-up was Dave Hockaday and Peter Noble. Nigel spent two seasons with Leicester City between those appearances without making their League team. He scored his first goal in League soccer at Hartlepool in a 2-0 on November 1st last season. This season Nigel has scored three goals, in the 3-1 home win against Rochdale on November 1st, also from the penalty spot in a 3-1 home defeat to Tranmere Rovers on February 26th and in last weeks 2-0 win at Chester. Nigel has missed only one League match this season.

Weymouth born JOHN CRABBE was the 18th minute scorer from the penalty spot in our 3-2 defeat at Gresty Road on October 13th. Another player who made his debut for the Club at Rochdale last season. The former Southampton apprentice made his League debut on January 10th 1975 for 'The Saints' at York City, in a team that included two of our former players David Peach and Gerry O'Brien. After making only 12 League appearances in five seasons at The Dell John joined Gillingham in 1977. He spent five seasons with the 'Gills' scoring 12 goals in 181 League appearances. Thirty year old John then spent a season each with Carlisle and Hereford United appearing in 26 League matches for the Cumbrian club and sixteen for Hereford. His only other goal this season came in a 1-0 win at Stockport a week after our away defeat.

Leading goalscorer this season is 20 year old Manchester born GARY BLISSETT with 10 goals, eight of them in League matches. Gary scored the sixth minute equaliser to Peter Coyne's first minute goal in our away defeat this season. That

was to prove to be the first of 5 goals in four successive home matches for Gary. He also made his club and League debut in last seasons match at Rochdale. Gary scored his first League goal on October 22nd last season in a 3-2 home win over Northampton Town.

Local born DAVE WALLER made his League debut on January 23rd 1982 at home to Bournemouth. Dave has been a regular in Alexandra's line-up since, scoring 27 goals in his 79 League appearances in the last two seasons. He made his 100th League appearance for Crewe in their home match with Chesterfield on December 15th. Dave scored a hat trick in Alexandra's 6-1 win with Halifax Town on March 3rd last season. Twenty one year old Dave scored twice in the last nine minutes of last Saturday's 2-1 home win against Stockport to bring his total of goals this season to nine.

Twenty five year old VERNON ALLATT joined Crewe on a free transfer from Rochdale last summer. The Hednesford born striker scored 8 goals in forty League matches for the Spotland Club last season. Previous to his spell with Rochdale, Vernon scored 14 goals in 98 League matches for Halifax Town. The scorer of five League goals this season, Vernon's only away goal came in a 1-1 draw at Aldershot on Boxing Day.

A non contract player with Manchester United DAVID PLATT made his debut for

Alexandra at home to Mansfield on January 26th. The following week Dave scored his first League goal in the 11th minute of a 2-0 home win against Hartlepool on February 2nd. He scored in his first away match for Crewe at Rochdale on the second day of this month in a 3-1 win. Dave also scored in last weeks 2-0 win at Chester.

The only ever present in Alexandra's line-up this season is 22 year old TONY CLISS a former Peterborough United player. Tony made his League debut on October 28th 1977 for United at Colchester. Included in the 'Posh' line-up that day were three of our former players Jim Barron, Chris Turner and Jack Carmichael. Tony's first goal in League football came in his second match in a 2-0 win over Cambridge United. After 86 League matches for the London Road club, Tony moved to Crewe in 1982 on a free transfer. Today should see Tony make his 100th League appearance for the Gresty Road Club. He has scored five goals this season, his only away goal coming in the 32nd minute of a 2-1 win at Exeter on December 1st.

Defender GARY ARMSTRONG made his League debut for Gillingham at Grimsby on April 24th 1976. Twenty seven year old Gary made 91 appearances in League matches for the Kent Club before joining Wimbledon in 1980. After 71 League matches for the 'Dons' he went to Finland in 1982. Gary signed for Crewe this season. He has yet to score for Crewe.



Row: Left to Right:- Steve Davis, Paul Brady (retired), Dave Waller, Mark Leonard (now Stockport), Nick Longley, Nigel Hart, Vernon Allatt, Geff Thomas, Gary Blissett, Dave Pullar.

Middle Row: Left to Right: Tony Cliss, Neil Aldridge, Andy Mason, Dario Gradi (Manager), Bob Scott (Captain), Peter King, Paul Shaw.

Front Row: Lee Broomhead, Andy Green, Steve Crompton, Alan Milne.

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FOCUS ON FOUR

BY DAVE KING

The contract of Peterborough striker Ray Hankin, has been cancelled after being sent off for the fifth time in one and a half seasons with the Club, against Port Vale two weeks ago.

Stockport County collected their third home win in a week when they defeated promotion candidates Colchester United on March 4th. For previous to their 1-0 victory over United, they had previously beaten ourselves 2-1 and Aldershot 6-0. A feature of all three matches was the fact that Clive Evans was on the County scoresheet in each match. Previous to this trio of home matches Clive had only scored twice this season.

