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THE
TODAY
LEAGUE

THE TODAY LEAGUE DIVISION 3

SWINDON TOWN

SUNDAY 21st DECEMBER 1986

KICK OFF 3.00 PM

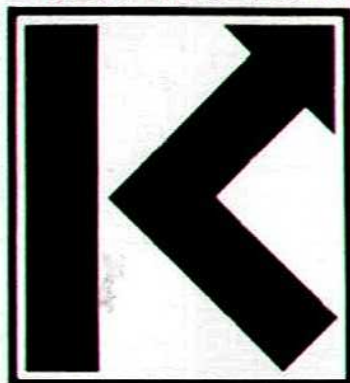
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1984/85



TEAM TALK

Welcome to today's match against Swindon Town. Following their promotion from Division 4 last season, Lou Macari's team are finding life in the higher division very enjoyable, being 4 points ahead of us after last week-end's games. Their away form is particularly good having lost only twice on visiting grounds, so today's game is again going to be a real test for us.

Talking of away form our match last week against Middlesbrough produced another defeat for us following a miscued cross by a 'Boro player which found its way into the net. A little fortunate, perhaps, but that is what happens when you are top of the league.

Finally on behalf of all the lads I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The opinions expressed in this Magazine are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Board of Directors and Management of Doncaster Rovers Football Club Ltd.

Programme Designed and Edited by P. Milner
Printed by First Impression,
Pindar Oaks Street, Barnsley.

FANFARE Supporters Club news by Ken Avis

MAY WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY OF WISHING A HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS, OFFICIALS, MANAGEMENT AND THE PLAYERS AT BELLE VUE, COUPLED WITH THE WISH THAT THE NEW YEAR WILL BE EVEN MORE SUCCESSFUL FOR EVERYONE.

Owing to the extended holidays being taken by our Printers, these notes had to be prepared prior to our F.A. Cup tie at Chester so we cannot give you up-to-date information regarding the way the voting for The Player of the Year has gone and as you will see from our League table, this only covers the position at 5th December, 1986. However, a current League table is exhibited at our office if you wish to learn how your favourite player has fared.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Positions: 5.12.86

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Neil Redfean | 95 |
| Neil Woods | 93 |
| Colin Russell | 89 |
| Mickey Stead | 53 |
| Andy Rhodes | 49 |
| Tony Brown | 46 |
| Jim Dobbin | 42 |
| Dave Rushbury | 37 |
| Gary Clayton | 36 |
| Glenn Humphries | 25 |
| Dave Cusack | 24 |
| Steve Burke | 21 |
| John Moncur | 17 |
| Mickey Nesbitt | 14 |
| John Deakin | 11 |
| Brian Deane | 9 |

The winner of the Bob Nellis Trophy as Player of the Month for November was Colin Russell, the second month in succession that Colin has won the award. The trophy will be presented to him prior to the kick-off in today's game.

Several people have tried to reserve seats on our coaches to away matches and have been surprised to learn that travel is restricted to members of the Supporters Club. This is the policy of the National Federation of Football Supporters Clubs, to whom we are affiliated, and has the support of the Police. Remember too, that all members are automatically covered by insurance. To join the Supporters Club does not cost a fortune - in fact the minimum adult fee is £1 (40p for Juniors under 16 and O.A.P.'s). Apart from a membership card, you will receive a free copy of the Rovers handbook, which normally sells at £1.00.

We are pleased to advise that the new commemorative lapel badge which has been produced to mark the Rovers 60th year in membership of the Football League, is now available at a cost of £2.00. We would remind you that this is a limited edition and once the supply is sold out, no more will be available. It is therefore imperative that you call at our office if you would like one.

TRAVEL NEWS: To Chesterfield on Boxing Day, 26th December. Coaches leave Waterdale 1.15p.m. Fare £2.00.

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PROGRAMME CORNER

BARRY WATSON

YESTERYEAR PROGRAMMES

AGAINST TODAY'S OPPONENTS: SWINDON TOWN



DATE: 11th Oct 1966 FLC.
 SCORE: Swindon 4 Doncaster 2.
 SCORERS: Smart (2), Lawton, Morgan. - Sheffield (2).
 REF:
 ATT: 8,147.
 TEAMS: SWINDON: Hicks, Dawson, Trollope, Morgan, Giles, Harland, Penman, Brown, Lawton, Smart, Rodgers.
 DONCASTER: Fearnley, Kelly, Watton, Wylie, Robertson, Ricketts, Finney, Watson, Sheffield, Coleman, Giffilan.

