

THE ROYAL

MATCHDAY PROGRAMME - 70p

40-page
Xmas
issue



'All the Best' COURAGE



BARCLAYS LEAGUE



BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION 2
SWINDON TOWN
Saturday, December 26, 1987
Kick-off 11am



Today's match sponsored by: **PENTA (Reading) LTD**



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Programme Editor:
Russell Kempson

Volume 42, No. 14

**IAN'S
INSIGHT**



OUR LACK of success on the field of play becomes more and more difficult to explain as the games go by. Any attempt to justify performances is always tempered by the end product and that has not been good.

I am sure that most of you, like myself, have gone home after some games and wondered just why we have not got more reward for our effort and endeavour. It is very easy, under present circumstances, to lose heart and throw in the towel.

To their credit, the players have rarely looked like doing that. On most occasions they have acquitted themselves well and not given less than their all despite a succession of cruel "knock-out" blows.

We have learned lately that the old football adage of "nothing goes for you when you are down at the bottom" is fairly near being spot-on.

Any mistake has been severely dealt with and a moment's lack of concentration has been punished to the full extent.

In moments of weakness, black cats have been tickled, chimney sweeps kissed and lucky white heather worn—but all to no avail!

Despite the adversity, the spirit within the club is still high and most of us know we will come through the present crisis and move forward again.

In all probability, we will be better and stronger for it. Hang on in there, we are still in the fight and there are a few around yet who fancy the battle.

Welcome today to Lou Macari and his Swindon team. Lou has done an excellent job in bringing Swindon into the Second Division in style and they are always difficult opposition.

However, we owe them a performance and I'm sure they will find us tougher than when we last met.

I hope that you have had an excellent Christmas. Your support during these troubled times has been nothing short of tremendous and your letters have been of great assistance in keeping us going.

I hope that the New Year brings you all success and gives us something for you to cheer and enjoy.

Happy New Year.

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◆ RUNNING ◆ SQUASH ◆ RUGBY ◆ FOOTBALL ◆ CRICKET ◆



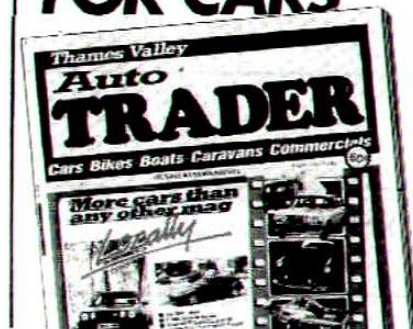
PERFORMANCE MATTERS



Tony Hendricks, sponsor of the game against Manchester City, receives a special memento of the occasion from Royals' director Colin Brooks (left).

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STATISTICS 87-88 STATISTICS 87-88

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION 2	Res	Crowd	Po	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14
Aug. 22 Leeds United	0-0	19,286	17	Francis	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Williams	Taylor	Gordon	Horrix	Smilie	Joseph (10)	White (7)
Aug. 29 Plymouth Argyle	0-1	6,658	21	Francis	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Tait	Taylor	Gordon	Horrix	Smilie	Joseph (9)	White (4)
Sept. 1 Shrewsbury Town	1-0	3,223	17	Francis	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Smilie	Taylor	Gordon	Beavon	White	Beavon (7)	Baile
Sept. 5 Oldham Athletic	3-0	4,798	11	Francis	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Smilie	Taylor	Gordon	Joseph	Canoville	Horrix	White (11)
Sept. 12 AFC Bournemouth	0-3	7,597	15	Francis	Jones	Richardson	Tait	Hicks	Peters	Smilie	Taylor	Gordon	Joseph	Canoville	Baile	White
Sept. 16 Stoke City	0-1	5,349	18	Francis	Jones	Richardson	Tait	Hicks	Peters	Smilie	Taylor	Gordon	Joseph	Canoville	White	Gilkes (10)
Sept. 19 Crystal Palace	2-3	8,819	21	Francis	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Tait	Taylor	Gordon	Joseph	Canoville	White	Gilkes (10)*P
Sept. 23 Chelsea (LC2 1)	3-1	11,034	-	Francis	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	White	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (10)*P
Sept. 26 Swindon Town	0-4	10,073	21	Francis	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Smilie	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Sept. 29 Middlesbrough	0-0	10,903	21	Francis	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Smilie	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Oct. 3 West Bromwich Albion	1-2	5,543	22	Francis	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Smilie	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Oct. 7 Chelsea (LC2 2)	2-3	15,469	-	Francis	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Tait	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Oct. 10 Birmingham City	2-2	6,147	22	Westwood	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Tait	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Oct. 17 Huddersfield Town	3-2	4,678	21	Westwood	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Tait	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Oct. 20 Barnsley	2-5	4,396	22	Westwood	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Tait	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Oct. 24 Bradford City	1-1	5,920	22	Westwood	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Tait	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Oct. 28 Peterborough (LC3)	0-2	6,300	-	Westwood	Jones	Richardson	Beavon	Hicks	Peters	Tait	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Nov. 4 Peterborough (LC3 replay)	1-2	13,413	22	Westwood	Jones	Gilkes	Tait	Hicks	Curie	Williams	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Nov. 7 Ipswich Town	1-0	6,030	-	Westwood	Jones	Gilkes	Tait	Hicks	Curie	Williams	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Nov. 14 Manchester City	1-2	11,508	21	Westwood	Jones	Gilkes	Tait	Hicks	Curie	Williams	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Nov. 18 Bradford City (LC4)	0-2	10,052	22	Westwood	Jones	Gilkes	Tait	Hicks	Curie	Williams	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Nov. 21 Sheffield United	0-0	6,784	-	Westwood	Jones	Gilkes	Tait	Hicks	Curie	Williams	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Nov. 24 Bradford City (LC4 replay)	1-4	6,977	22	Westwood	Jones	Gilkes	Tait	Hicks	Curie	Williams	Taylor	Gordon	Gilkes	Baile	White	Joseph (11)
Nov. 28 Blackburn Rovers	0-1	10,488	-	Francis	Jones	Gilkes	Beavon	Hicks	Curie	Baile	Taylor	Gordon	Moran	White	White	Peters (9)
Dec. 1 Millwall	0-3	4,535	23	Francis	Jones	Gilkes	Beavon	Hicks	Curie	Baile	Taylor	Gordon	Moran	White	White	Peters (9)
Dec. 5 Hull City	0-3	6,782	23	Francis	Jones	Gilkes	Beavon	Hicks	Curie	Baile	Taylor	Gordon	Moran	White	White	Peters (9)
Dec. 12 Leeds United	2-2	5,797	23	Francis	Baile	Gilkes	Beavon	Hicks	Curie	Williams	Taylor	Gordon	Moran	White	White	Peters (9)
Dec. 19 Stoke City	0-1	6,505	23	Francis	Baile	Gilkes	Beavon	Hicks	Curie	Williams	Taylor	Gordon	Moran	White	White	Peters (9)
Dec. 21 Q.P.R. (SCT)	2-4	6,968	23	Francis	Baile	Gilkes	Beavon	Hicks	Curie	Williams	Taylor	Gordon	Moran	White	White	Peters (9)
Dec. 26 Swindon Town (11am)	3-1	4,004	-	Francis	Baile	Gilkes	Beavon	Hicks	Curie	Williams	Taylor	Gordon	Moran	White	White	Peters (9)
Jan. 1 Crystal Palace																
Jan. 2 Plymouth Argyle																
Jan. 5 AFC Bournemouth																
Jan. 9 Southampton (FAC3)																
Jan. 23 Shrewsbury Town																
Jan. 30 Leicester City (FAC4)																
Feb. 6 Oldham Athletic																
Feb. 13 Millwall																
Feb. 20 Middlesbrough (FAC5)																
Feb. 27 West Bromwich Albion																
Mar. 5 Huddersfield Town																
Mar. 12 Birmingham City (FAC6)																
Mar. 19 Aston Villa																
Mar. 26 Bradford City																
Apr. 2 Ipswich Town																
Apr. 4 Manchester City																
Apr. 9 Barnsley (FAC S.F.)																
Apr. 23 Leicester City																
Apr. 30 Sheffield United																
May 2 Blackburn Rovers																
May 7 Hull City																
May 14 FA Cup Final																

NO SMOKING

PLEASE remember there is a 'No Smoking' rule in the stands. We would respectfully ask you all to observe this.