Congratulations to our former player and coach Frank Burrows on reaching Wembley for the second time in his football career. While a member of our victorious Wembley team of 1969, this time Frank will be returning as Assistant Manager of Sunderland. A position Frank accepted when approached by Len Ashurst who had returned to the Roker Park Club as Manager last summer. Frank who was a member of our promotion team of 1969 later led Portsmouth to promotion from Division Four in 1979-80, during his spell as the Fratton Park Manager. After his dismissal from his position as Pompey' manager, Frank was appointed to the coaching staff at nearby Southampton, before linking up with the North East Club during the close season. I am sure all Town supporters will join me in wishing Frank a memorable day at Wembley again, and a victorious one.

Frank continues the personal success obtained by former Town staff this season following Paul Rideout, Jimmy Quinn and Howard Pritchard's selection at International level, also John Neal in leading Chelsea to a Milk Cup Semi-Final, following last season's promotion from Division Two.

The adage of 'March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb' is certainly true in part, for not only did John Kerr of Stockport County score in the first minute of our away fixture on Friday March 1st, but in the following day's Division Four fixtures of Saturday, there were no fewer than five goals in the first five minutes of play.

The whirlwind start to the Divisions scoring spree came with two goals in the first three minutes of play in the match

between Chesterfield and Chester, with Bob Newton scoring in the second minute for Chesterfield with an immediate reply by Chester's on loan striker from Everton, Stewart Rimmer, in the following minute.

Noel Luke of Mansfield Town scored his first goal of the season in the second minute of Mansfield's 2-0 home win against Hartlepool. He also added the second goal ten minutes from time.

Paul Stewart of Blackpool scored his sixth goal of the season in the fourth minute of the Seasiders 1-0 victory at bottom placed Northampton Town. That solitary goal extended his Clubs run of matches to twelve without defeat inclusive of ten victories.

The five minute wonders' were completed by Derek Hall of Torquay United who netted his fifth goal of the season in the fifth minute of the Plainmoor Clubs one all draw with Tranmere Rovers.

Neil Whatmore the Burnley striker who completed a three month loan period with Mansfield recently, has joined the Field Mill Club on a permanent basis with no fee involved.

Colin Gordon's brace of goals in our recent 2-0 home win against Exeter City made him our joint leading scorer in League matches. With nine goals to his credit he equalled Alan Mayes total. Those nine goals have been scored from eighteen League appearances. The impact the former Oldbury striker has made in his first season with the Club could well lead to a memorable career, if Colin continues to make the progress he has made in his initial season in League soccer. He could well follow eventually in the footsteps of his predecessors who wore the No.9 shirt with distinction Paul Rideout and Jimmy Quinn. It is to Colin's credit that he lacks nothing in comparison to either Paul or Jim at the same stage in their careers. It should not be forgotten that Colin has also scored three goals in our Football Combination team this season. Easy to forget that he did not make his first full League appearance until our home League match with Scunthorpe United on November 6th, after scoring the previous week at Rochdale when he came on as a substitute for Player Manager Lou Macari.

Blackpool's unbeaten home record came to an end when they were defeated 2-1 by Tranmere Rovers on March 5th. That defeat also meant that the Bloomfield Road Club



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suffered their first defeat in an impressive run of thirteen matches. On the same evening Darlington's new £6,000 signing Gary Haire from Bradford City repaid some of his fee by scoring the winning goal in a 2-1 win at Rochdale, while Mark Loram of Torquay United became the thirty third player to be sent off in Division Four matches this season when he was dismissed in his Club's goalless draw with Scunthorpe United at Plainmoor.

Defender Keith Hicks scored his first League goal in four and a half years as Hereford United went nap to defeat promotion contenders Bury in a eight goal thriller at Edgar Street last week. It was the first time United had scored five goals this season and also the first time they had conceded three. Keith's goal helped United maintain their promotion push. His last League goal was scored on September 17th 1980 in a 3-0 home win over Rochdale! Along with team mate Chris Price he is the only member of that team appearing in the current United line up.

What misfortune for our defender Nigel Gray who was admitted to the Princess Margaret Hospital after our 2-0 home win over Exeter City. After being elbowed in the right eye. Twenty eight year old Nigel was enjoying the best spell of his second season with us since joining us from Orient in the close season of 1983.

It is no coincidence that the tall defender found his best form after a settled run in the first team.

Exeter City have signed Forbes Phillipson-Masters the Bristol City centre half on a months loan with a view to a permanent transfer. The former Southampton and Plymouth defender who has made 93 League appearances for the Ashton Gate Club was on loan once before to Exeter when he was a Southampton player in 1976-77.

