

Gillingham v Swindon Town

**AT CRYSTAL PALACE F.C.
SELHURST PARK**



**SECOND DIVISION
PLAY-OFF FINAL TIE
FRIDAY 29th MAY 1987
KICK-OFF 8.00 p.m.
Official Programme Price 60p**

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Keith Peacock



One thing is for sure tonight, after two tremendous, nerve-jangling matches between Gillingham and Swindon, one of the clubs will be celebrating promotion to the Second Division, no matter how long it takes to resolve.

Naturally, everyone in Kent will be hoping that at long last Gillingham will make that historic step forward. With Kent affiliated Charlton duelling with Leeds United at Birmingham, how stimulating it would be for the South East if both achieved their aims.

Much has been written and said about the newly-introduced play-off system. Not all of it has been favourable. For the managers involved, the matches have done nothing to increase life expectancy, while on the other hand it has boosted the sales of a certain hair product that guarantees to hide all your grey hairs.

But whether or not players, managers and officials are for or against, one thing is for sure — the fans love the play-off idea.

It is they who rightly demand value for money in return for their admission money and the play-offs have fulfilled their every wish.

So far as the Gillingham Football Club is concerned, the pulsating excitement created by the play-offs has gathered momentum since the day we beat Bolton to qualify.

By tonight, more than 70,000 fans will have watched our five play-off matches against Sunderland and Swindon. Translated into League figures, this compares favourably with 23 fixtures.

It has also created badly needed extra revenue for all the clubs involved.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank all Gillingham supporters who stuck with us throughout the season. You've been magnificent in both your vocal support and your impeccable behaviour.

So please, raise one last roar to help us over the finishing line and into the Second Division.

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Lou Macari

If all of you that are attending this evenings match are provided with the entertainment value that was evident in our two previous matches there is no doubt you will leave Selhurst Park well satisfied.

From experience we all know that the world loves a winner and the loser is soon forgotten. Anyone who has watched Swindon Town during this last season will feel that we have the right to be playing Second Division football next season. We have now reached the stage where we must ensure that everyone sustains one hundred percent effort for a further evening and I am convinced that if my players do just that then we will be visiting Selhurst Park again next season to play League soccer.

We have dominated the two previous matches and if we can apply a clinical finish to our approach work we will leave London well satisfied.

The strength of our first team squad was never more emphasised this season than by the way in which we overcame the loss of Jimmy Quinn and Chris Kamara through injury.

I have always firmly believed that fitness is now such an important part of the make-up of the modern day player. It compensates for so many deficiencies found in other parts of a player's make-up. At Swindon Town we have taken pride in this aspect. Tonight I fully expect to see my player's fitness reap its full reward, one hundred percent dedication to the final match will ensure that they reap their just reward.

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PLAY-OFFS — not new at all!

Although the play-offs of 1987 are now to (presumably) all supporters here this evening, the fact is that they are not new at all! In truth it is **just** possible that if there is a fan of one of the three clubs here tonight who is approaching his 100th birthday, he might just recall the last ones in 1898 when they were called 'Test Matches'.

Here is a summary of them for those who don't have that advantage!

1892-93. The Football League 2nd Division is formed and play-offs occurred between the top three clubs there, Small Heath (now Birmingham City), Sheffield United and Darwen, and the bottom three in Division One, Accrington Stanley, Newton Heath (now Manchester United) and Notts County.

1893-94. The 2nd Division is extended and again the play-offs involve the top three in

one-off confrontations with the bottom three in Division One. Darwen, Newton Heath, Small Heath and Notts County again take part.

1894-95. The 2nd Division now comprises 16 clubs. Similar format to the play-offs — Notts County and Newton Heath involved for third successive time.

1895-96. No change in the size of the division but the play-offs now only involve the top and bottom pairs of clubs, though they are played on a home and away mini-league basis.

1896-97. Similar arrangements apply.

1897-98. Similar arrangements, but play-offs are discontinued after a disgraceful 0-0 draw between Stoke City and Burnley in the last match of the series which ensures that both sides are in the 1st Division for next season.



THE STORY SO FAR ...

Gillingham 1 Swindon Town 0
Swindon Town 2 Gillingham 1



Gillingham's winger, **Dave Smith**, a non-League player with Welling when the season opened last August, put the Kent side ahead with just nine minutes of the 1st leg remaining with a shot from 20 yards, following a free-kick. It was only his second goal of the season — what a time to score it!

Swindon had appeared to be in control up to that point, with Phil Kite making several fine saves, the best of which was a double one early on from Swindon's combative midfielder Chris Karmara.

Kite was also in magnificent form at The County Ground last Monday. In virtually constant action throughout the match he produced another string of saves, several from point blank range, to deny Swindon for an hour.

Meanwhile, with their only attack of the first half Gillingham had extended their overall lead thanks to a superb 20 yard volley from **Carl Eusey** after 17 minutes.