DATE: 27th March 1959.
 SCORE: Doncaster 2 Swindon 0.
 SCORERS: Fletcher (2).
 REF: R. Rosekilly (Uxbridge).
 ATT: 6,435.
 TEAMS: DONCASTER: Nimmo, White, Gavin, Killkenny, Mordue, Cavanagh, Sharp, Fernie, Fletcher, Minton, Walker.
 SWINDON: Chandler, Neal, Bingley, Fountain, Chamberlain, Owen, Skull, Richards, Marshall, Edwards, Darcy.

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>HUTTON'S NEWSAGENTS 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000.</p> | <p>WARMES INSTALLATIONS LIMITED WATERLOO COURT, COUNTY RD., SWINDON, SAL 2EN Tel: 5322 80, 100, 120, 140, 160, 180, 200, 220, 240, 260, 280, 300, 320, 340, 360, 380, 400, 420, 440, 460, 480, 500, 520, 540, 560, 580, 600, 620, 640, 660, 680, 700, 720, 740, 760, 780, 800, 820, 840, 860, 880, 900, 920, 940, 960, 980, 1000.</p> | <p>MILLS & MERRICKS LTD. CONSULTING HOUSE FURNITURE AND FURNISHING CONTRACTORS 16-17 BRIDGE STREET, SWINDON Tel: 5322</p> |
|--|---|--|

TODAY'S POSER:

1. Rovers had three replays in the FLC.
2. Team manager was George Raynor.
3. John Nicholson's testimonial year.

Many thanks to: Ernie Wiles for all the match details.
 Wanted: Pre 1965 Rovers Programmes, please contact Barry on 854816.
 Anyone wishing to place an advert on this page, please contact Barry.

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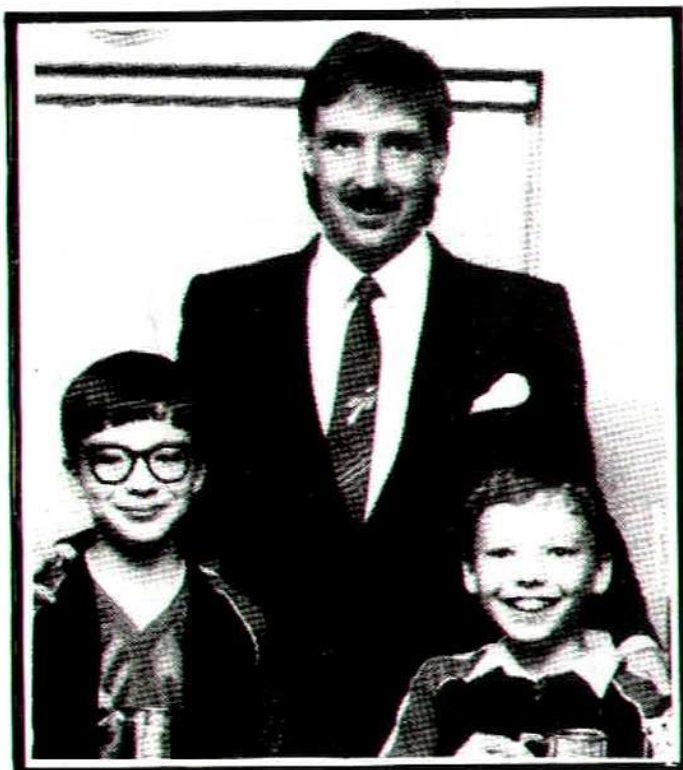
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WHEN WE MET BEFORE

by **KEN BROWNING**

The complete Football League results in previous seasons against **SWINDON TOWN** have produced the following statistics:²

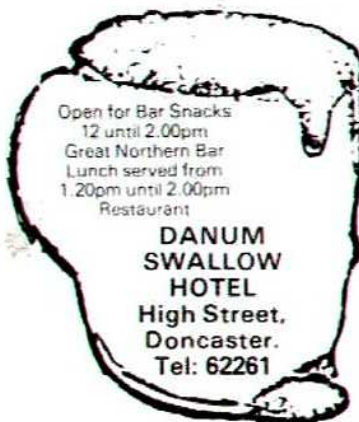
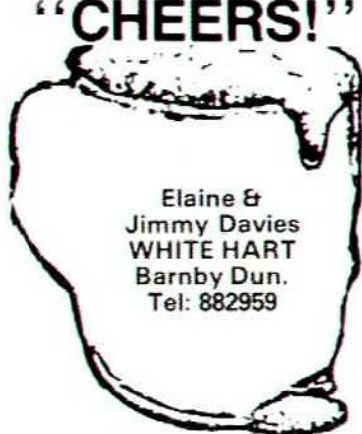
AT BELLE VUE

| Season | Competition | Result | Score | Scorers | Att. |
|---------|-------------|--------|-------|-------------------------------------|------|
| 1958/59 | Division 3 | Won | 2-0 | Fletcher (2) | 6435 |
| 1966/67 | Division 3 | Won | 1-0 | Coleman | 7935 |
| 1981/82 | Division 3 | Drawn | 0-0 | | 3532 |
| 1983/84 | Division 4 | Won | 3-0 | Snodin G., Snodin I. (pen), Russell | 3804 |