Other transfer moves include the following... Peter Zelem (Chester to Wolves) £12,000: Glen Burvill (Aldershot to Reading) £8,000: Jon Durham and Andrew O'Dell (Rotherham to Torquay United) Free Barry Siddall (Port Vale to Stoke) Steve Hatter (Wimbledon to Southend) Mick Perry (West Brom to Torquay) Neil Whatmore (Burnley to Mansfield) Loan Deals: Hugh Atkinson (York to Darlington) Shane Westley (Charlton to Southend) Steve Tapley (Fulham to Rochdale) David Redfern (Sheffield Wednesday to Rochdale) Paul Lodge (Bolton to Stockport) Charlie Williamson (Sheffield Wednesday to Southend) Tommy Langley (Wolves to Aldershot).

TODAY'S

THE CANON LEAGUE



TEAM CHANGES	SWINDON TOWN	
	SCOTT ENDERSBY	1
	CHRIS RAMSEY	2
	COLIN BAILIE	3
	CHARLIE HENRY	4
	DAVID COLE	5
	ANDY ROWLAND	6
	PETER COYNE	7
	DAVID HOCKADAY	8
	COLIN GORDON	9
	DAVID CALDWELL	10
	GARRY NELSON	11
	MIKE GRAHAM	12

Referee:

Mr. R.G. Groves (R.A.F. Locking,
Weston-Super-Mare)

Linesmen:

Red Flag: Mr. E.W. Burns (Bath)

Yellow Flag: Mr. L. Loosemore (Bridgend)



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5 LINE-UP

AGUE DIVISION FOUR

	CREWE ALEXANDRA	TEAM CHANGES
1	NICK LONGLEY	
2	DAVE PULLAR	
3	GARY ARMSTRONG	
4	GEOF THOMAS	
5	STEVE DAVIS	
6	NIGEL HART	
7	DAVID PLATT	
8	JOHN CRABBE	
9	DAVE WALLER	
10	VERNON ALLATT	
11	TONY CLISS	
12	NEIL ALDRIDGE	

Next Match:

Canon League
Hartlepool United
Sunday, 31st March, 1985.
Kick Off 11.00 a.m.

REFEREE:

GROVES, RON - R.A.F. Electronics technician. Married with two teenage sons. Commenced refereeing in Cyprus in 1972 progressing through service leagues, Somerset/Avon leagues and the Football Combination. Interested in all sporting activities, enjoys fishing and gardening. Lined the 1984 F.A. Cup sixth round replay, Southampton v Sheffield Wednesday.

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THOUGHT HE WAS THE
BEST PLAYER AT
MAINE ROAD!"



"DILEMA"

BY DAVE KING

The recent publicity given to the financial dilemma facing the Thamesdown Authority and Swindon Town Football Club regarding the payments on the North Stand have predictably brought forth many varying thoughts on the subject of finance and football.

With the eleventh hour decisions made in favour of Clubs who have experienced financial crisis, like Bristol City and Charlton Athletic, where aid has enabled them to survive, it has to some extent created a dangerous precedent. A view often expressed is that someone will always save a club when it is facing absolute extinction. In similar situations the evidence can always be produced in the case of clubs previously mentioned and others that this is true. The danger is that there must always be a first casualty.

It therefore becomes imperative that this is one occasion where we do not wish to be first! That this club could be facing such a crisis is the fault of no person or body. The present Board of Directors, inherited an increasing problem that the Board of Directors of that period of expansion, could not have foreseen. Decreasing crowds, relegation of two Divisions, increased rates of interest of unimaginable proportion and roaring inflation was a decade of seven managers and four Governments distant.

A view often expressed is that no one can understand why such an expanding town as Swindon has failed to produce a company or individual to purchase the club lock stock and barrel. The answer lies in the fact that the football club does not own the ground. That in itself is equivalent to decorating and maintaining rented property for a lifetime without ever owning the house and garden!

The international companies that have come to reside within the Town, would obviously show a great deal more interest in the football club, if we were playing a higher grade of football where advertising and sponsorship was given a wider exposure by the media.

Pleas for the paying public to support the club in it's hour of need through the turnstiles usually fall upon deaf ears. Playing success only will make or attract the absent to take heed. That is where the players become the important participants in the current drama.

Where the club, its administration and non playing employees often serve the cause for many years. Players are in the main, like passing ships in the night and it is no secret that many players in the past have shown too little concern for the clubs plight. Relegation brought about by poor playing results are the responsibility of the playing staff.

It is therefore the dual responsibility of Lou Macari and Harry Gregg to revive a spirit and passion that not so long ago was almost unquestioned. The financial climate only adds to the problems that Lou Macari inherited here at the County Ground, any success he enjoys here at this club will be hard earned. If the first eight months of his stay here are any guideline it is obvious that he is aware of the problems we have witnessed in recent seasons.

The problems facing the manager in this situation are two fold regarding the playing staff. Purchase could well be a fact of the past, while selling when in debt would mean the cash being swallowed up in the fight to put the club back on an even financial keel. Reasonable offers, if any, could be rejected. That itself creates another problem, contracts expire and freedom of contract could leave the club minus thousands of pounds short of an earlier offer or valuation.