But with half an hour remaining **Peter Coyne** gave Swindon hope and with 12 minutes left **Charlie Henry** notched a sweet aggregate equaliser to ensure tonight's replay.



NEXT MATCH

at Selhurst Park

Pre-Season Friendly

THE LEN CHATTERTON
TESTIMONIAL

Sunday 9th August 1987



CRYSTAL
PALACE

v

WATFORD



Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

Welcome
to

**SELHURST
PARK**

Gillingham

KEITH PEACOCK (Manager). Keith Peacock took over as Gillingham's manager in July 1981 and now, after several near-misses, he is hoping to lead the club into the Second Division. He spent his entire playing career with Charlton. A Charlton fan from his schooldays, Keith went to Erith Grammar School and as soon as he had completed his education there he signed for Charlton as a professional after playing in their junior teams as a schoolboy. He made his League debut in 1962 and made well over 500 League appearances before retiring in 1979. After a short spell as assistant manager to Tampa Bay Rowdies, he joined Gillingham in 1981.

PHIL KITE (Goalkeeper). Acquired from Southampton in January, formerly with Bristol Rovers. He has also spent loan spells at Tottenham and Middlesbrough. Born Bristol.

PAUL HAYLOCK (Defender). Cost £25,000 from Norwich City in August. Won a Milk Cup winners medal in 1985. Born Lowestoft.

GRAHAM PEARCE (Defender). Versatile player, best regarded as a fullback obtained on a free transfer from Brighton during the close season. The South Coast club signed him from Barnet in 1982 after the two sides had met in the F.A. Cup. Played for Brighton in the 1983 F.A. Cup final against Manchester United. Born Hammersmith.

LES BERRY (Defender). Ex-long serving Charlton player and son of Gillingham director Dennis Berry who was secured on loan from Brighton shortly before the deadline. Born Plumstead.

MARK WEATHERLY (Utility). Loyal, long-serving player equally at home in attack, central defence or midfield. Twice voted 'Player of the Year', Mark is now in his 13th season with the Gills. Born Ramsgate.

STEVE JACOBS (Midfield). Former Coventry City and Brighton player signed in December 1986 after spending the earlier part of the season with Charlton Athletic. Born West Ham.

HOWARD PRITCHARD (Winger). Transferred from Bristol City for

£22,500 in July. Had two spells with City and a two-year interlude at Swindon in between.

DAVE SHEARER (Forward). Originally snapped up by Middlesbrough from Highland League club Inverness Clachnacuddin in 1978. After a loan spell with Wigan and season 1983/84 at Grimsby, he joined the Gills during the summer of 1984. Born Fort William.

IRVIN GERON (Defender). Signed from Ipswich for £30,000 in early March this year. A one club man — apart from loan periods with Newcastle and Northampton — capped by England at Under-18 and Under-21 levels. Born Birmingham.

KARL ELSEY (Midfield). Ever-present last season after being snapped up on a free transfer from Cardiff City in June 1985. Broke into League football with Queens Park Rangers, joining them from Pembroke Borough in January 1979. He moved on to Newport 18 months later and thence to Cardiff in July 1983. Born Swansea.

TONY CASCARINO (Forward). Gillingham's most capped player by gaining three full caps for the Republic of Ireland. Joined the Gills in January 1982 from Kent League side Crockenhill. Born St. Pauls Cray.

STEVE LOVELL (Midfield/forward). Welsh

international, capped six times, who became Gillingham's 11th signing in eight months when purchased from Millwall for £20,000 in February. Steve started his career with Crystal Palace and moved across London to the Den in February 1983 and created a record of scoring 11 consecutive games during 1984/85. Born Swansea.

PAUL COLLINS (Midfield). Talented youngster who earned a more regular slot in the first team last season. Paul was engaged as a contract player on completion of his apprenticeship in the summer of 1984. He previously gained international recognition, playing for England at Under-16 level.

GRAHAM WESTLEY (Forward). Former England Youth international who was released by Q.P.R. and taken on by Gillingham as a contract player in December 1985. Impressive displays for the second and third teams earned Graham his Football League debut in the final match of last season.

DAVID SMITH (Forward). Another of Gillingham's close season captures, transferring in August from Southern League champions Welling United for £3,000. David, a speedy winger with a sweet left foot, joined Welling from neighbours Dartford in December 1984.

MEL EVES (Forward). Mel, an experienced Wednesday born



former England 'B' international secured during the close season. Kicked off his career with Wolves where he graduated through the ranks, signing professional in 1975 and making his debut two years later. He netted 44 goals in 180 League appearances and also won a League Cup-winner's medal in 1980 before transferring to Sheffield United in 1984.

COLIN GREENALL (Defender). Highly rated central defender, a £40,000 purchase from Blackpool in September. Colin joined the Tangerines from school and broke into the first team at the age of 16. He was capped by England at youth level and figured in 200 senior games for the Bloomfield Road club.