AT SWINDON

| | | | | | |
|---------|------------|-------|-----|-----------------|------|
| 1958/59 | Division 3 | Drawn | 0-0 | | 9504 |
| 1966/67 | Division 3 | Won | 1-0 | Sheffield | 7780 |
| 1981/82 | Division 3 | Drawn | 2-2 | Russell, Lister | 6755 |
| 1983/84 | Division 4 | Lost | 1-2 | Snodin I. (pen) | 3545 |

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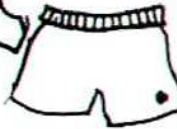
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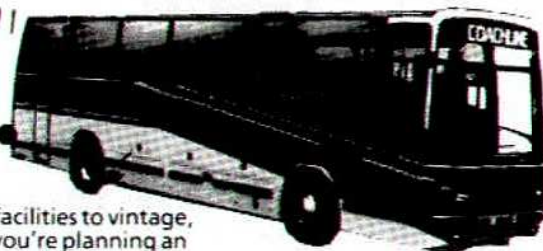
| | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
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| NEIL REDFEARN | Thorne | Branch | Supporters | Club | Gavin Hepworth Wheatley |
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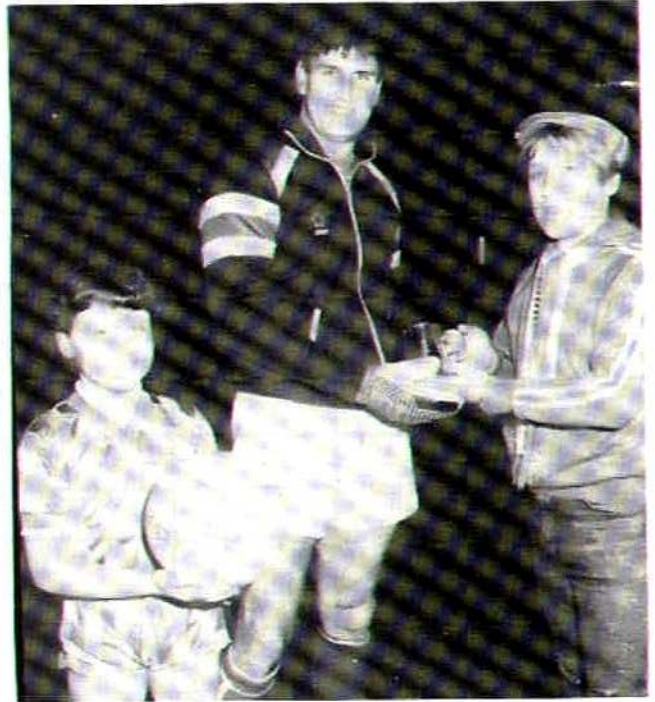
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DENIS PEACOCK TESTIMONIAL



Pictured with Glynn and Ian Snodin and Brendan O'Calloghan in dressing room before kick-off.



Paul Mayfield, Retford Branch Supporters Club presents Denis Peacock with commemorative tankard for his services to the Club.



Louise Peacock pictured with Dad and Team before kick-off.

Roy Ingram is the Official Photographer to Doncaster Rovers F.C. and copies of any photographs reproduced in this magazine are available from **DANUM PRESS AGENCY, 17 LIVINGSTONE AVE., CLAY LANE, DONCASTER, DN2 4SA. Tel: 60475.**

SWINDON TOWN F.C. - SEASON 1986/ 87



BACK ROW: (Left to Right) Mark Gardiner, Steve White, Jimmy Gilligan, Chris Kamara, Tim Parkin, Kenny Allen, David Bamber, Charlie Henry, David Cole, Colin Calderwood, Chris Ramsey **FRONT ROW:** (Left to Right) Alan McLoughlin, Mark Hughes, Jamie Reynolds, Dave Hockaday, Andy Rowland (Player Coach), Kevin Morris (Physiotherapist), Lou Macari (Team Manager), John Trollope (Assistant Manager), Peter Coyne, Martin Ling, Leigh Barnard, Bryan Wade.

DAVE HOCKADAY (Defender). Born 9.11.57. The versatile former Blackpool player who moved to the County Ground from the Bloomfield Road Club in the close Season of 1983, proved a revelation in the Full Back hole he fulfilled in the second half of last Season.