KEY: FAC - FA Cup; LC - Littlewoods Cup; SC - St. Mary's Cup
 Figure in brackets after substitutions indicates number of player replaced.

READING APPEARANCES

MATCHBALL SPONSOR

1987-88		CAREER			
Lge	LC	SC	Gls	Apps	Gls
23	5	1	1	393+1	18
12+2	4	1	—	330+12	33
10+1	2	—	—	304+24	17
9+5	1	—	—	296+17	14
11+2	2+1	—	2	275+14	12
15+1	3	—	—	225+3	2
6+3	3	1	1	151+23	39
8	3	—	—	145	—
8	3	1	—	83+3	1
22	6	—	2	60	3
16+2	6	1	5	46+16	9
15	3	1	—	32	—
12	3	1	—	31	—
19	6	1	2	25	—
18	5	—	10	23	10
7	0+1	—	1	20+1	4
17	5	1	2	22	1
10	4	1	—	14	—
7	—	—	3	7	3
5+6	1	0+1	2	6+6	2
2	1	—	—	3	—
1+1	—	1	—	1+1	—

● Includes Lge, FA Cup and Lge Cup only

GEORGE DUNSTER from WOODLEY

wishes the Reading Football Club
every success today and in the
New Year.



READING APPEARANCES

MATCHBALL SPONSOR

1987-88		CAREER			
Lge	LC	SC	Gls	Apps	Gls
23	5	1	1	393+1	18
12+2	4	1	—	330+12	33
10+1	2	—	—	304+24	17
9+5	1	—	—	296+17	14
11+2	2+1	—	2	275+14	12
15+1	3	—	—	225+3	2
6+3	3	1	1	151+23	39
8	3	—	—	145	—
8	3	1	—	83+3	1
22	6	—	2	60	3
16+2	6	1	5	46+16	9
15	3	1	—	32	—
12	3	1	—	31	—
19	6	1	2	25	—
18	5	—	10	23	10
7	0+1	—	1	20+1	4
17	5	1	2	22	1
10	4	1	—	14	—
7	—	—	3	7	3
5+6	1	0+1	2	6+6	2
2	1	—	—	3	—
1+1	—	1	—	1+1	—

● Includes Lge, FA Cup and Lge Cup only

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New Year.



BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION 2

	Home			Away			Pts
	P	W	D	L	F	A	
Middlesbrough	24	9	2	1	23	6	48
Bradford City	24	9	1	2	26	11	46
Aston Villa	24	3	6	3	13	12	16
Crystal Palace	23	9	1	1	27	10	44
Ipswich Town	23	11	1	0	25	4	42
Hull City	24	8	5	0	21	11	42
Blackburn	23	7	3	2	17	9	40
Manchester City	24	6	2	4	33	16	39
Millwall	24	8	1	2	25	10	39
Barnsley	23	8	1	3	29	16	35
Leeds United	24	8	2	2	21	11	35
Birmingham	24	5	5	2	14	13	33
Swindon Town	22	6	3	2	24	11	31
Plymouth	24	6	3	3	26	16	30
Stoke City	24	6	4	2	18	11	30
Oldham Athletic	23	4	3	4	12	2	24
Leicester City	22	5	3	4	17	11	23
West Brom	24	5	3	4	19	13	23
Sheffield United	24	5	4	4	18	16	22
Bournemouth	24	3	5	5	18	18	22
Huddersfield	24	3	4	4	11	15	19
Shrewsbury	24	2	4	5	12	15	17
READING	23	2	2	6	10	13	14

(up to and including Sunday, December 20)

THE Wycombe Wanderers FC
Football Programme Fair is to be
held tomorrow from 11am -
2.30pm.

It will take place in The Blues
Social Club, Wycombe Wander-
ers FC, Loakes Park, High
Wycombe.

Full bar and refreshment facilities
will be available.

FUN OF THE FAIR

AROUND 1,000 football collectors will descend on
The Great Western Royal Hotel in Praed Street,
Paddington, London W2, for the 11th 'Giant New
Year Programme Fair' on Sunday, Jan 3, 1988.

Collectors of all ages will be sorting through
thousands of programmes ranging from valuable
pre-War examples to recent bargains, all displayed
by many of Britain's leading dealers.

There will also be a fascinating exhibition area with
rare programmes, famous players' caps, shirts and
other items of memorabilia. Taking pride of place
will be the shirts worn by Alf Baker in the 1927 and
1930 FA Cup finals, together with other mementoes
from the late Arsenal star's collection.

The show starts at 10.30am and goes on until 4pm.
Admission is just 50p.

Meet the Visitors . . .

SWINDON TOWN



AFTER winning promotion twice in the last two years, Swindon have settled well in the higher grade.

They're among the highest scoring sides in Division 2 and they've already twice won cup ties against top-flight opponents.

Last term Lou Macari's side came up from Division 3 the hard way. Placed third at the end of the season, instead of automatic elevation they were forced to contest the play-offs for a place in the Second.

But they claimed what many saw as their rightful promotion by first beating Wigan 3-2 on aggregate then Gillingham 2-0 in a replay. Steve White's two goals at neutral Selhurst Park took the Robins back to Division 2 for the first time since 1974.

The previous season saw Town win the Division 4 title with 102 points — a League record.

Swindon began the current campaign well, winning three of their first five League outings. Scoring goals posed few problems to them as we found to our cost at the County Ground on September 26—they beat us 4-0 thanks to Tim Parkin, Chris Kamara (2) and Jimmy Quinn's penalty.

Since then they've hit four apiece against Bournemouth and Huddersfield. Even in defeat they've been good for a few as against Ipswich (2-3), Manchester City (3-4), Leeds (2-4) and Leicester (2-3). In the latter game, they were 2-0 up with eight minutes to go but Steve Berry

... with



STEVE GOLDREICH

was sent off and the home side won it in injury time.

Quinn has enjoyed a superb season so far, reaching 20 goals by the start of December. A Northern Ireland international, he also scored in his country's win over Turkey last month and to date he's bagged two hat-tricks—both in the Littlewoods Cup.

The second of those, against First Division Portsmouth, won him £200 in a bet made with manager Macari. Town capped their 3-1 win at the County Ground with a repeat scoreline at Fratton Park, Pompey old boy Dave Bamber netting twice.

Swindon put up a brave fight against Watford in round three before losing a replay 4-2 after extra-time.

Next month they face Norwich at home in the FA Cup. Besides Quinn, Robins boast another current international — England Under-21 keeper Fraser Digby. He's recently been sidelined and replaced

by loanee Tim Flowers from Southampton.

Town signed Steve Foley and Jon Gittens during the summer from Sheffield United and Southampton respectively. But Macari's best capture looks to be Bobby Barnes, who hit seven goals in his first six League games following his move from Aldershot in October.

Last month, Oldham paid £35,000 for John Kelly.