RON HILLYARD (Goalkeeper). Evergreen goalkeeper now in his 13th season with the club. Ron arrived at Priestfield from York City in June 1974 and has been first choice for the green jersey ever since. He was ever-present last season and has now featured in over 550 games for Gillingham at first team level.

JOE HINNIGAN (Defender). Spent his first season with Gillingham (1984/85) as a fullback, but switched to a central defensive

role last term. Joe began his career with South Liverpool and then moved across to Wigan Athletic before transferring to Sunderland for £80,000 in February 1980. Three years later, having gained valuable First Division team experience (63 appearances, 4 goals) he accepted a move to Preston (52 appearances, 8 goals).

TREVOR QUOW (Midfield). Another of Gillingham's close season acquisitions, bought for £7,000 from Peterborough in August. Trevor had previously been a one man club, signing for his home town as an apprentice and attaining full professional status in September 1978. Made his League debut a month earlier and went on to figure in well over 200 Fourth Division games.

MARTIN ROBINSON (Forward). Goalscoring winger — 26 in the last two campaigns — secured from Charlton Athletic for a £15,000 fee in October 1984. A former Tottenham apprentice, Martin scored twice in six games for Spurs before moving across London to the Valley in February 1978. For the Valliants he registered 70 goals in 250 senior appearances.

Gillingham F.C. 1986-87

Back Row (left to right): Karl Elsey, Howard Pritchard, Tony Cascarino, Mel Eves, Paul Collins.

Middle Row: Mark Weatherly, Keith Oakes (now Fulham), Mark Boney (now Maidstone), Paul Taylor (Assistant Manager), Ron Hillyard, Joe Hinnigan, Martin Robinson.

Front Row: Bill Collins (First Team Trainer), Russell Musker (now Torquay), Graham Westley, Paul Haylock, Keith Peacock (Manager), Graham Pearce, David Shearer, Trevor Quow, John Gorman (Youth Team Coach).

Picture by: John Letley

Swindon's Fraser Digby dives in vain but Karl Elsey's volley is on its way to the net to give Gills a 2-0 aggregate lead.



The balls in the net and Fraser Digby can do nothing about it.



Swindon's Peter Coyne lets fly with a left foot drive which beat Gillingham's Phil Kite to make it 1-1 in the second leg play-off at the County Ground.

BANK HOLIDAY ACTION

Swindon's Dave Bamber (No 7) leaps for joy as Peter Coyne (out of picture) scores Swindon's first goal in the play-off match against Gillingham at the County Ground on Monday.



Pics by Dave Evans (Swindon) and John Jeffrey (Gillingham)



A diving Phil Kite in the Gillingham goal cannot stop a fierce volley from Swindon's Charlie Henry (extreme right) from entering his net for Swindon's goal of the night at the County Ground.