CHRIS RAMSEY (Defender). Born 28.4.62. The former Bristol City and Brighton Full Back joined the County Ground staff on loan initially. Lou Macari secured his permanent transfer in December 1984.

COLIN CALDERWOOD (Central Defender). Born 21.1.65. Without doubt Colin proved to be Lou Macari's outstanding signing as he built his championship winning team in the Summer of 1985. The former Mansfield Town Defender attracted a lot of attention from First Division Clubs last Season with his brilliant displays.

CHRIS KAMARA (Midfield). Born 25.12.57. Chris rejoined the Club for a second spell in August 1985 from Brentford for a £12,500 transfer fee. Absent through injury in the first half of last Season the former Portsmouth apprentice made 19 League appearances and one as substitute, scoring one League goal.

LEIGH BARNARD (Midfield). Born 29.10.58. Leigh recaptured the form that he displayed in his first Season with the Club after signing from Portsmouth in July 1982 in the Town's championship Season. The previous Season, Leigh had the unusual distinction of playing for Exeter City on loan against Swindon, while the situation was reversed when the two Clubs met in the return fixture, Leigh then appearing for Swindon.

MARK HUGHES (Striker). Born 17.7.67. Swindon born, Mark missed the majority of last Season with a pelvic injury. The local born Striker who formed a prolific goalscoring partnership with Mark Gardiner in the South East Counties League in the 1982/83 Season, made his one and only League appearance to date on March 6th 1984, against Northampton in a goal-less match at Swindon's County Ground.

CHARLIE HENRY (Midfield). Born 13.2.62. The Acton born former Club apprentice was a revelation in his Midfield role of last Season. Converted from his customary Full Back position, Charlie astounded everyone by becoming the Clubs leading goalscorer with 18 League goals. Charlie who joined Swindon as a professional in February 1980 made 38 League appearances last Season and one substitute appearance in the Town's championship winning campaign.

DAVE BAMBER (Striker). Born 1.2.59. Joined the Club from Portsmouth for a fee of £15,000 in March 1986 after an initial period on loan. Previously with Blackpool, Walsall and Coventry City, he brought a dimension to the team in the final matches leading to the Fourth Division Championship that had perhaps been lacking following Peter Coyne's early Season injury.

PETER COYNE (Midfield/ Striker). Born 13.11.58. The former Manchester United, Crewe Alexandra and Hyde United Striker was in brilliant form in the first half of last Season, as he quickly swept into the lead as the Clubs leading goalscorer at the end of the October.

JIMMY GILLIGAN (Striker). Born 18.2.56. Jimmy was the first of Lou Macari's Summer signings as he bid to strengthen his line-up in preparation for Third Division soccer. Jimmy moved to the County Ground in June for a £31,500 transfer fee from Grimsby Town.

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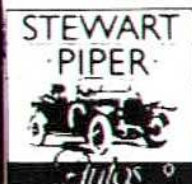
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ROVERS FACTS & FIGURES 1986/87