Not every player shows the loyalty or dedication to a club that Andy Rowland has shown in his service to this club, that cannot be expected in the situation where comparatively young players are faced with a transfer situation when a club from a higher Division expresses interest in them, it is understandable that they should want to pursue their careers at a higher level. This club has never been guilty of not allowing young players to progress to higher Divisions. To maintain and improve playing standards it may become imperative for Lou Macari to offer exchange deals where no money is available.

There is no doubt it is a complex situation with many avenues of thought, with no definite answer. For all concerned with the club's welfare at heart, it is an issue that must reach a conclusion whether in the short or long term.

Junior Robins Page

One of the items which aroused a lot of interest at our last Junior Robins meeting was the pennant with a Swindon Town badge on. I use the word a rather than the as Swindon Town have had more than one badge. Football badges and their origins can often tell us interesting things about clubs so I thought I would use this article to say something about Swindon's badges and those of one or two other clubs.

The pennant at the meeting dates from 1969, the year Swindon reached the League Cup Final. The badge does incorporate many features that tell us something about both the club of Swindon and the town it represents. At the top of the crest was a railway engine a reminder of the industry around which the town developed and the fact that "the railwaymen" was often used as a nickname for Swindon. The top left hand quarter carried the information Div III (which was the division Swindon then occupied) while the bottom right quarter was occupied by a football. Underneath was the wording "Salubritas et Industria" which is the club's correct motto and means healthy and industrious.

The Supporters Club badge of this time was somewhat similar in design although it had no train at the top and in the top left quarter a robin replaced the letters Div III.

When Swindon were last in Division Two however a decision was taken to replace the badge with a more modern design. It was at this time the interlocking S and T over a circle representing a ball was introduced. Despite the fact that the manager who took over after this badge was introduced disliked it saying it reminded him of a traffic sign it has remained with us to the present appearing on programmes, ties and many of the other souvenir goods of the club.

Other clubs badges can also be a source of interest. Oxford have a rather evil looking Ox head as their badge this being derived from the name of the city in which they play; Oxford. Blackburn's badge includes a red rose indicating that they are in the red rose county of Lancashire. Other club badges relate to industries of importance in the town. Examples of this is Port Vale's pottery kiln and the iron foundry hammers of West Ham. Another common source for badges is the animal a club is nicknamed after. In this type are the ferocious leaping lion of Millwall and

the stag of Mansfield. Other badges are more obscure. I can never understand why Preston have the crusaders badge of the lamb and flag on their badge or why Watford, nickname the bees or Hornets, have an elk head on their badge. It can be a source of endless fascination trying to find out though.

Finally the results of the individual quiz at our last meeting. I never realised you could spell Endersby in quite so many different ways and I am sure Mr. Hillier and Mr. Jefferies will be suprised to know their positions with the club were midfield and defence respectively. However despite these one or two mistakes the overall standard was very good. Adam Silvester (Clarence St.) finished first with 24 points, Stephen Ralph (Pinehurst) a close second with 23 and Simon Goodall (Clarence St.) and Johnathan Macari (Lawn) joint third with 22 points each.

Dick Mattick
Junior Robins Organiser

KEY OF THE BOARD

- A - Blackpool v Scunthorpe
- B - Bury v Aldershot
- C - Chester v Exeter
- D - Chesterfield v Halifax
- E - Hereford v Hartlepool
- F - Port Vale v Rochdale
- G - Stockport v Peterborough
- H - Torquay v Mansfield
- I - Tranmere v Wrexham
- J - Arsenal v Leicester
- K - Aston Villa v Everton
- L - Liverpool v Tottenham H.
- M - Watford v Chelsea
- N - Blackburn v Birmingham
- O - Brighton v Oxford Utd.
- P - Manchester City v Shrewsbury
- Q - Bournemouth v Bolton
- R - Bristol Rovers v Rotherham
- S - Gillingham v Bristol City
- T - Reading v Preston N.E.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

BY DOUG BUSWELL



'TOP SCORE' COMPETITION

On Thursday, August 22nd, or just before, somebody should be calling at your door to collect your first entry to 'TOPSCORE'. The competition to be run by The National Sports Pool for the benefit of this Football Club and all other Football League Clubs participating. We, the Commercial Staff here at the County Ground, will be responsible to make sure that this call, and a call every week afterwards, is made on you and all customers in Swindon, most of Wiltshire and parts of Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire.

Before the first week of this competition (which is only five months away) we have the mammoth job of finding the customers for TOPSCORE in the area outlined. To enable us to cover the area satisfactorily we will be recruiting at least 36 agents (cum canvassers) who will work on a part-time basis controlling 30

or more collectors in an area approximately no more than 8 miles from their home. This operation will be run on similar lines to that used by the existing Pools Companies.