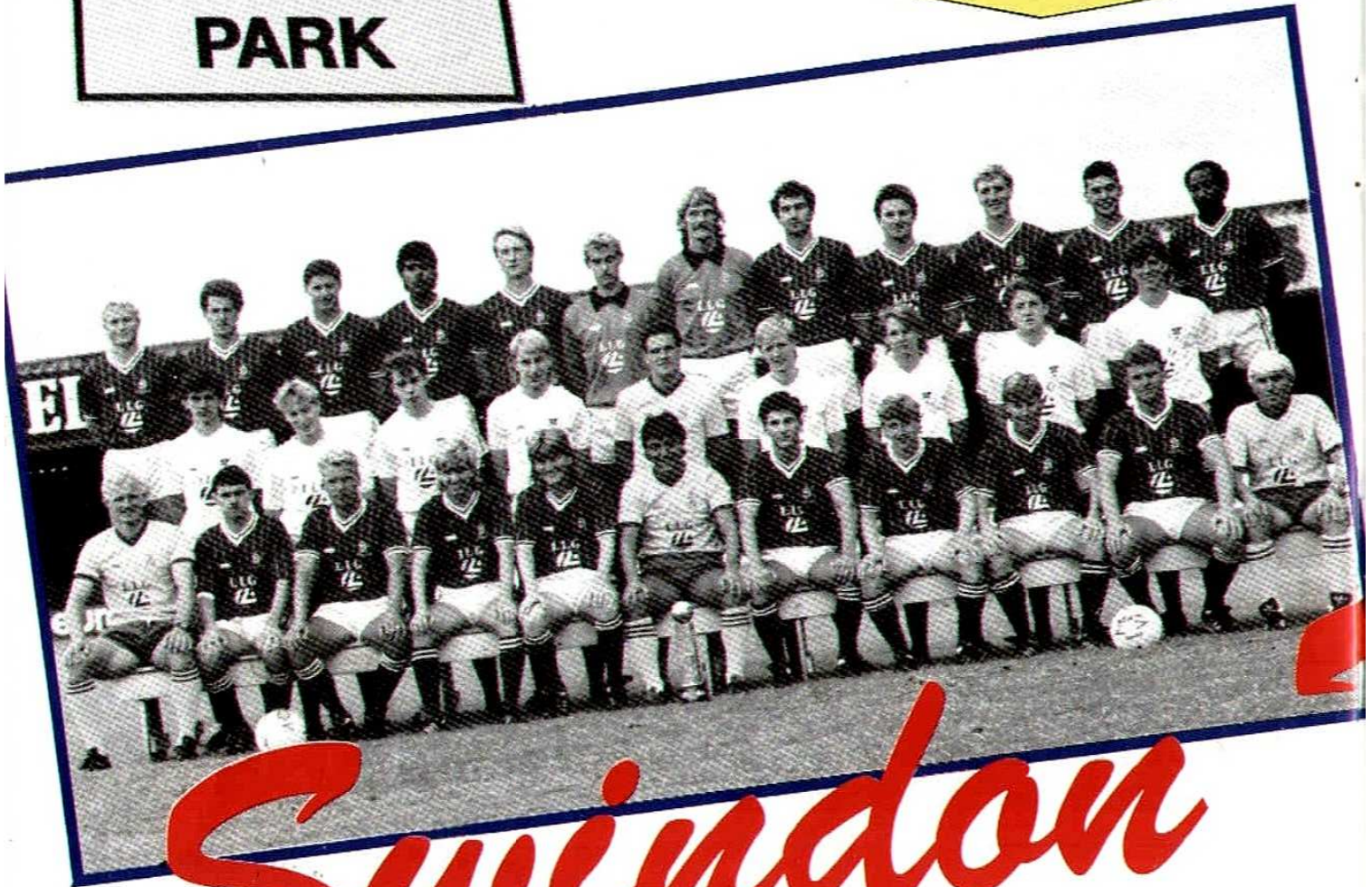
Welcome
to

**SELHURST
PARK**

Back Row (left to right): Mark Gardiner (now Torquay), Steve White, Jimmy Gilligan (now Lincoln), Chris Kamara, Tim Parkin, Alan Churchward, Kenny Allen (now Torquay), Dave Bamber, Charlie Henry, David Cole (now Torquay), Colin Calderwood, Chris Ramsey.

Middle Row (left to right): Philip Bell, Nicky Hughes, Tony Berry, Peter Lango, Andy Rowland (Reserve Team Coach), Gary Gillett, Dave Barnett, Dean Casserly, Adrian Viveash.

Front Row (left to right): John Trollope (Assistant Manager), Alan McLoughlin, Leigh Barnard, Martin Ling (now Southend), Peter Coyne, Lou Macari (Manager), Mark Hughes (no longer with club), Jamie Reynolds, Bryan Wade, David Hockaday, Kevin Morris (Physiotherapist).



Swindon

Lou Macari (Manager). Born Aberdeen. Has been in charge at the County Ground since July 1984 and last season was voted the Fourth Division Manager of the Season when he steered the club to the Championship with a record number of League points. As a player he first made his name with Celtic before joining Manchester United for a £200,000 fee in January 1973. While at Old Trafford he appeared in their colours on over 350 occasions and three times appeared for them in FA Cup Finals. A full Scottish international with 24 caps, he was a member of their 1978 World Cup squad in Argentina.

Fraser Digby (Goalkeeper). Born Sheffield. Former apprentice with Manchester United, he is now in his second spell with Swindon having been on loan with them last season. Over six foot, he made his Football League debut earlier this season.

David Hockaday (Defender). Born Billingham. Once on Blackpool's books as a junior, he turned professional with them in June 1975. He went on to score 24 goals in 147 appearances for them before joining Swindon during the summer of 1983. Having spent part of last season in the full-back position, he made his 100th League appearance for Swindon earlier this season.

Phil King (Defender). Born Bristol. Signed last February from Torquay United and has settled in well in the left-back position. Once on apprentice forms with Exeter City, he made 25 League

appearances before moving to Torquay last summer.

Colin Calderwood (Defender). Born Stranraer. Swindon's only ever present last season and current holder of their 'Player of the Year' award, he joined Swindon during the summer of 1985. His brilliant displays attracted the attention of many First Division clubs, having previously made over 100 senior appearances for Mansfield Town.

Tim Parkin (Defender). Born Penrith. Cost a fee of £27,500 to Bristol Rovers during the summer, this tall commanding central defender had made over 200 League appearances for the Bristol club. Previously on apprentice forms with Blackburn Rovers, he later had a successful spell with Malmo in Sweden.

David Cole (Defender). Born Barnsley. Signed in February 1985 on a free transfer from Swansea City and missed only two League games last season. He spent brief spells with St. Mirren and Sunderland before joining the South Wales club for whom he made eight League appearances.

Alan McLoughlin (Defender). Born Manchester. Signed on a free transfer during the summer from Manchester United, he made his Football League debut earlier this season having failed to make the first team at Old Trafford.