| Date | Comp | V | Opponents | Score | Pos | Att | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | |
|---------|------|---|------------------|-------|-----|------|--------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|--------|----------|------------|---------|-----------|---------|---------------|--|
| 23 Aug | LGE | A | Manstfield Town | 1-2 | 20 | 3866 | Rhodes | Philliben | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Dobbin 1 | Woods | Clayton | Deakin | Humphries | |
| 26 Aug | LGE | H | Rotherham United | 1-1 | 9 | 1434 | Rhodes | Philliben | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Dobbin 1 | Woods | Clayton | Nesbitt | Humphries | |
| 30 Aug | LGE | H | Brentford | 2-0 | 9 | 1675 | Rhodes | Humphries | Rushbury | Redteam 1 | Brown | Cusack | *Russell | Dobbin 1 | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Stead 46m | |
| 2 Sept | LGE | A | Rotherham United | 1-4 | - | 2958 | Rhodes | Humphries | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Nesbitt | Dobbin 1 | Woods 1 | Clayton | Burke 1 | Joyce | |
| 6 Sept | LGE | A | Walsall | 3-1 | 5 | 4939 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Dobbin 1 | Woods 2 | Clayton | Burke | Nesbitt 62m | |
| 14 Sept | LGE | H | Blackpool | 2-2 | 6 | 3335 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Dobbin 1 | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Humphries | |
| 17 Sept | LGE | H | Bristol City | 1-0 | 4 | 2265 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury 1 | Redteam 1 | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Deakin | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Humphries | |
| 20 Sept | LGE | A | Newport County | 2-3 | 7 | 2382 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury 1 | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Morcur | Woods | Clayton2 | Burke | Humphries | |
| 27 Sept | LGE | A | York City | 3-1 | 4 | 3358 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | *Brown | Cusack | Russell | Morcur | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Humphries 90m | |
| 1 Oct | LGE | A | Chesster City | 0-1 | 11 | 2578 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Morcur | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Holmes | |
| 11 Oct | LGE | A | Bury | 2-0 | 8 | 2134 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam 1 | Brown | Cusack | Russell | *Deakin | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Deakin 89m | |
| 14 Oct | LGE | H | Carlisle United | 2-0 | 8 | 2400 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Humphries | Woods | Clayton 1 | Burke 1 | Deakin 86m | |
| 18 Oct | LGE | H | Darlington | 0-0 | 8 | 4195 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Humphries | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Deakin | |
| 21 Oct | LGE | A | Bournemouth | 2-3 | 9 | 4179 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Humphries | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Deakin | |
| 25 Oct | LGE | A | Notts. County | 1-3 | 10 | 4179 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Humphries | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Deakin | |
| 1 Nov | LGE | A | Fulham | 2-1 | 8 | 2258 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam 1 | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Deakin | Woods 1 | Clayton | Burke | Deane 1 44m | |
| 4 Nov | LGE | H | Wigan Athletic | 1-1 | 8 | 2388 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Deakin | Woods 1 | Clayton | Burke | Deakin | |
| 7 Nov | LGE | H | Gillingham | 2-0 | 7 | 2691 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Deakin | Woods 1 | Clayton | Burke | Deane 1 62m | |
| 15 Nov | LGE | H | Whitby Town | 3-2 | - | 2387 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam 1 | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Deakin | Woods 1 | Clayton | Burke | Holmes 35m | |
| 18 Nov | LGE | H | Port Vale | 2-1 | 7 | 3140 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Deakin | Woods 1 | Clayton | Burke 1 | Deakin 63m | |
| 22 Nov | LGE | H | Port Vale | 0-3 | 7 | 3977 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | *Cornforth | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Deakin 61m | |
| 24 Nov | LGE | A | Middlesbrough | 1-3 | - | 3821 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | *Cornforth | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Deane | |
| 6 Dec | FRT | A | Chesster City | 0-0 | - | 1006 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Cornforth | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Deakin 46m | |
| 9 Dec | FRT | H | Chesster City | 0-0 | - | 1006 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Cornforth | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Deakin 46m | |
| 13 Dec | LGE | A | Middlesbrough | 0-1 | 9 | 8073 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Humphries | Cusack | Russell | Cornforth | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Brown 67m | |
| 21 Dec | LGE | H | Swindon Town | 0-1 | 9 | 8073 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Humphries | Cusack | Russell | Cornforth | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Brown 67m | |
| 26 Dec | LGE | A | Chesterfield | 0-1 | 9 | 8073 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Humphries | Cusack | Russell | Cornforth | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Brown 67m | |
| 27 Dec | LGE | H | Bolton Wanderers | 0-1 | 9 | 8073 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Humphries | Cusack | Russell | Cornforth | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Brown 67m | |
| 1987 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 Jan | LGE | H | Rotherham United | 1-1 | 9 | 1434 | Rhodes | Philliben | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Dobbin 1 | Woods | Clayton | Deakin | Humphries | |
| 4 Jan | LGE | A | Port Vale | 1-1 | 9 | 1675 | Rhodes | Philliben | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Dobbin 1 | Woods | Clayton | Nesbitt | Humphries | |
| 10 Jan | LGE | H | F.A. Cup Rd. 3 | 1-1 | 9 | 1675 | Rhodes | Philliben | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Dobbin 1 | Woods | Clayton | Nesbitt | Humphries | |
| 11 Jan | LGE | H | Mansfield Town | 1-1 | 9 | 1675 | Rhodes | Philliben | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Dobbin 1 | Woods | Clayton | Nesbitt | Humphries | |
| 18 Jan | LGE | H | Brentford | 1-4 | - | 2958 | Rhodes | Humphries | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Nesbitt | Dobbin 1 | Woods 1 | Clayton | Burke | Stead 87m | |
| 24 Jan | LGE | A | Walsall | 3-1 | 5 | 4939 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Dobbin 1 | Woods 1 | Clayton | Burke 1 | Joyce | |
| 31 Jan | LGE | A | Blackpool | 2-2 | 6 | 3335 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Dobbin 1 | Woods 2 | Clayton | Burke | Nesbitt 62m | |
| 7 Feb | LGE | A | Bristol City | 1-0 | 4 | 2265 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury 1 | Redteam 1 | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Deakin | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Humphries | |
| 14 Feb | LGE | A | Newport County | 2-3 | 7 | 2382 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury 1 | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Morcur | Woods | Clayton2 | Burke | Humphries | |
| 21 Feb | LGE | A | York City | 3-1 | 4 | 3358 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | *Brown | Cusack | Russell | Morcur | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Humphries 90m | |
| 28 Feb | LGE | A | Chesster City | 0-1 | 11 | 2578 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Morcur | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Holmes | |
| 5 Apr | LGE | A | Carlisle United | 2-0 | 8 | 2134 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam 1 | Brown | Cusack | Russell | *Deakin | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Deakin 89m | |
| 11 Apr | LGE | H | Gillingham | 2-0 | 8 | 2400 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Humphries | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Deakin | |
| 18 Apr | LGE | H | Wigan Athletic | 0-0 | 8 | 4195 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Humphries | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Deakin | |
| 20 Apr | LGE | A | Rotherham United | 2-3 | 9 | 4179 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Humphries | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Deakin | |
| 25 Apr | LGE | A | Chessterfield | 1-3 | - | 3821 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Brown | Cusack | Russell | Humphries | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Deakin | |
| 2 May | LGE | A | Bolton Wanderers | 0-1 | 9 | 8073 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Humphries | Cusack | Russell | Cornforth | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Brown 67m | |
| 4 May | LGE | A | Bolton Wanderers | 0-1 | 9 | 8073 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Humphries | Cusack | Russell | Cornforth | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Brown 67m | |
| 9 May | LGE | H | Middlesbrough | 0-1 | 9 | 8073 | Rhodes | Stead | Rushbury | Redteam | Humphries | Cusack | Russell | Cornforth | Woods | Clayton | Burke | Brown 67m | |