Three of Royals' current squad have links with the County Ground. Colin Gordon began his career there, scoring 34 goals in 74 League appearances before his £100,000 move to Wimbledon last year. Colin Bailie too made his League bow with them prior to coming to Elm Park in 1985, and Paul Franklin played five games on loan with them from Watford last term.

Lou Macari's assistant, John Trollope, is a Swindon stalwart through and through. He made a record 770 League appearances for the club in a period spanning the two decades up to 1980 and he had a spell himself in the manager's chair before being replaced by Ken Bea-mish.

The current campaign is shaping up to be one of the best in Swindon's 106-year history. Prior to now they've spent just seven seasons in Division 2 with a best-ever placing of fifth in 1970. That same year they won the Anglo-Italian Cup and the season before they achieved one of the League Cup's biggest upsets by beating Arsenal 3-1 at Wembley.

This morning's clash is our first at Elm Park since October, 1983, when we drew a Fourth Division game 2-2. Robins led 2-0 at the break with goals from Alan Mayes and Paul Batty, but Trevor Senior struck twice in five minutes around the hour mark to earn us a point.

FOR THE RECORD — Page 11

STAR PLAYER



JIMMY QUINN

Born Belfast, Northern Ireland international striker rejoined Swindon from Blackburn Rovers in Dec, 1986, for £50,000. Originally joined Swindon from Oswestry Town in 1982. Made 49 League appearances in first spell at County Ground before moving north to join Ewood Park club in £32,000 deal. Was first of Lou Macari's transfer deals for Swindon.



SWINDON TOWN 1987-88

(Back row, left to right): Tim Parkin, Jimmy Quinn, Fraser Digby, Chris Kamara, Nicky Hammond, Charlie Henry, Colin Calderwood. Middle: Andy Rowland (player/coach), Dave Hockaday, Phil King, Terry Merriman, Dave Bamber, Jon Gittens, John Kelly (now with Oldham), Steve White, Steve Foley, Chris Ramsey (now with Southend), Kevin Morris (physio). Front: Alan McLoughlin, Bryan Wade, Peter Coyne, Lou Macari (manager), John Trollope (assistant manager), Steve Berry (now with Aldershot), Leigh Barnard, Mark Jones. Not pictured: Bobby Barnes.

FRASER DIGBY (goalkeeper): Born Sheffield. Former Manchester United apprentice, spent two loan periods at County Ground before eventually joining club for £25,000 in Dec, 1986. Outstanding displays last season helped gain England Under-21 honours. Had previously been capped at schoolboy and youth level.

NICKY HAMMOND (goalkeeper): Born Essex. Signed on free transfer from Arsenal in July, 1987. Former Highbury keeper had brief loan period with Bristol Rovers last season where made League debut against Blackpool at Twerton Park. Also spent loan periods with Aberdeen and with Peterborough United last term without appearing in senior team.

DAVE HOCKADAY (defender): Born Billingham. Former Blackpool player moved to County Ground in Aug, 1983. After several seasons appearing in midfield or as winger, made successful transition to full-back during Swindon's Fourth Division Championship-winning season of 1985/86. Is one of only two players to remain on County Ground staff from day Lou Macari was appointed manager in July, 1984.

TERRY MERRIMAN (defender): Born Oxford. Former Coventry defender, joined County Ground staff in July, 1987, on free transfer. Joined Highfield Road club as apprentice but found appearances limited to Sky Blues Central League team last season.

ALAN McLOUGHLIN (defender): Born Manchester. Former Manchester United defender joined Swindon on free transfer in July, 1986. Did not appear in Old Trafford club's League team and made debut for Swindon against Newport at Somerton Park on Sept 6, 1986, in 2-2 draw. Spent period on loan at Torquay last season.

PHIL KING (defender): Born Bristol. Full-back joined Swindon from Torquay for £12,500 in Mar, 1987. Quickly slotted into Town defence and helped club to eventual promotion. Had been with the Plainmoor club for only few months following move from neighbours Exeter in July, 1986. Football League tribunal settled fee between two Devon clubs at £3,000.

TIM PARKIN (defender): Born Penrith. Joined Swindon from Bristol Rovers in July, 1986, for a Football League tribunal fee of £27,500. Former Rovers stalwart eventually established himself in Town defence and was prominent in helping club to promotion last season. Began career with Blackburn before moving to continent for brief spell with Swedish club Malmo. On return to League with Rovers, proved great favourite with fans at Eastville.

COLIN CALDERWOOD (defender): Born Stranraer. Had distinction of captaining Swindon to promotion in consecutive years. At start of season former Mansfield defender had not missed single match for club since £27,500 move in July, 1985. Has often been target for many of leading clubs in both England and Scotland.

JON GITTENS (defender): Born Moseley. Moved to County Ground in July, 1987, and became fifth close-season signing for Lou Macari. Former Southampton central defender cost Swindon £40,000 at Football League tribunal. Had joined Saints from non-league Birmingham outfit Paget Rangers. First attracted attention of Macari when gave a commanding display against Ian Rush when the Welsh international was with Liverpool.

CHRIS KAMARA (midfield): Born Middlesbrough. Now in second spell at County Ground, rejoined club from Brentford in Aug, 1985, for £12,500. Earlier spell with club came following move from Portsmouth in July, 1977. Celebrated 400th League appearance last season against hometown club at Ayresome Park.

PETER COYNE (midfield): Born Manchester. Following brilliant displays with England Schoolboys, joined Manchester United. Early promise declined after two senior appearances at Old Trafford and following free transfer drifted into non-league football. Eventually returned to league action with Crewe where spent four seasons. Another free transfer took him back to non-league soccer and was from Hyde United in Aug, 1984, that Lou Macari signed him for £5,000.

STEVE WHITE (striker): Born Chipping Sodbury. Allowed to join Swindon Town on free transfer from Bristol Rovers in July, 1986. Headed both League and Football Combination goalscoring charts for 1986/87 season. Had two spells with Rovers where began League career. Left Rovers after first spell in £200,000 move to Luton.

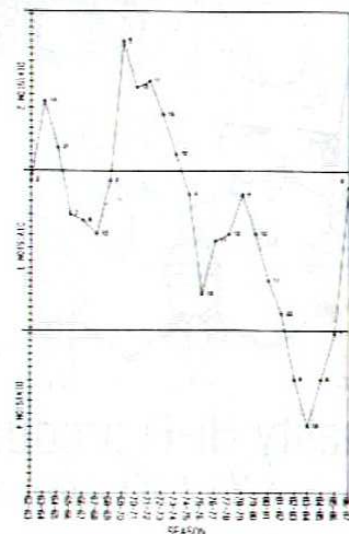
CHARLIE HENRY (midfield): Born Acton. One of Swindon's most popular players. Originally joined club as apprentice, capable of playing in variety of positions. At completion of Town's Fourth Division Championship-winning season of 1985/86, was club's leading goalscorer with 18 goals. Last season, struggled to recapture form. Spent brief loan periods with Torquay and Northampton last season.

MARK JONES (midfield): Born Berinsfield. Moved to County Ground in Oct, 1986, from Oxford United for £25,000. Joined Manor Road club as apprentice and helped meteoric rise to First Division. Spent initial loan period at County Ground before eventual signing.

STEVE FOLEY (midfield): Born Liverpool. Another of Lou Macari's close-season captures. Moved south to join Swindon from Sheffield United in July, 1987, for League tribunal fee of £35,000. Began his career as apprentice with Liverpool. Failed to make League line-up and made League debut while on loan with Fulham. Eventually given free transfer, joined Grimsby in close-season of 1984. Once again given free transfer, joined Sheffield United in July, 1985. During two seasons at Bramall Lane, made 55 League appearances. Finished last season as the Yorkshire club's leading goalscorer with nine goals.