Town

Chris Ramsey (Defender). Born Birmingham. Once on amateur forms with Bristol City, he later served Brighton and Hove Albion and played in the 1983 FA Cup Final alongside Graham Pearce against Manchester United. He first joined Swindon on loan before joining permanently in December 1984. He missed only three League games last season.

Steve Berry (Midfield). Born Gosport. Began his career with Portsmouth and after a loan spell with Aldershot he moved to Sunderland. Appeared for them in the 1985 Milk Cup Final against Norwich City and the following November he joined Newport County. Swindon signed him just before the transfer deadline in March this year.

Mark Jones (Midfield). Born Berinsfield. Former apprentice with Oxford United, he turned professional in September 1979. Whilst at the Manor Ground he made over 100 League

appearances and was a member of their side that won the Second Division Championship in 1985. An expert penalty taker; he moved to Swindon last September.

Chris Kamara (Midfield). Born Middlesbrough. Now in his second spell with Swindon having rejoined them in August 1985 from Brentford for £12,500. Originally on apprentice forms with Portsmouth, he first joined Swindon in August 1977 and made 147 League appearances before having another spell with Portsmouth.

Leigh Barnard (Midfield). Born Worsley. Has now made over 150 League appearances since his transfer from Portsmouth in July 1982. Former apprentice at Fratton Park he turned professional in August 1977 and went on to make 79 League appearances for them. During his career he has also had loan spells with Peterborough United and Exeter City.

Bryan Wade (Midfield). Born Bath. Signed at the start of last season from Southern League side Trowbridge Town and made a successful start to his Football League career. He appeared in 31 League appearances last season for Swindon scoring 10 goals.

Charlie Henry (Midfield). Born Acton. Former apprentice, he turned professional in January 1980 and has now appeared in over 200 senior games. Originally a full-back, he was a revelation last season when converted to a midfield role and finished the season as the club's top scorer with 18 goals.

Dave Bamber (Forward). Born St. Helens. Tall commanding striker, he was signed last March from Portsmouth for £15,000 after an initial period on loan. Spotted playing for Manchester University, he signed professional forms for Blackpool in September 1979. He later served Coventry City and Walsall.

Peter Coyne (Forward). Born Manchester. Former England Schoolboy international, he turned professional with Manchester United in November 1975. After a spell with non-League Ashton United he moved to Crewe Alexandra in August 1977 and scored 47 League goals in 134 appearances. After a spell with Hyde United he signed for Swindon.

Steve White (Forward). Born Chipping Sodbury. Began his career with Bristol Rovers before moving to Luton Town for £200,000. He later had spells with Charlton Athletic and Lincoln City (on loan) before returning to the Bristol club. He joined Swindon last summer, when he had scored 81 goals in 258 League games.

Jimmy Quinn (Forward). Born Belfast. Northern Ireland international, he moved to Swindon last December from Blackburn Rovers and is now in his second spell at the County Ground. It was Swindon who first noticed him playing for non-League side Oswestry and signed him on professional forms in 1981.

these

CONTINUOUS

play-offs

Whilst the newly introduced Play-offs have generated huge interest among Football fans throughout the country, some of whom have travelled hundreds of miles to be present at one or more of these games, for matches which do not even involve their own clubs, the fact (surprising to some) is that the advent of this latest innovation from the Football League has not been greeted with universal enthusiasm.

CRITICISM

Several voices have been raised in criticism of the new system: 'Why', it is argued, 'should clubs who finish in third place in Division Two or Three (Oldham Athletic and Swindon Town) or fourth in Division Four (Wolves) have to take part in this end of season extravaganza when formerly they would have been promoted as of right to the appropriate higher sphere?'

However, it must be acknowledged that much of the criticism of the Play-offs has originated from the clubs whose immediate aspirations have been denied. Incidentally, it is interesting that, whilst Swindon still have the chance of gaining promotion here tonight, the other two clubs mentioned above have failed in their respective play-offs and must remain in the division of which they are currently members. Such criticism is perfectly natural and understandable as part of the players', officials' and

fans' frustration and disappointment at being denied the promotion that would, until this season, have immediately been theirs.

APPROVAL OF THE WHOLE LEAGUE

But two things must be said, and together they completely counter the argument against the new system.

Firstly, the new arrangements were not approved in any hole in a corner fashion, but at an extraordinary General Meeting of the Football League no less — that was the time to voice misgivings, to oppose the plan or to come up with a sensible and viable alternative. In fact, every time the League has introduced something new to increase the interest for clubs and supporters in general, it has inevitably had to imply that someone would suffer what, on the face of it, appears to be a raw deal. For example, when 'three-up — three-down' was introduced for 1973-74 there were two more clubs relegated at the end of that and every subsequent season than ever had been previously (and Palace supporters reading this article will remember our own agonies as a result of that particular innovation — who will ever forget coming home from Cardiff?), or when the League was extended to 92 clubs in 1950 the introduction of two new clubs into each of the regional 3rd Division made the task of gaining the single promotion place available for them that much more difficult. Again, deciding promotion or relegation on goal difference rather than goal average may penalise the club with the sounder defence.