LEGEND: LGE = Div. 3 LC = Littlewoods Cup FAC = F.A. Cup FR = Freight Rover Trophy * Denotes player substituted
 * Denotes own goal in our favour

CLUB



NEWS

The Chairman, Directors and Staff wish all Supporters a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

We still have a few "Champions of Soccer" Football Games at £9.95 and the Holsten Quiz Book for Football Experts at £1.99. Either would make ideal Christmas presents.

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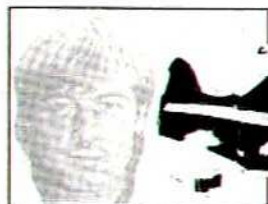
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MEMORY LANE

A LOOK BACK AT THE PLAYERS & EVENTS OF
THE LAST 108 YEARS
BY TOM BEARDSLEY



THE PLUNGE

When the Rovers fell into the newly formed Third Division, after their relegation from Division Two in 1958, they were destined to meet many clubs from the south who they never encountered before in League competition. The 1958/59 Third Division consisted of seven such clubs, Norwich, Colchester, Reading, Southend, Bournemouth, Newport and today's visitors, the 'Robins' of Swindon.

Swindon Town were formed in 1881 by the Rev. W. Pitt. They soon turned professional and joined the Southern League and were members until 1920 when they became one of the original members of the new Third Division - which was actually the old Southern League transformed into a League Division - which was actually the old Southern League transformed into a League Division. Northern clubs were admitted the next season and the old Third (North) and Third (South) format was set up, which, barring the War, lasted till 1958.

Things started well for the Rovers in the Third Division, and it looked as if the pre-season optimism would be fulfilled when they won 4 of their opening 6 games - then inexplicably the rot set in and the club embarked on the worst run in its history. Of the next 16 League games, 14 were lost, 1 was drawn with 1 solitary victory, 12 goals scored and 40 conceded. On Sept 9, 1958, 10,725 witnessed a 2 - 0 win over QPR. By Dec 20, 1958 only 5,050 came to the home win over Tranmere which saw a mini revival to the end of the season with the Rovers averaging a point a game. This however did not stop the Rovers plunging from Division Two to Division Four in successive seasons. It was during the 'plunge' that the Rovers met Swindon for the first ever time.

On March 21, 1959 only 3,907 attended the Rovers home game with Newport. The distressed club officials declared that this was the worst ever Saturday afternoon gate at Belle Vue since the War. A mixture of Rovers shocking from and the fact that fewer fans were now following their teams over the long distances to

away games to help bolster some attendances. It came home to the Rovers officials that the Doncaster public would support a successful team when, on the day before Swindon's first visit to Belle Vue on March 28, a gate of 11,110 came to see the English School's shield.

The Swindon game took place on Good Friday afternoon and a club than average crowd of 6,435 came to witness the Wiltshire club's first visit to Belle Vue. The Robins were having a relegation struggle and a win over the struggling Rovers would greatly improve their position. The Rovers were 2nd from the bottom with 26 pts from 38 games and Swindon lay 4 places higher with 32 pts from 35 games. The Rovers had to win. Albert Minton returned to the side after injury, replacing Tony Reeson. The line up was Nimmo, White, Gavin, Kilkenny, Mordue, Cavanagh, Sharp, Fernie, Fletcher, Minton, Walker. Swindon made 2 changes. 18 year old Bob Woodruff was recalled to inside left in place of Andy Micklewright and Peter Chamberlain took George Hudson's place at centre half for his 2nd full League game. They lined up thus; Chandler, Neal, Bingley, Fountain, Chamberlain, Owen, Skull, Richards, Marshall, Woodruff, Darcy.