DAVE BAMBER (striker): Born St Helens. Much travelled striker, has probably produced best soccer of career with Swindon following move from Portsmouth in March, 1986. Had previously spent loan period with club prior to £12,500 move. Began career with Blackpool and moved to Coventry City in 1983. Subsequent moves to Walsall and Portsmouth were prelude to eventual move to Swindon. Scored 19 League and cup goals last season.

Recent League Performance



Here's hoping the Royals perform as well as their supporters.



Quality Hi-Fi products available from the following local stores:
Andover Audio / AVT - Basingstoke / Berkshire Hi-Fi - Maidenhead / Frasers - Windsor & Slough /
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SWINDON TOWN 1987-88

Aug.	15	Bradford City	A	L 0-2
	18	Bristol City (LC1.1)	H	W 3-0 <i>Quinn (3)</i>
	22	Sheffield United	H	W 2-0 <i>Calderwood, Quinn</i>
	25	Bristol City (LC1.2)	A	L 2-3 <i>Bamber, Berry (pen)</i>
	29	West Bromwich Albion	A	W 2-1 <i>Kelly, Quinn</i>
	31	Hull City	H	D 0-0
Sept.	5	Middlesbrough	A	W 3-2 <i>Bamber, Quinn, Barnard</i>
	12	Birmingham City	H	L 0-2
	15	Barnsley	A	W 1-0 <i>Bamber</i>
	19	Ipswich Town	A	L 2-3 <i>Barnard, Quinn</i>
	22	Portsmouth (LC2.1)	H	W 3-1 <i>Quinn (3,1 pen)</i>
	26	Reading	H	W 4-0 <i>Parkin, Kamara (2), Quinn (pen)</i>
	29	Shrewsbury Town	H	D 1-1 <i>Quinn</i>
Oct.	3	Millwall	A	D 2-2 <i>Foley, Quinn (pen)</i>
	7	Portsmouth (LC2.2)	A	W 3-1 <i>Bamber (2), White</i>
	10	Oldham Athletic	H	W 2-0 <i>Bamber, White</i>
	20	Stoke City	H	W 3-0 <i>Quinn, White (2)</i>
	24	Crystal Palace	A	L 1-2 <i>White</i>
	28	Watford (LC3)	H	D 1-1 <i>Quinn</i>
	31	Manchester City	H	L 3-4 <i>Barnes, Bamber, Foley</i>
Nov.	3	Watford (LC3 replay)	A	L 2-4 <i>Quinn, Foley</i>
	7	Leicester City	A	L 2-3 <i>Barnes, Quinn</i>
	10	Blackburn Rovers (SC1)	A	W 2-1 <i>Gittens, Parkin</i>
	14	Plymouth Argyle	H	D 1-1 <i>Barnes</i>
	21	Leeds United	A	L 2-4 <i>Barnes (2)</i>
	28	Bournemouth	H	W 4-2 <i>Barnes, White (2), Quinn</i>
Dec	1	Huddersfield Town	H	W 4-1 <i>Barnes, Quinn, Foley (2)</i>
	5	Aston Villa	A	L 1-2 <i>Quinn (pen)</i>
	20	Sheffield United	A	L 0-1

TOWN HIT LIST

	Lge	LC	SC	Total
Jimmy QUINN	12	8	—	20
Dave BAMBER	4	3	—	7
Bobby BARNES	7	—	—	7
Steve WHITE	6	1	—	7
Steve FOLEY	4	1	—	5
Leigh BARNARD	2	—	—	2
Chris KAMARA	2	—	—	2
Tim PARKIN	1	—	1	2
Steve BERRY	—	1	—	1
Colin CALDERWOOD	1	—	—	1
Jon GITTENS	—	—	1	1
John KELLY	1	—	—	1
TOTALS	40	14	2	56

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SWINDON — THE REAL DERBY GAME

ALTHOUGH we regard games against Aldershot and Oxford United as local derbies, there is no doubt that the derby game is the one against Swindon.

This morning's game is the 41st League meeting at Elm Park and our first against them in Division 2.

In fact until our previous League game in Division 4, all of our games had been in the Third Division.

Our history against the Robins goes back long before we joined the League together in 1920, back as far as December 16, 1893, when we beat them 2-0 in the fourth qualifying round of the FA Cup. That earned us the privilege of travelling to Preston, the Liverpool of their day, and the less said about that game the better. We lost 18-0!

After playing each other in the Southern League, Swindon made it an unhappy first League Christmas by doing the double over us in 1920-21. They won here 3-2 on Christmas Day and 2-0 at the County Ground two days later. That was one of only two doubles they have achieved against us while we can claim four home-and-away wins.

We dominated the games at Elm Park after that poor start and on January 7, 1933, we notched up our best win to date. Swindon had no answer to Reading's attack, particularly in the first half, and we led 5-1 at the break.

Three of those goals came from Jack Palethorpe, his third hat-trick of the season, while Jack Oxberry and Fred Chandler got the others. In the second half, Swindon fought a brave rearguard action but could not prevent Frank Eaton and Palethorpe again from

making the final score 7-1.

On October 8, 1951, we travelled to Swindon to play a friendly under Town's new lights. It was our first-ever taste of floodlit football but it did not take our centre-forward, Ron Blackman, long to get accustomed to the lights since he scored the only goal of the game after just 25 seconds.

Probably the most unusual game took place here on February 20, 1982, when the game ended 1-1 with both goals being credited as own goals by the keepers.

We had both Steve Death and Ron Fearon out so young Colin Court, the youth team goalie, was called on for his only League game.

He did well, despite his error giving Swindon the lead, and must have been relieved when the vastly more experienced Kenny Allen returned the compliment at the other end.

Our last meeting at Elm Park came on October 29, 1983, and despite us being unbeaten at home with 24 goals in seven games, it was Swindon who led at half-time with goals from Mayes and Batty.

Two goals in quick succession from Trevor Senior after the break put us on level terms but we could not quite pierce the Swindon defence for the winner.

Reading: Judge, Williams, White, Beavon, Hicks, Wood, Duncan, Horrix, Senior, Sanchez, Crown.

Swindon: Endersby, Henry, Bailie, Batty, Gibson, Graham, Hockaday, Emmanuel, Rowland, Mayes, Barnard.

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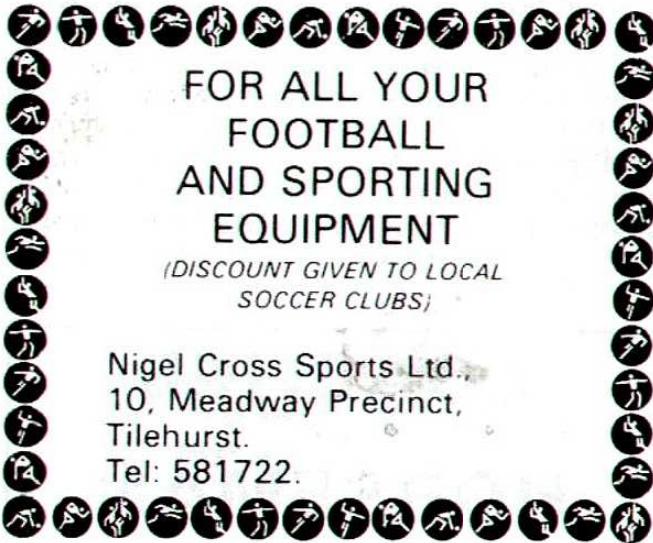
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? ? — QUIZ CORNER — ? ?