SUCCESS WITH THE FANS

Equally, for all the criticism voiced in some quarters, it simply has got to be accepted that the fans, in general and of virtually every club, are delighted at the introduction of the new play-offs — they have proved a huge success. About 170,000 supporters attended the first round of twelve games and nearly 75,000 were at the second leg matches of the Finals at Wolves, Leeds and Swindon. That sort of interest has simply got to be for the good of the game and a vindication of the new system.

Let's leave the last word on the topic with Mr. Keith Peacock, the widely respected Manager of Gillingham, one of tonight's protagonists. Prior to the first game against Swindon at Priestfield Stadium Mr Peacock put it this way: 'There's no arguing with the fans. Our opinions are of secondary importance. If play-offs mean the crowds come flooding back through the turnstiles, then they have got to be right.'



JIM MELROSE heading Charlton's first goal in their play-off match with Ipswich here at Selhurst Park.

PLAY-OFFS

DIVISIONS ONE and TWO

Semi-Finals

Ipswich (0) 0 Charlton (0) 0
18,465
Charlton (2) 2 Ipswich (0) 1
Melrose (2) McCall 11,234
(Charlton won 2-1 on aggregate)

Leeds (0) 1 Oldham (0) 0
Edwards 29,472
Oldham (1) 2 Leeds (0) 1
Williams, Cecere Edwards 19,216
(after extra time)
(Leeds won on away goals)

Final

Charlton (0) 1 Leeds (0) 0
Melrose 16,680
Leeds (0) 1 Charlton (0) 0
Ormsby 31,395
(1-1 on aggregate)
Replay tonight at St. Andrews,
Birmingham

DIVISIONS TWO and THREE

Semi-Finals

Gillingham (0) 3 Sunderland (1) 2
Cascarino (3) Proctor (2) 1 pen
13,804
Sunderland (2) 4 Gillingham (1) 3
Gates (2), Cascarino (2),
Bennett, Pritchard 25,470
Bertschin

(after extra time)

(Gillingham won on away goals)

Wigan (2) 2 Swindon (0) 3
Thompson, Lowe Bamber, Quinn,
Coyne 6,718
Swindon (0) 0 Wigan (0) 0
12,485

(Swindon won 3-2 on aggregate)

Final

Gillingham (0) 1 Swindon (0) 0
Smith 16,775
Swindon (0) 2 Gillingham (1) 1
Coyne, Henry Elsey 14,382
(2-2 on aggregate)

DIVISIONS THREE and FOUR

Semi-Finals

Aldershot (0) 1 Bolton (0) 0
Johnson 4,164
Bolton (0) 2 Aldershot (0) 2
Caldwell (2) 1 Anderson,
pen Burvill 7,445
(after extra time)
(Aldershot won 3-2 on aggregate)

Colchester (0) 0 Wolves (2) 2
Kelly, Bull 4,829
Wolves (0) 0 Colchester (0) 0
16,330
(Wolves won 2-0 on aggregate)

Final

Aldershot (1) 2 Wolves (0) 0
McDonald, 5,000
Barnes (pen)
Wolves (0) 0 Aldershot (0) 1
Barnes 19,962
(Aldershot won 3-0 on aggregate)

ON THE BALL

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THE APPLIANCE OF SCIENCE

SPONSORS OF GILLINGHAM F.C.

HOW THEY FINISHED

IN THE TODAY LEAGUE 1986-87

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	Goals			Pts
					F	A		
Everton	42	26	8	8	76	31	86	
Liverpool	42	23	8	11	72	42	77	
Tottenham Hotspur	42	21	8	13	68	43	71	
Arsenal	42	20	10	12	58	35	70	
Norwich City	42	17	17	8	53	51	68	
Wimbledon	42	19	9	14	57	50	66	
Luton Town	42	18	12	12	47	45	66	
Nottingham Forest	42	18	11	13	64	51	65	
Watford	42	18	9	15	67	54	63	
Coventry City	42	17	12	13	50	45	63	
Manchester United	42	14	14	14	52	45	56	
Southampton	42	14	10	18	69	68	52	
Sheffield Wednesday	42	13	13	16	58	59	52	
Chelsea	42	13	13	16	53	64	52	
West Ham United	42	14	10	18	52	67	52	
Queens Park Rangers	42	13	11	18	48	64	50	
Newcastle United	42	12	11	19	47	65	47	
Oxford United	42	11	13	18	44	69	46	
Charlton Athletic	42	11	11	20	45	55	44	
Leicester City	42	11	9	22	54	76	42	
Manchester City	42	8	15	19	36	57	39	
Aston Villa	42	8	12	22	45	79	36	