'TOPSCORE' is an exciting competition for us because:-

(1) All monies raised will be ploughed back to the Football League Clubs participating. Swindon Town (the main agent for the area) will keep a percentage of the sales made by our operation.

(2) The Football League Clubs have at last got together to try to raise large amounts of cash in a joint venture to offset many of the financial problems facing them.

(3) The competition will have a six-figure top prize each week paid to a single person, and this winner will almost certainly be announced each Saturday evening on television.

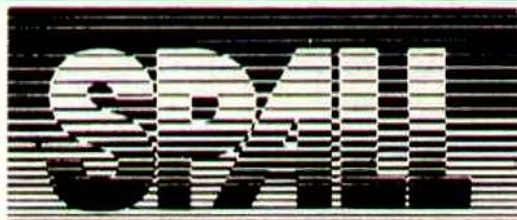
(4) National Advertising will help us to obtain our customers.

Many of you will by now be very interested in 'TOPSCORE' either as a part-time employee, a collector, or perhaps just as a customer. But we wish to know who you are and what your interest is as soon as possible. Call at the Commercial Office (or write or phone us) to intimate your interest. You will not be forgotten when the time comes to start recruitment or the issue of the first coupons.

WE WELCOME TODAY

This afternoon we welcome:-

(1) Mr. Arnold and his party from the Newbury and District Primary Schools F.A. who are here under our Group Booking Schemes.



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PHOTO CALL BY DAVE EVANS



Garry Nelson (right) and Dave Hockaday (left) in penalty area action against Bury in mid-week.



Dave Hockaday (third left) shoots just wide in the Town's victory over Bury.

FLASHBACK

BY MIKE SKINNER

The date of Wednesday 27th February 1985 is not one that will stick in the mind for long, except for possibly that of Raphael Mead, for it was he who scored five of the goals that sank Swindon 10-0 at Arsenal in the Football Combination. Although it hardly a result to dwell on, I though I would take this opportunity to deviate slightly from my regular articles to delve back into the records and sift out a few more games when Swindon have either scored or conceded ten or more.

Certainly its not an everyday occurrence, more so with the first-team - the 10-1 victory over Farnham in 1925 and the defeat by a similar score at Manchester City in 1930, both in the F.A. Cup, have been fairly well documented in the past, and along with two more cases of scoring 10 and one of conceding 10 in the Southern League, thats as far as it goes in terms of first class competition. But if one is to delve into the second and third teams, and lower, and into the realm of friendlies, then the picture changes. Obviously you can't place too much emphasis on results like these, as most will be the result of either one team or the other fielding a vastly superior side, but even so for a team to score that many it is certainly an achievement to be recognised.

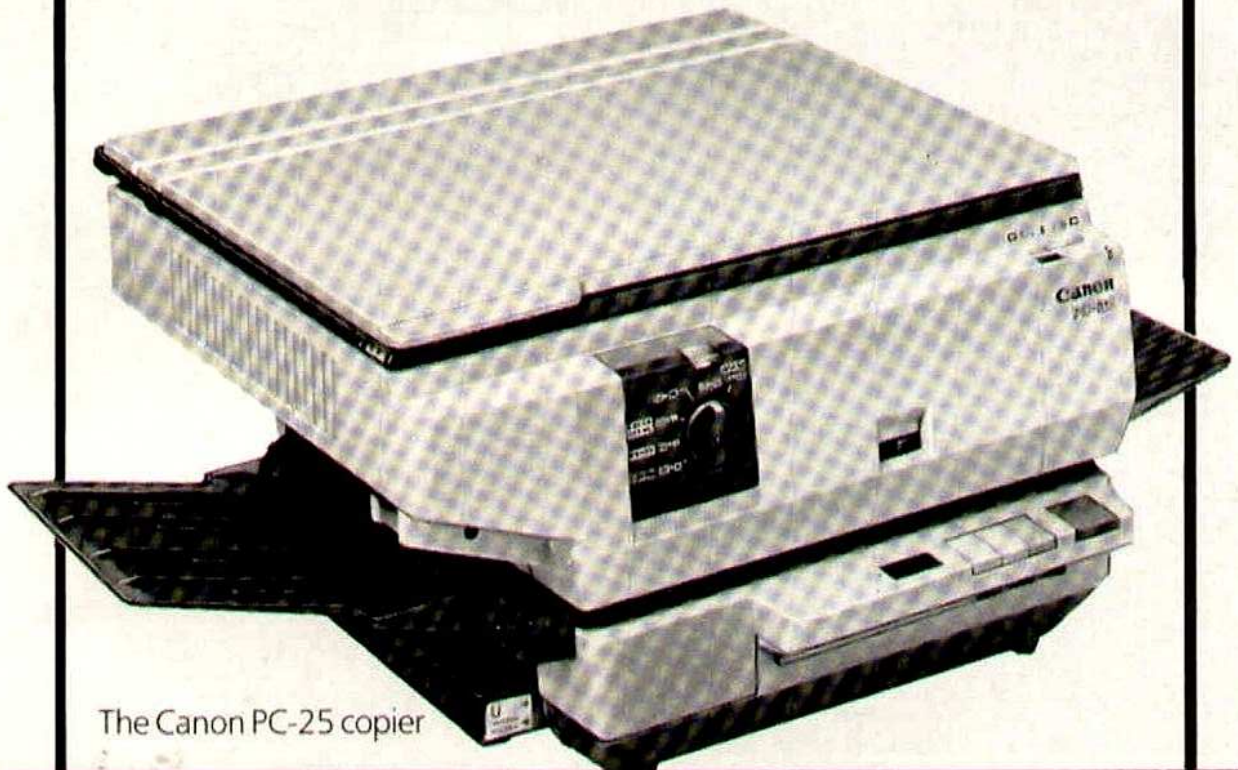
You only have to go back to the start of the season to find our last 10 + win, in a pre-season warm-up Swindon put twelve past an Army team at Cirencester, Mark Hughes leading the scoring with a hat-trick. Similary, 13 were scored against a team from the American base at Fairford in July 1983, but considering the standard of the opposition these results were hardly unexpected. The last win over a recognised clubs first-team was back in August 1971 when Fred Ford took a side to Chippenham, a game which attracted 2,350 who got their moneys worth as Swindon stormed to a 13-0 win. In fact Chippenham featured again some eight years earlier, on August 28th 1963, when Swindon's fourth team met