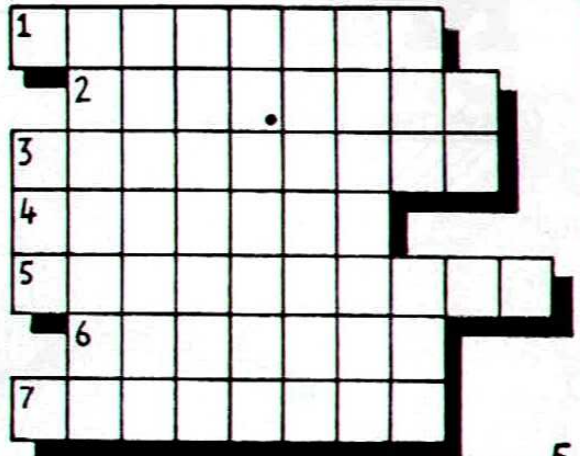
STAR IS BORN

SORT OUT THE SEVEN TEAMS AND PUT THEM INTO THEIR CORRECT PLACES. YOU WILL THEN FIND THE PLACE WHERE IAN RUSH WAS BORN READING DOWN.



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RYNBS

2 ERNO
EMSOT



3 SRDEA
NOTCA

4 AAWN
ASES

5 MRI
KKON
CAL

6 EPR
EOTNW

7 RGTI
ROBNH

Answer: Page 27



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To Plymouth Argyle, Page 27



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TODAY we are pleased to welcome Padre Bernard Bax and Alan Burns along with the Salvation Army band, who will lead the Christmas Carol singing.

Please give generously to the collection in the ground today which will be put towards the many areas of help supplied by the Salvation Army in our community.

O COME, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of angels:
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.



True God of True God,
Light of Light eternal,
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's
womb,
Son of the Father,
Begotten not created:
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.



Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above
Sing ye, "All glory
To God in the highest."
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we hail Thee,
Born this happy morning:
Jesu, to Thee be glory given,
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.



WHILE shepherds watched their
flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

"Fear not," said he (for mighty
dread
Had seized their troubled mind),
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind.

"To you, in David's town, this day
Is born of David's line
A Saviour, Who is Christ the Lord;
And this shall be the sign:

"The heavenly Babe you there shall
find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing
bands,
And in a manger laid."



Thus spake the seraph; and
forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels, praising God, and thus
Addressed their joyful song:

"All glory be to God on high,"
And to the earth be peace;
Good will henceforth from heaven
to men
Begin, and never cease!"

GOD rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born upon this day;
To save us all from Satan's
power
When we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy!



In Bethlehem in Jewry
This blessed Babe was born,
And laid within a manger,
Upon this blessed morn;
The which His mother Mary
Did nothing take in scorn.

From God our heavenly Father
A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was
born
The Son of God by name.



"Fear not," then said the angel,
"Let nothing you affright,
This day is born a Saviour
Of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in Him
From Satan's power and might."

The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding
In tempest, storm, and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straight-
way,
This blessed Babe to find.

And when to Bethlehem they came
Whereat this Infant lay,
They found Him in a manger
Where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling
Unto the Lord did pray.

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All anger should efface.



THE first Nowell the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in
fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping
their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so
deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star,
Shining in the East, beyond them
far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and
night.



And by the light of that same star,
Three wise men came from country
far;
To seek for a King was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it
went.

This star drew nigh to the north-
west,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus
lay.

Then entered in those wise men
three
Full reverently on bended knee,
And offered there, in His presence,
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankin-
cense.



Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven and earth
of nought,
And with His blood mankind hath
bought.

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DAVID DOWNS and RUSSELL KEMPSON take a seasonal look at how things aren't always what they seem to be . . .



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Saturday Afternoon Fever



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FUN



FESTIVE FUN



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▼ "Come on, ref. It wasn't that bad a miss!"

▲ "Who do you support, pal?"



Saturday Afternoon
Fever ▶



▲ Dave 'Dynamic' Downs makes a late, almost posthumous, run for the ball.



▲ "Cough, please!"



▲ "Leg before what...?"

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Today's match has no fewer than seven mascots — five for Royals and two for Robins. Introducing . . .



ROYALS' FAMOUS FIVE



NICOLA PALMER

NICOLA is ten years old and goes to Hockley Heath Primary School, Solihull, West Midlands. Her Favourite teams are Reading and Nottingham Forest and her favourite player is Gary Lineker. Nicola's hobbies are playing the piano and trumpet and looking after her pet chickens!



GEOFFREY PALMER

GEOFFREY is eight years old and attends George Watson's College in Edinburgh, Scotland. His favourite team is Liverpool and his favourite player Gary Stevens. His hobbies are drawing, model making and football.



STUART HEMPSON-JONES

STUART is just six years old and goes to the High Hurstwood Church of England School in Sussex. His favourite team is Reading and apparently one of his main hobbies is eating!



DARREN TEES

DARREN is 12 years old and lives in Hemdean Road, Caversham. He goes to Highdown School, Emmer Green. He has a 14-year-old brother Christopher and several pets — a rabbit called Ben, a cat called Shandy and six goldfish (one is called Kevin after former Royals striker Kevin Bremner!). Darren has been supporting Reading for six years and will miss watching them when he and his family move to Devon in the New Year.



JAMES CREW

JAMES was nine years old last Tuesday and lives near Elm Park in Tilehurst Road. He plays football for the English Martyrs Parish team and is a keen follower of Royals. His favourite players are Gary Westwood and Dean Horrix. He also likes most other sports.

ROBINS' TOP TWO



RICHARD TIMMS

RICHARD is 13 and lives in Beech House, Gosditch, Ashton Keynes. He attends Braden Forest School in Purton, Swindon. He plays football for Purton Under-14s, his school team and the Swindon Town 'Transplant' Junior Robins. His favourite players are Bobby Barnes and Glenn Hoddle and his favourite teams are Swindon and Tottenham. Richard's hobbies are windsurfing, waterskiing and boating.

JUSTIN SERCOME

JUSTIN is 16 years old and goes to North Star College, Swindon. He plays football for Aldbourne Park. His favourite players are Steve Foley and Charlie Nicholas and his favourite clubs Swindon and Arsenal.

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MARK on the MIKE



Mark Gonnella, Radio 210's roving Royals reporter, airs his views . . .

AT THIS festive time there's talk around Elm Park that the Messiah is on his way back to the club . . . in the form of striker Trevor Senior.

It's certainly a bold move by manager Ian Branfoot to try to bring the Watford player back to the club and although Dave Bassett has put the loan deal on ice for the time being, there certainly seems a chance of Senior returning to Reading in the New Year.

Let's face it, it can't do any harm.

MERRY Christmas to you all — hope you're enjoying the holiday!

I'm with you in print only for the two home matches over the festive period (what's that I hear, a sigh of relief?!).

Someone's got to be working back at Radio 210 and guess who it is?

I'm reading the news today and presenting the sports programme on January 2.

I must be honest, these are two games I really wanted to see but duty calls.

With a little luck, Mr T Tucker from Newbury will be joining us

today as a "Director for the Day".

Mr Tucker correctly answered my last question, which was: "Name the Swindon manager".

Lou Macari is, of course, the answer and Mr Tucker's entry was first out of the hat.

But thanks to everyone who entered, especially Mrs S Smith of Sonning Common for her colourful card.

I've also had a special dedication from Mrs Williams of Theale.

She wants a record played today for Swindon fans Eva & Pauline from Margaret, Ron & Ian.

A few goals from the man who's broken all previous scoring records here would be like manna from heaven for Royals while Senior himself, who has had such a tough time adjusting to First Division life, would welcome the chance to get his sights back on target.

Having said that, despite the lack of goals at Elm Park, Royals have been finding the net pretty regularly on their travels.