Relegated: Aston Villa — Manchester City — Leicester City

DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	Goals			Pts
					F	A		
Derby County	42	25	9	8	64	38	84	
Portsmouth	42	23	9	10	53	28	78	
Oldham Athletic	42	22	9	11	65	44	75	
Leeds United	42	19	11	12	58	44	68	
Ipswich Town	42	17	13	12	59	43	64	
Crystal Palace	42	19	5	18	51	53	62	
Plymouth Argyle	42	16	13	13	62	57	61	
Stoke City	42	16	10	16	63	53	58	
Sheffield United	42	15	13	14	50	49	58	
Bradford City	42	15	10	17	62	62	55	
Barnsley	42	14	13	15	49	52	55	
Blackburn Rovers	42	15	10	17	45	55	55	
Reading	42	14	11	17	52	59	53	
Hull City	42	13	14	15	41	55	53	
West Bromwich Albion	42	13	12	17	51	49	51	
Millwall	42	14	9	19	39	45	51	
Huddersfield Town	42	13	12	17	54	61	51	
Shrewsbury Town	42	15	6	21	41	53	51	
Birmingham City	42	11	17	14	47	59	50	
Sunderland	42	12	12	18	49	59	48	
Grimsby Town	42	10	14	18	39	59	44	
Brighton & Hove Albion	42	9	12	21	37	54	39	

Promoted: Derby County — Portsmouth
Relegated: Brighton & Hove A. — Grimsby Town — Sunderland

The other First Division place will be filled by either Charlton Athletic or Leeds United.

DIVISION THREE

	P	W	D	L	Goals			Pts
					F	A		
AFC Bournemouth	46	29	10	7	76	40	97	
Middlesbrough	46	28	10	8	67	30	94	
Swindon Town	46	25	12	9	77	47	87	
Wigan Athletic	46	25	10	11	83	60	85	
Gillingham	46	23	9	14	65	48	78	
Bristol City	46	21	14	11	63	36	77	
Notts County	46	21	13	12	77	56	76	
Walsall	46	22	9	15	80	67	75	
Blackpool	46	16	16	14	74	59	64	
Mansfield Town	46	15	16	15	52	55	61	
Brentford	46	15	15	16	64	66	60	
Port Vale	46	15	12	19	76	70	57	
Doncaster Rovers	46	14	15	17	56	62	57	
Rotherham United	46	15	12	19	48	57	57	
Chester City	46	13	17	16	61	59	56	
Bury	46	14	13	19	54	60	55	
Chesterfield	46	13	15	18	56	69	54	
Fulham	46	12	17	17	59	77	53	
Bristol Rovers	46	13	12	21	49	75	51	
York City	46	12	13	21	55	79	49	
Bolton Wanderers	46	10	15	21	46	58	45	
Carlisle United	46	10	8	28	39	78	38	
Darlington	46	7	16	23	45	77	37	
Newport County	46	8	13	25	49	86	37	

Promoted: AFC Bournemouth — Middlesbrough and either Swindon or Gillingham
Relegated: Newport County — Darlington — Carlisle United — Bolton Wanderers