The first ever clash turned out to be a poor game, with either side playing much constructive soccer. The Rovers' Keeper, Willie Nimmo, hardly had a shot to save, but at the other end the Rovers were squandering what few chances came their way. The only difference between the two sides was the Rovers' North - Eastern centre forward, Jim Fletcher, who hit a couple of opportunist goals to give the Rovers a surprise 2 - 0 victory - there was still hope!

They had now won 3 successive games, were the Rovers to pull off an 'Houdini' type escape from the clutches of Division Four? That question was emphatically answered the following day at the Shay, Halifax. It was the club's first visit to Halifax for 9 years. Reeson replaced Minton and the Rovers got off to a cracking start when Jim Fletcher hit his 5th goal in 5 games after 5



The 58/59 Rovers who met the 'Robins' for the first time. A squad confident of bouncing back into Div 2 at the first attempt - but who fell into the Fourth. Back, Fletcher, Makepeace, White, Brough, Macintosh, Nimmo, Graham, Rogers, Middle, Jones, Jeffrey, Clifton, Cavanagh, Cope, Williams, Mordue, Staton, Kilkenny, Gavin, Ardron (trnr), Mooney, Stephens, Callan, Twyneham, Higham, Dunn, Reeson, Meredith, Walker (R), Bycroft (trnr), mascot T. Haries.



In an attempt to beat the 'plunge' down the Divisions, the Rovers moved up to Scotland and signed Ron Sharp (left) and Jim Fernie from Arbroath. Ron made 58 League apps in 2 seasons, scoring 11 goals and big Jim Fernie made 89 League apps in 3 seasons, scoring 31 goals.

minutes to put the Rovers 1 - 0 up. The 4,687 Shay crowd watched as relegation threatened Rovers outfought their mid table Yorkshire rivals - until McCall equalised for Halifax on the stroke of half time. The Rovers totally collapsed in the second half and conceded 4 more goals to lose 5 - 1. Could they bounce back on Easter Monday down in the West Country for their first ever visit to Swindon's County Ground?

Manager Bestall brought in Makepeace for White at full back and Francis Callan took Sharp's place on the right wing. Ronnie Walker moved to inside left and Meredith came in on the left wing. Swindon made 2 changes from their 2 - 0 defeat at Belle Vue. Tilley for Owen and Edwards for Micklewright. The Rovers

pulled off a great result in front of the 9,504 Swindon crowd and held the Robins to a 0 - 0 draw in an entertaining game. But this point would not be enough to save the Rovers from the 'plunge' into soccer's basement. It was one of the very rare away successes the club had that season. Their away was shocking and read 1 win, 3 draws, 19 defeats with 10 goals scored and 58 conceded. Swindon fared a little better, escaping relegation, finishing in a mid table position with 45 pts from their 46 games. They went on to gain promotion to Division Two for the first time in 1963 - but for the Rovers the plunge continued and in 1962 they had to seek re-election to Division Four.



Vintage 1901/02 Swindon Town, when they did actually play on the Wiltshire County cricket ground. Then in the Southern League, the same season the Rovers made their Football League debut.
Back: Davenport, Day, Dibstall, Cowling, Menham, Major, Logan, Downie, Dodson (sec), Morris (trnr). Front: Anthony, Davies, Becton, Oakley, Edwards.

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STOP PRESS

The next 3-2-1 function will be held at the Hawthorne Social Club, Goodison Boulevard, Cantley, on Tues Evening 20th January 1987. Commencing approx. 8.30pm. (Doors open 7.30pm) when Dick Van Winkle - from the successful Duncan Norvelle Show and "The Boss" will be appearing on the Bill.

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ROVERS REDS CLUB by Jean Skippon

Sponsored for 1986/87 by Bob Nellis Trophies.

By the time this programme is published, the Christmas Party will be over, so I will be able to give a glowing report on how it went, later.

We have some very good news for all our 'Rovers Reds Members' which I am sure there will be a full response. On Sunday 18th January 1987 we are having a Guided Tour round 'Wembley Stadium' and then going on to Brentford to watch the match. We feel this outing will be taken up by lots of members, and their parents, as it may be the chance of a lifetime for many of us to go to Wembley. My family will certainly be going. The all in price is £9.50 Adults and £7 Children. The Coach will leave Belle Vue at 7.30 a.m. Call in and put your names down in the 'Rovers Reds' office, as soon as possible.