The problems have really been at the other end where the pressure of being bottom of the table so often bears its greatest influence.

The magic ingredient, of course, is confidence and at the moment Royals have all the self-belief of a man walking a tightrope for the first time.

But Christmas has a habit of turning the formbook upside down so if Royals are to escape from the foot of the table then now's the time to start.

The Elm Park management refuse to set points targets but I reckon a minimum of 50 are needed if Royals are to avoid the drop.

That means a few three-point hauls over the festive season to put them on the way up in the New Year —starting against local rivals Swindon this afternoon.



Don't forget the address for dedications: JR In the Box, Radio 210, PO Box 210, Reading RG3 5RZ.



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have success in the second half
of the season***

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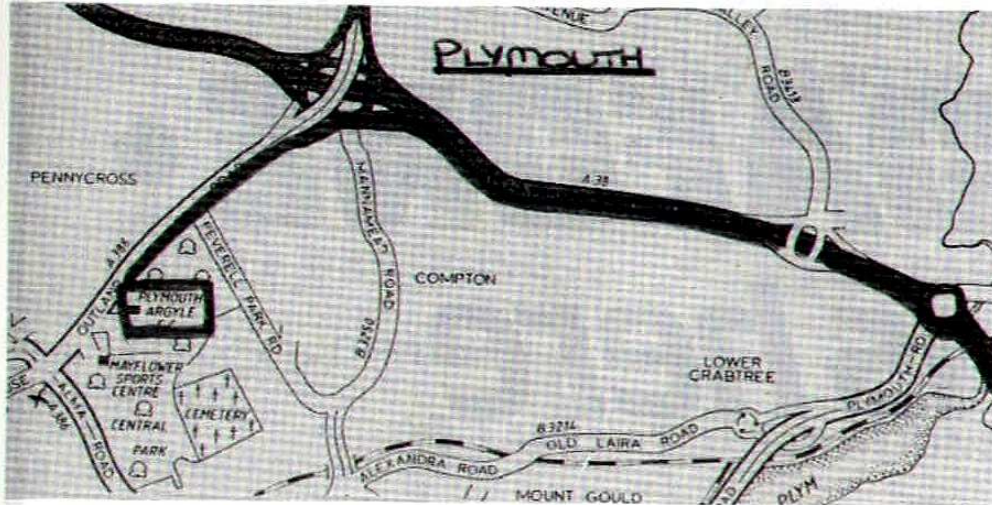
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QUIZ ANSWER (Page 15): Ian Rush was born in St Asaph, North Wales

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GRAVITY PERSONNEL

Kiren Sharma is head of one of the fastest growing recruitment agencies in Berkshire.

Gravity Personnel, operating out of West Street, Reading, specialise in Engineering and Technical recruitment. They pride themselves on being able to meet recruitment needs in double-quick time.

Kiren controls his business personally and is more often than not to be found at his desk in the early hours of the morning until late into the night.

His interest in Reading Football Club started when he was persuaded to buy an Executive Box. He is now considered to be a fervent supporter.

Today, Kiren has most kindly played host to 20 old age pensioners who are visiting Elm Park for today's game. They will be entertained before the game and will meet all the players and directors.

Kiren's interest in sport doesn't stop at football.

An international cricketer in his own right having played for Kenya, he is also a very good hockey player and plays for the Phoenix Club, who he sponsors.

His cricket prowess manifested itself twice during the summer just past. His company team played a Reading FC XI and they lost the first game by "a street" with Kiren left in utter dismay mumbling "I should have won the toss — that would have made all the difference." Meanwhile, opposing captain Mike Lewis superbly generalised his troops and at the same time very cleverly organised events so that he didn't have to bat or bowl!

The second game saw all Kiren's attributes blossom. He lost the toss — took the field with nine players and still won by six wickets.

Seriously, Mr Sharma is spearheading business support for all sport in the town. Today he combines that facet with another gesture. His compassion for old people takes many forms. Today is just one of them.

With the Penta Group sponsoring a party of disadvantaged youngsters for today's game, we are experiencing at first hand the non-commercial aspect of the town's leading companies.

Their consideration for people other than customers can only be applauded and Reading Football Club are delighted to be associated with today's activities.

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BADGE OF PRIDE

THE North Hampshire branch of the Reading FC Supporters Club has launched a three-part competition for artistic young fans to come up with designs for three enamel lapel badges.

They want designs for: a branch badge which must incorporate the words 'Reading F.C.S.C. (North Hants Branch)'; a badge commemorating Reading's 1985-86 Third Division title win; and one marking their 13 consecutive wins at the start of that epic season.

The competition is open to all schoolchildren of all ages from the Berkshire and North Hampshire area and the only restriction is that your designs should each consist of no more than three colours.

Run in conjunction with Reading FC, the winners will get £10 plus a framed copy of their design, four free tickets to the game when the prizes are presented and a year's free membership of the North Hants branch. All entrants will get free branch membership for next season.

The judges will be Ian Branfoot, skipper Martin Hicks, managing director Mike Lewis, marketing executive Annie Bassett, 1986-87 Branch Player of the Year Les Taylor, branch membership secretary Howard Flitter, and Barry White of the Association of British Badge Collectors.

Send your entries, remembering to write your name and address and intended category on the reverse of each, to: Design a Badge Competition, Reading Football Club, Elm Park, Norfolk Road, Reading RG3 2EF, by Friday, February 26, 1988.

CAR PARKING, GOLDEN GATE and FIRST DIVISION SOCIETY

Details of these schemes are available from Annie Bassett in the commercial office or ring Reading 507879.

1987-88 BOX HOLDERS: Penta Cars, Agrequip Ltd., IDS Mortgage Centre, Collins Dryland & Thorowgood, ANC (Reading), Horseman Coaches, Associated Asphalt, Anchor Press, Gravity Personnel, Hurst Publishing, J. M. Jones, "The Consultants," Denton & Gibson, Reading Sporting Club, Courage, Brain & Brain, Moran Plasterers, H.A.T. Painting, Reading Taxis.

Our Executive Box space is now nearly full and we would like to thank people for their support with this facility. Abbey National sponsors for Coronettes Club; Ramada Hotel sponsors for Family Enclosure; Burger King SAFE Campaign sponsors.

Our sincere thanks to Nigel Cross for Souvenir and information outlets.



Leeds fans receive a right royal welcome at Elm Park in the match against Leeds United recently. The picture above shows the fans on the pitch at half-time. Copies of the photograph have been sent to Leeds FC.

LIVING West Street, Reading

ROYALS' programmes and tickets will be available from the Living Store, Reading. Tickets for matches will be available from 18th January, 1988 onwards and programmes will be obtainable on Friday afternoons prior to our home matches.

And don't forget souvenirs and kits are available from Astral Sports in the Living Store.



**ABBNEY
NATIONAL
BUILDING SOCIETY**

"SKETCH STEVE" COMPETITION

We are delighted to announce the winners of the Royals Christmas Painting Competition, sponsored by Abbey National Building Society, who sponsor the Coronettes Club. The winners were: 1st — Sandra Clary from Earley; 2nd Prize — Jonathon Allamby.

The prizes will be presented today.

ROYALS SHOOT-OUT

YOUTH teams are invited to enter the Reading FC shoot-out competition. There are two age groups — UNDER 13 and UNDER 15 — and all teams must be fully affiliated to their County Football Association and be competing in a recognised league.

The date for age qualifying is that set by the league in which the team plays.

The 'Shoot-out' is a 'forward v goalkeeper' situation. The forward starts from a marker placed 30 yards from the goal and has eight seconds to beat the keeper, who MUST NOT leave the penalty area. Other than that there are no restrictions.