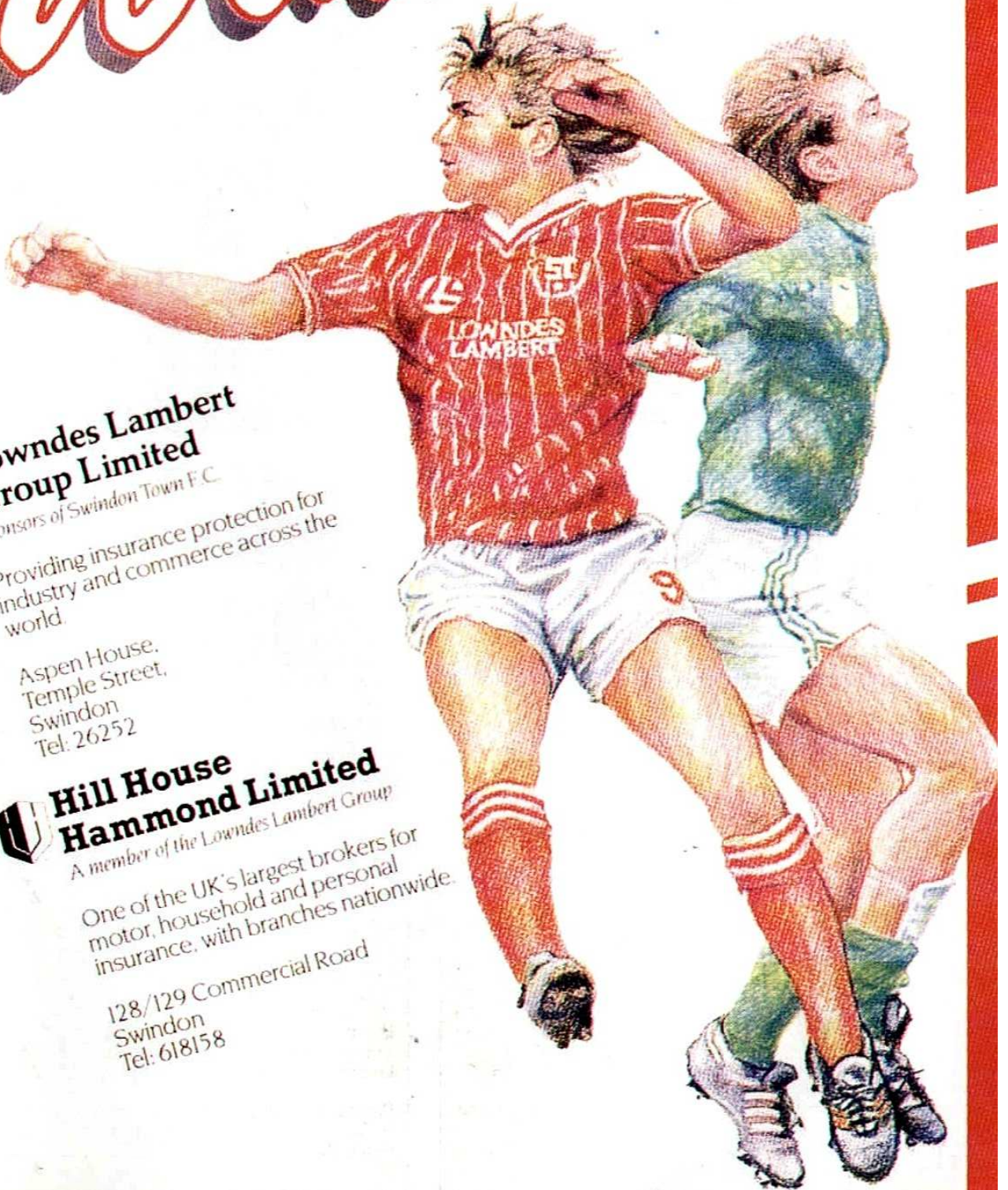
DIVISION FOUR

	P	W	D	L	Goals			Pts
					F	A		
Northampton Town	46	30	9	7	103	53	99	
Preston North End	46	26	12	8	72	47	90	
Southend United	46	25	5	16	68	55	80	
Wolverhampton W.	46	24	7	15	69	50	79	
Colchester United	46	21	7	18	64	56	70	
Aldershot	46	20	10	16	64	57	70	
Orient	46	20	9	17	64	61	69	
Scunthorpe United	46	18	12	16	73	57	66	
Wrexham	46	15	20	11	70	51	65	
Peterborough United	46	17	14	15	57	50	65	
Cambridge United	46	17	11	18	60	62	62	
Swansea City	46	17	11	18	56	61	62	
Cardiff City	46	15	16	15	48	50	61	
Exeter City	46	11	23	12	53	49	56	
Halifax Town	46	15	10	21	59	74	55	
Hereford United	46	14	11	21	60	61	53	
Crewe Alexandra	46	13	14	19	70	72	53	
Hartlepool United	46	11	18	17	44	65	51	
Stockport County	46	13	12	21	40	69	51	
Tranmere Rovers	46	11	17	18	54	72	50	
Rochdale	46	11	17	18	54	73	50	
Burnley	46	12	13	21	53	74	49	
Torquay United	46	10	18	18	56	72	48	
Lincoln City	46	12	12	22	45	65	48	

Promoted: Northampton Town — Preston North End — Southend United — Aldershot
Relegated: Lincoln City



Winners!



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Tonight's Teams

GILLINGHAM

White shirts, blue shorts

- 1** PHIL KITE
- 2** PAUL HAYLOCK
- 3** GRAHAM PEARCE
- 4** LES BERRY
- 5** TREVOR QUOW
- 6** COLIN GREENALL (Capt.)
- 7** HOWARD PRITCHARD
- 8** DAVE SHEARER
- 9** STEVE LOVELL
- 10** KARL ELSEY
- 11** TONY CASCARINO
- 12**

SWINDON TOWN

Red shirts, white shorts

- 1** FRASER DIGBY
- 2** DAVE HOCKADAY
- 3** PHIL KING
- 4** PETER COYNE
- 5** TIM PARKIN
- 6** COLIN CALDERWOOD (Capt.)
- 7** DAVE BAMBER
- 8** CHRIS KAMARA
- 9** CHARLIE HENRY
- 10** STEVE WHITE
- 11** LEIGH BARNARD
- 12** MARK JONES

IF THE SCORES ARE LEVEL AFTER 90 MINUTES PLAY, AN EXTRA HALF-HOUR WILL BE PLAYED. IF THE MATCH IS STILL DRAWN IT WILL BE DECIDED ON PENALTIES.

OFFICIALS

REFEREE: J. E. MARTIN
(Alton, Hants.)

Linesmen: J. E. HARRIS (Suffolk)
Red Trim

D. KEEN (Berkshire)
Yellow Trim

MATCH STATS

	GILLS	SWINDON
HALF TIME		
FULL TIME		
SCORERS		
SUBS		
GATE		