Chippenham reserves in the now defunct Wiltshire Premier League. Bill Atkins, a regular first-teamer, netted six times in the 12-1 win, and Swindon went one better a week later in the return, winning 13-1.

The inclusion of first-team players in the 3rd and 4th teams have not always resulted in a prolific win, although it is a definite advantage, and in looking back through the records first-teamers have featured heavily in many of the 10 + wins. Perhaps the best example of this is when Swindon put 20 past Peasedown Miners Welfare, also in the Wilts. Premier League, in January 1963. Roger Smart and John Stevens managed to score 15 between them, Stevens coming out just on top with eight, but at what ever level for a player to score that many is quite an achievement, and not to be knocked, and for a team to score a goal every four-and-a-half minutes can't be bad.

Dropped into the Youth team, there again first-teamers play a part. Back in 1960 Swindon beat Weymouth 14-0 in the F.A. Youth Cup, the scorers being Mike Summerbee with seven, and Ernie Hunt with four - they only missed one League game between them that season - Smart getting the remaining three. And its with the Youth team that Swindon registered some of their biggest wins since the war - scores of 19-1 were recorded twice in October 1968 in the Swindon Borough League, but perhaps the record goes to the 21-1 victory over Penhill YC in the same competition in January 1958.

As for 10 + defeats its not really surprising that they are few and far between. In fact I can only find two such results prior to the Arsenal game since the War. Local rivals Melksham Town beat us 10-4 in the W.P.L. in August 1957, but the record goes to Birmingham City who put twelve past us without reply in September 1955 in the Football Combination, which is our record defeat in that competition.



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LEAGUE

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LOU MACARI

Under the present Manager, Dario Gradi, Crewe Alexandra are having their best season for many years and we have a 3-2 defeat to avenge in a match where we were 3-0 down before we knew what had hit us, fought back to 3-2 and, typical of our away form or luck, whatever you may wish to call it, Andy Rowland had a great header just tickle past the post.

Since that game their side has slightly altered with the inclusion of a lad called David Platt from Manchester United. David played alongside Mark Dempsey who was here last month on loan. I will be very interested to see the performance of a player, who like Mark Dempsey, I thought had skill but possibly never to the standard of Manchester United. Already David Platt's move has benefited both the

club and players since his arrival at Crewe and I think he has scored one goal per two games. How refreshing it is to see a young player who has started his career with a Division One Club, dropped to the bottom Division in no time at all but still accepts that challenge. I am sure that, come the end of the season, neither Dario Gradi or David Platt will regret being at Crewe Alexandra.

Once again many thanks for the great support you all gave us on Tuesday evening last, for our game against League Leaders Bury, which, combined with the players' hard work and determination, largely contributed to achieving a victory. Let's hope the lads respond in the same way today against Crewe Alexandra.