If the keeper parries the shot and the ball runs loose, the forward can follow up the shot and score — provided the ball enters the goal within the eight seconds.

The shoot-out fixtures will take place at half-time during Royals' Division 2 games throughout the remainder of the season.

The competition will be run on a 'World Cup' style with two groups and the top team in each group will contest the final, competing for the CJ Tours Trophy.

Entry is FREE and on a first come, first served basis. It will be limited to six teams in each age group so hurry! Send your entries to Annie Bassett at Reading FC, Norfolk Road, Reading.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

with ALAN SEDUNARY

CHRISTMAS THROUGH THE YEARS

1892 — *Captain on thin ice*

READING played their first game against professional opponents on December 27, 1892, when Burslem Port Vale came to the Caversham Cricket Ground where we played our home games.

Despite having seven players unavailable Reading pulled off a shock 2-1 win with goals from Ward and Dearden, whose winner came four minutes from time. Burslem had insisted on a guarantee of £20 to play the game and this was raised by record gate receipts of £24.5s.6d! After the game there was much criticism of our captain, Deane, who preferred to go skating rather than play in this historic game.

1906 — *Snow fun at Elm Park*

SIXTY fans worked all morning to clear the pitch so our Boxing Day fixture against Brentford could go ahead. But unfortunately their efforts were in vain. The game eventually went ahead the following day and the fans got their reward as Reading won the Southern League game 4-0.

1920 — *Not a merry Christmas*

THERE wasn't much Christmas spirit at Elm Park on Christmas Eve, 1920, because the directors gave the manager, Harry Marshall, the most unwanted Christmas present — the sack. This event was considered so unimportant that the *Chronicle* covered it in just 2½ lines. It didn't have much effect on the team either as we lost our first League meeting with Swindon at Elm Park the following day.

1922 — *What's the score*

IN THE dying seconds of our Christmas Day fixture at Southend, Reading were awarded a penalty so the referee extended the normal 90 minutes to allow the kick to be taken by Jerry Poulton. Although the keeper stopped his spot-kick, Poulton followed up to net the rebound and everyone went home thinking he had scored. Many fans only realised the next day when the papers revealed that the ref had disallowed the goal as he had blown for time as soon as the keeper blocked his penalty kick. It did not affect the result as we were losing 3-1 at the time anyway.

1938 — *Off and on*

WHEN Reading arrived at Walsall on Boxing Day, they found the pitch covered with snow and unplayable, so the players were allowed to spend the afternoon in the town. To everyone's surprise, the referee declared the game could go ahead so Reading manager Billy Butler had to phone the theatres and cinemas to get his team back!

This proved hardly the ideal preparation for the game and Walsall won 3-0 for only their second victory of the season.

There was fun and games at Elm Park that day when fans pelted the ref with snowballs after he had given two penalties against the reserves.

1948 — *Should have been Boxing Day*

AFTER a bruising Christmas Day match at Elm Park, Reading and Swansea played the return game two days later. But some of the feuds had not been forgotten. Both sides ended up with nine men — our captain, Tony MacPhee, plus Swansea's Irish international duo, Feeny and Driscoll being sent off while Ron Moyse was carried off. In one incident every player except Swansea's keeper was involved in a fight in the Reading box after George Marks had saved Roy Paul's penalty. Despite this miss, Swansea still went on to win the game 2-1.

1955 — *League debut a piece of cake*

READING turned their form round, going unbeaten in December after taking only one point in all of October and November. At Brentford on Boxing Day, the home club left a blue-and-white cake in our dressing room and this was given to 18-year-old full-back Ray Hudson who was making his debut. Ray must have felt he needed to show his gratitude on the pitch for he gave away a penalty. But David Jones saved the kick and spared Ray's blushes. We ended up sharing the points with Tommy Dixon getting both our goals in a 2-2 draw.

TODAY'S THE DAY

NOT surprisingly, December 26 has been the most frequent date on which we have played since joining the League in 1920.

In all we have played 48 League games on Boxing Day out of 60 seasons, 20 of those games being staged at Elm Park.

Our record on today's date is formidable, with just one home defeat and 13 victories plus six on our travels.

Swindon have played us only twice on this date, both games ending in 1-1 draws in consecutive years at Swindon in 1924 and here a year later.

Our most popular Boxing Day opponents have been Bournemouth with six fixtures on this date, although not all of the games have been local derbies.

Bradford City have been our most distant visitors while we have been forced to face such journeys as Blackpool, Stockport, Barnsley and Plymouth.

Our best win came in 1947 when we beat Leyton Orient 6-2 while in our first spell in Division 2 Boxing Day gave us a 4-3 win over Spurs in 1928 and a 5-2 success against Nottingham Forest two years later.

In Reserve

SUNDAY MIRROR COMBINATION

Aug.	22	Luton Town	H	L 1-3	King
	25	Portsmouth	A	L 3-6	Bashir (2), Chatterley
Sept.	5	Tottenham Hotspur	A	L 0-2	
	9	Millwall	H	D 2-2	Coleman (og), Horrix
	12	Swindon Town	H	L 1-2	Goodenough
	18	Norwich City	A	L 1-6	Gilkes
	26	Fulham	H	L 1-2	King
Oct.	10	Chelsea	A	W 3-2	Joseph, White (2)
	13	Southampton	H	D 1-1	Joseph
	21	Brighton & Hove A.	A	L 1-2	Joseph
	31	Watford	H	L 1-7	Joseph
Nov.	7	Ipswich Town	H	L 2-3	Joseph (2pens)
	12	Oxford United	A	L 1-2	Smillie
	21	Arsenal	H	L 0-5	
	25	Crystal Palace	A	W 2-1	Moran (2)
	28	West Ham United	A	L 0-1	
Dec.	2	Charlton Athletic	H	L 1-2	Goodenough
	8	Queen's Park Rangers	A	L 1-2	King
	16	Newbury Town (BBSC Rd1)	A	W 6-0	Joseph (4), Horrix (2,1pen)
	19	Bristol Rovers	H	W 5-1	Bashir, Weston(og), Head, Smillie, Friel
Jan.	9	Luton Town	A		
	16	Portsmouth	H		
	26	Millwall	A		
	30	Tottenham Hotspur	H		
Feb.	6	Norwich City	H		
	9	Swindon Town	A		
	16	Fulham	A		
	27	Crystal Palace	H		
Mar.	5	Southampton	A		
	9	Chelsea	H		
	16	Brighton & Hove A.	H		
	19	Watford	A		
	26	Oxford United	H		
	30	Ipswich Town	A		
Apr.	9	Arsenal	A		
	16	West Ham United	H		
	23	Queen's Park Rangers	H		
	26	Charlton Athletic	A		
May	3	Bristol Rovers	A		

● BBSC — Berks & Bucks Senior Cup

To be arranged: v Aylesbury (BBSC Rd2) (A)

COMBINATION ROLL CALL

	Apps	Gls		Apps	Gls
G. Westwood	12	-	K. Blackwell	9+1	-
P. Taylor	12+1	-	D. Seeburg	1	-
R. Goodenough	10	2	M. Gilkes	6	1
P. Franklin	13	-	F. Joseph	11	10
L. D'Arcy	8	-	M. White	6	2
M. Kearney	10	-	C. Bailie	7	-
N. Bashir	16	2	P. Davis	10+3	-
K. Cox	3	-	M. Tait	1	-
A. King	9+1	3	D. Horrix	6	3
A. Chatterley	12	1	S. Henderson	0+1	-
P. Canoville	5	-	S. Head	13	-
S. Beavon	3	-	R. Cox	4	-
J. Williams	3	-	D. Hook	5	-
G. Peters	3	-	P. Aust	0+1	-
N. Smillie	3	1	S. Francis	1	-
G. Friel	2+2	-	N. Gray	1	-
S. Taylor	0+1	-	S. Moran	1	2
A. Williams	0+1	-	D. Madden	2	-
S. Richardson	1	-	L. Jones	1	-

(up to and including Wednesday, December 16)
(BBSC included)

SEVEN UP!