The 'Festive Season' is upon us one again, so may all committee members take this opportunity of wishing all our members, and their families a very Happy Christmas and New Year. This also extends to all the Players, Staff, their families and everyone connected with 'Doncaster Rovers' a 'Merry Christmas' everyone. Thankyou.

Today's Mascot is Ellen Magson, age 8 years of Hyde Park. Interests: The Brownies and Ty-Kwan-Do.



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FORTHCOMING MATCHES

TODAY LEAGUE DIVISION 3
Saturday 27th December 1986 K.O. 3.00 p.m.
ROVERS v BOLTON WANDERERS

Thursday 1st January 1987 K.O. 3.00 p.m.
ROVERS v ROTHERHAM UTD.

FOLLOW THE ROVERS AWAY
Boxing Day - Friday 26th December 1986
CHESTERFIELD v ROVERS

How to get to the ground: **From North:** Use Motorway M1 until junction 30, then follow signs Chesterfield A619. In town centre follow signs Old Brampton into Salter Gate for Chesterfield F.C. **From East and South:** Follow signs Chesterfield A617 into town centre then follow signs Old Brampton into Salter Gate for Chesterfield F.C. **From West:** Follow signs Chesterfield 619 then at roundabout take 1st exit into Foljambe Road at end turn right into Salter Gate for Chesterfield F.C.



GILLY'S GAS A PERSONAL VIEW OF THE SPORTING SCENE

Christmas printing deadlines dictate that I have to write these notes well in advance of today's match, but I dare offer a small wager that by the time today's match is played, weather conditions could play a large part in the result. We are about to enter the mid-winter madness of snow, frost and ice, where I truly believe there are occasions where clubs make little or no effort to ensure their matches are in with a fair chance of being played. Every season, we are guaranteed a number of weeks whereby if there is little snow, there will be freezing temperatures, and it seems to me that this appears to come as a hell of a surprise to some of our clubs, for they seem to make no contingency plan to combat such problems. Even the top clubs - in the First Division appear to do too little too late - remember a year or so back when Tottenham were due to play a televised F. A. Cup tie at White Hart Lane, despite their financial standing, the best the club could do was a frantic last 1 minute bodge up job with portable heaters and huge plastic sheets. Fortunately, the game went ahead but I wonder if the game had been ignored by live TV, would they have made the same effort to stage the fixture?

Years ago, as I'm sure our older supporters will tell you, football was played in all sorts of conditions. The players were keen to play and if the snow could not be removed from the playing area, it was simply rolled flat and the pitch markings inscribed in a contrasting colour. If my memory serves me correctly from previous research, the Rovers achieved one of their finest ever wins on a carpet of snow, this was the 9 - 2 demolition of Carlisle in 1947. Next time, the subject will be artificial pitches, are they a possible soccer salvation or just a pain in the grass.

PAUL'S HALF TIME QUIZ

1. The first ever substitute for Doncaster played against Southport in 1965 - who was he?
2. The longest trip between two clubs this season is 398 miles each way - which clubs?
3. Plymouth have to travel 171 miles each way for their nearest away game - where?
4. What is the furthest Doncaster Rovers will travel for an away game this season?
5. Which was the last club to stay unbeaten at home for two consecutive seasons?
6. Which team won 21 and drew 2 of its 23 home games in Division Four in 1975 - 76?
7. Who won the 1986 F.A. Trophy Final?
8. Which league club are nicknamed "The Saddlers"?
9. Which player scored the first goal of the 1986 World Cup Finals?
10. Who is the current manager of Cardiff City?

.. return Ripley 2. Plymouth and Sunderland 3. Portsmouth 4. Bournemouth (476 miles round trip) 5. Liverpool (1978-80) 6. Lincoln City 7. Ayr United 8. Walsall 9. Alton 10. Frank Burrows.

Ratings: 10 Brilliant; 7-9 Good; 4-6 Average; Below four better luck next time.



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| 3 | Dave Rushbury |
| 4 | Neil Redfearn |
| 5 | Tony Brown |
| 6 | Dave Cusack |
| 7 | Colin Russell |
| 8 | John Cornforth |
| 9 | T. Gaynor |
| 10 | Gary Clayton |
| 11 | Steve Burke |
| Sub: Glenn Humphries | |

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| 5 | P. Franklin |
| 6 | Colin Calderwood |
| 7 | Chris Kamara |
| 8 | Dave Hockaday |
| 9 | Steve White |
| 10 | Jimmy Gilligan |
| 11 | Dave Bamber |
| Sub: To Be Nominated | |



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