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FACTS AND FIGURES

DATE 1984

RESULTS F.A. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

DATE	OPPONENTS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Sat Aug 25	Wrexham												
Sun Aug 26	Bristol Rovers (Milk Cup)												
Tue Sep 4	Bristol Rovers (Milk Cup)												
Sat Sep 16	Torquay United												
Sat Sep 23	Torquay Rovers												
Tue Oct 2	Blackpool												
Sat Oct 14	Hemel Hempstead												
Sat Oct 21	Marblehead United												
Sat Oct 28	Marblehead United												
Sat Nov 4	Graveley United												
Sat Nov 11	Graveley United												
Sat Nov 18	Graveley United												
Sat Nov 25	Graveley United												
Sat Dec 2	Graveley United												
Sat Dec 9	Graveley United												
Sat Dec 16	Graveley United												
Sat Dec 23	Graveley United												
Sat Dec 30	Graveley United												
1980													
Tue Jan 1	Chatterfield												
Sat Jan 5	Wrexham												
Tue Jan 12	Torquay United (F.A.T.)												
Sat Jan 20	Torquay Rovers												
Sat Jan 27	Chatterfield												
Sat Feb 3	Marblehead United												
Tue Feb 6	Torquay United (F.A.T.)												
Tue Feb 13	Blackpool												
Sat Feb 17	Blackpool												
Tue Feb 20	Torquay United												
Fri Mar 2	Stratford County												
Tue Mar 6	Port Vale												
Sat Mar 10	Bury												
Sat Mar 17	Peterborough United												
Sun Mar 20	Milk Cup Final												
Fri Mar 24	Southport United												
Sat Mar 31	Blackpool United												
Tue Apr 3	Chatterfield												
Sat Apr 6	Southport United												
Tue Apr 10	Marblehead United												
Wed Apr 17	Marblehead United												
Sat Apr 20	Albion												
Sun Apr 23	Berlington												
Fri May 3	Colchester United												
Mon May 6	Chatterfield												
Fri May 10	Hallifax Town												
Sat May 13	F.A. Cup Final												

	Crown League		Milk Cup		F.A. Cup		F.A.T.	
	App.	Goals	App.	Goals	App.	Goals	App.	Goals
Bellie	91-25	4	3	7	1	4	-	-
Barnard	104-25	12	4+	12	2	3	-	-
Betty	100-45	7	2	12	5	3+	-	-
Colo	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coyne	29-45	9	1	1	2	-	-	-
Enderby	69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fulbrook	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gardiner	4+	-	1	0-25	-	-	-	-
Gordon	19+	9	-	-	-	7	-	-
Graban	133	1	8	-	11	-	-	-
Gray	32	1	2	-	-	2	-	-
Henry	125	2	7	-	10	2	-	-
Hockaday	45-45	4	3	1	6	-	-	-
Macar	26+	3	1	-	1	-	1+	-
Mayes	139-65	64	18	10	11+	4	3	3
Muir	6+	6	4	-	5	-	5	1
Ransay	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rowland	255+	79	22	6	13+	4	5	-
Hughes	0+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Payne	0-25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Calwell	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Appearances		Substitute Appearances		Goals		Totals
	Leg	Cup	Leg	Cup	Leg	Cup	
Enderby	33	5	1	-	-	-	-
Bellie	26	5	-	-	-	-	-
Nelson	31	6	-	-	2	-	2
Macar	26	3	1	1	3	1	4
Henry	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Graban	22	5	1	-	-	-	-
Barnard	20	6	1	-	2	-	2
Betty	22	3	2	1	5	-	5
Rowland	33	6	-	-	9	2	11
Mayes	15	4	1	-	1	1	2
Hockaday	11	2	-	-	9	1	10
Coyne	29	5	3	-	9	1	10
Sperring	-	-	2	2	-	-	-
Gibson	3	1	1	2	-	-	-
Gardiner	3	1	-	-	-	-	-
Baldwin	5	1	-	-	-	-	-
Payne	-	-	1	3	1	-	1
Gray	18	2	3	-	9	-	9
Hansley	21	2	1	-	-	-	-
Gordon	19	2	1	-	-	-	-
Fulbrook	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Muir	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
Dempsy	5	1	-	-	-	-	-
Colo	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Calwell	4	-	-	-	-	-	-

F.A.T. - PRESIDENT ROYER TROPHY

BEHIND THE SCENES



BY BOB JEFFERIES

Starting hopefully on 31st March and running through to the end of the season is an entirely new promotion from Canon.

Leaflets will be distributed in club programmes throughout the Canon League so every supporter who attends a match, home or away, and buys a programme has the chance to win.

In the SPELL AND WIN game the eleven highest scoring supporters can win prizes ranging from a Canon T70 35mm camera to £50.00 cash plus the chance to be a guest of the Club for a Canon League match next season. The Club can win as well for the club that gains the highest score within the Division wins a cash prize of £1,500. The game invites competitors to win points by making up words. SHOOT FOR GOAL is two different skill competitions, each one carrying a magnificent Canon video camera and recorder as a first prize, two second prizes of Canon Sureshot cameras plus 300 Canon calculators making a total of over £20,000 in prizes.

This competition invites supporters to arrange a series of action photographs in correct order and secondly identify the players concerned, so testing supporters' skill and knowledge.

Enterprising business people can win discounts ranging from 15% to 50% off the R.R.P., simply by taking their programme insert along to their nearest Canon dealer.

So make sure you get your programme for the remaining games, you could be one of the hundreds of Canon prize winners in this new promotion.

The South East Counties youth side have reached the semi-finals of the Junior Cup Competition and this match will be played here on the County Ground, on Thursday,

28th March, kick off 7.00 p.m.

I have also arranged one more Football Combination game in addition to those already advised and that is the home game against Norwich City to be played on Thursday, 7th March, 1985.

Many of you will have, I am sure, wondered what has happened to Alan Mayes in recent weeks. Following many weeks of trouble with his left knee, Alan underwent an operation at Farnham Park to hopefully rectify the problem. After a period of rest he has taken part in an intensive rehabilitation programme at the Centre and if everything proves satisfactory he should be back with us within a fortnight.

Talking of injuries, Lou Macari sustained a fractured rib at Port Vale and will therefore, be out of action for a number of weeks. I am told that there is no treatment for this injury, Lou just has to be patient and allow the injury to heal.

Nigel Gray received a knock in the left eye against Exeter City and was detained in hospital for four days with bleeding behind the eye. At the time I am writing these notes it is too early to know whether Nigel will be fit enough to play in today's game.

I would remind you that the next Canon League game on this ground against Harlepool United on Sunday, 31st Match kicks off at 11.00 a.m. The reason for a morning kick off is because a First Division game is to be televised live in the afternoon of that day.

I thank you for your attendance this afternoon.

Ford at Walker Jackson

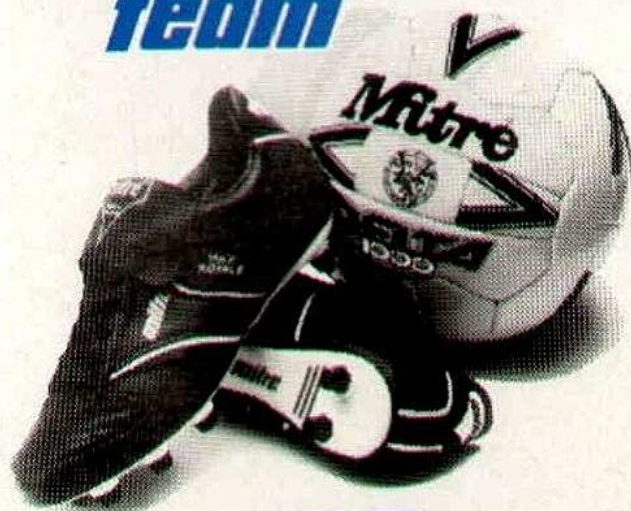
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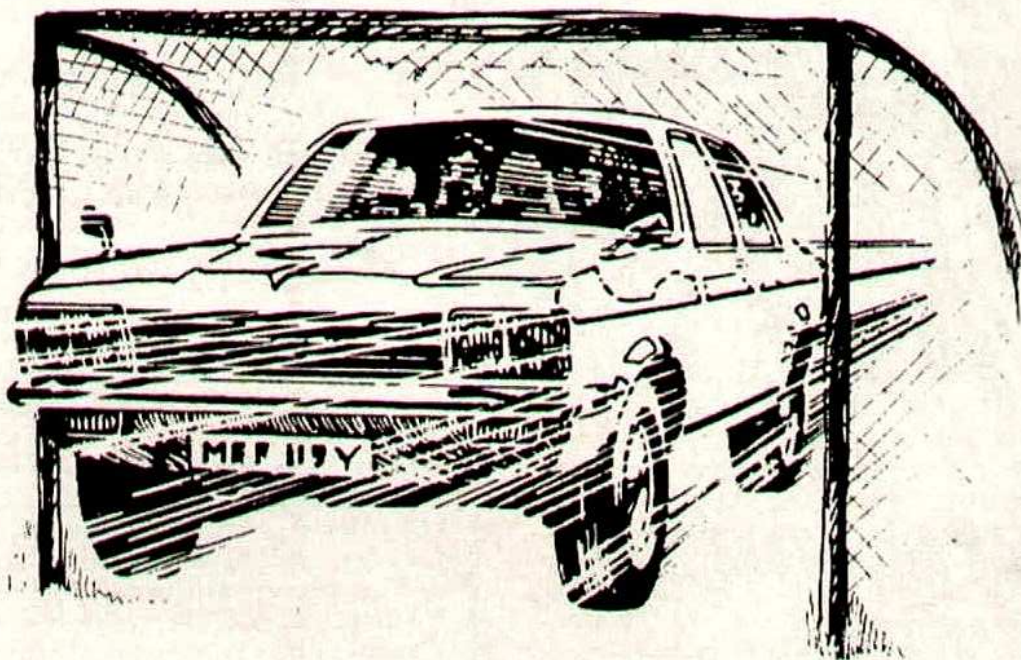
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