Oxford City Youth 0,
Reading Youth 7

ROYALS eased to their biggest Allied Counties Youth League West Division win of the season over bottom club Oxford City.

The opening exchanges were very poor but Royals then exploded into life with four goals in the last eight minutes of the half.

Adrian Williams opened the floodgates following a pass from Ryan Cleverley and Steve Butler made it 2-0 after good work by Stuart Lovell. After 41 minutes the City keeper saved well to deny Butler but Cleverley was on hand to sweep home the rebound.



● Adrian Williams — opener

Chris Seymour fired in the fourth from a Butler cross just before the interval. Royals continued to press forward in the second period and were rewarded again in the 67th minute when Lovell scored after a neat one-two with debutant Justin Plank.

Five minutes later, substitute Paul Saunders also got on the scoresheet with Butler once more the provider.

Butler himself grabbed Royals' seventh and his second from a Wayne Shaw cross four minutes from time.

Reading Youth: Hook, Watson, Shaw, Aust, Holtzman, Cleverley, Plank (Saunders), Seymour, A. Williams (Mallins), Butler, Lovell.

LATE CHOKER

Reading Res 1,
Charlton Res 2

ROYALS missed out on a share of the Football Combination honours when Charlton snatched a late goal at Elm Park.

It started brightly for them though, when they went 1-0 ahead with just ten minutes gone.

A shot from Andy King was parried by the keeper and Russell Goodenough followed up to score.

But Charlton equalised five minutes from half-time after a mix-up between Gary Westwood and defender Steve Head.

Royals struggled to find any cohesion after the break and the Londoners grabbed the winner in the 80th minute.

Reading Res: Westwood, Blackwell, Head, Bashir, Kearney, Franklin, J. Williams, Joseph, King (Davis), White, Goodenough.

COMBINATION CHECK

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Watford	16	13	1	2	39	12	27
Arsenal	16	11	1	4	36	13	23
Tottenham	15	11	1	3	37	17	23
Q.P.R.	15	10	1	4	32	17	21
Norwich	14	9	2	3	36	19	20
Southampton	17	9	2	6	36	20	20
Chelsea	16	7	4	5	31	19	18
Portsmouth	13	8	2	3	32	23	18
Luton	15	8	2	5	34	26	18
Millwall	16	6	5	5	28	18	17
West Ham	15	7	2	6	25	24	16
Oxford Utd.	16	7	2	7	34	40	16
Ipswich	15	4	6	5	26	24	14
Charlton	15	4	3	8	17	29	11
Brighton	16	5	1	10	16	37	11
Swindon	13	4	1	8	19	35	9
Fulham	15	3	3	9	23	46	9
Reading	17	2	2	13	21	49	6
C. Palace	14	2	1	11	8	33	5
Bristol Rovers	17	1	2	14	17	46	4

(up to and including Saturday, December 5)

ALLIED COUNTIES ROLL CALL

	Apps	Gls		Apps	Gls
D. Hook	7	-	M. Mallins	5+1	-
S. Nightingale	5	-	S. Brookes	1+1	-
A. Russell	1	-	D. Callaghan	3-2	2
P. Aust	9	1	G. Stevens	7	-
A. Williams	7	2	P. Luck	5+1	-
R. Cleverley	6	1	S. Parr	0+2	-
S. Lovell	9	5	D. Meli	2+2	2
S. Butler	7	5	G. Friel	1	1
M. Caldwell	4+1	2	G. Glover	0+1	-
J. Chambers	1	-	R. Whitewick	3+1	-
N. Cummins	1	-	S. Holtzman	3	1
P. Saunders	1+1	1	D. Watson	1-1	-
C. Seymour	3+1	2	W. Shaw	3	1
K. Kelly	1	-	J. Plank	1	-
J. Major	1	1	S. Madden	1	-

(up to and including Wednesday, December 5)

The Young Ones

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE DIVISION 2

Aug.	15	Swindon Town	A	L 1-6	Goodenough
	19	Luton Town	H	D 1-1	Davis
	22	Brentford	H	W 3-1	Callaghan, Friel, Shaw
	26	Brighton & Hove A.	A	D 0-0	
	29	Northampton Town	H	L 0-6	
Sept.	2	Weymouth (FAYC Prelim Rd.)	A	W 15-0	P.Taylor(2), Friel(4), Davis(4), King(2), Bashir(3)
	5	Colchester United	H	W 4-3	Shaw (2), Lovell, Friel
	7	Oxford United	A	W 3-2	Chatterley, Davis, Friel
	12	Bournemouth	A	D 1-1	Lovell
	19	Bristol City (SECLC Rd1)	A	W 7-2	Davis (2) A. Williams (2), Blackwell, Butler, Luck
	21	Brighton (SJFC Rd1)	H	W 6-1	P.Taylor(2), Davis(2), Butler, S.Taylor
	23	Newbury (FAYC 1st Qual Rd.)	A	D 1-1	Shaw
	26	Southampton	H	L 0-9	
	30	Newbury (FAYC 1st Qual Rd. replay)	H	W 6-1	Davis (3, 1pen), King (2), P. Taylor
Oct.	3	Crystal Palace	A	W 3-2	A. Williams, King, S. Taylor
	8	Romsey (FAYC 2nd Qual Rd.)	H	D 1-1	S. Taylor
	10	Bristol Rovers	H	L 0-5	
	17	Wimbledon	A	L 1-2	P. Taylor
	24	Tottenham Hotspur	H	L 0-1	
	28	Romsey (FAYC 2nd Qual Rd. replay)	A	W 2-0	Chatterley, Friel
	31	Southampton (SECLC Rd2)	A	L 1-2	King
Nov.	2	Aston Villa (SJFC Rd2)	A	L 1-6	King
	7	Luton Town	A	L 0-3	
	9	Oxford United (FAYC Rd1)	H	W 4-0	Friel (3), P. Taylor
	14	Bristol City	H	D 1-1	P. Taylor
	21	Swindon Town	H	L 0-3	
Dec.	5	Brentford	A	L 1-2	A. Williams
	12	Hornsea (FAYC Rd2)	A	D 1-1	King
	17	Hornsea (FAYC Rd2 replay)	H	W 5-1	Bashir, P.Taylor, Shaw, King, S.Taylor
Jan.	2	Northampton Town	A		
	9	Oxford United	H		
	16	Colchester United	A		
	23	Bournemouth	H		
	30	Southampton	A		
Feb.	6	Crystal Palace	A		
	13	Bristol Rovers	A		
	20	Wimbledon	H		
	27	Tottenham Hotspur	A		
Mar.	12	Bristol City	A		

To be arranged: v Brighton (H), v Notts County (FAYC Rd3) (H)
 ● FAYC - FA Youth Cup, SECLC - South East Counties League Cup, SJFC - Southern Junior Floodlit Cup

Allied Counties Youth League West Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Basingstoke Town	9	7	1	1	36	19	22
Reading	9	6	1	2	27	10	19
Hungerford Town	10	6	0	4	29	17	18
Marlow	9	5	0	4	24	25	15
Newbury Town	8	4	1	3	16	20	13
Wokingham Town	9	3	0	6	20	14	9
Camberley Town	9	2	1	6	6	16	7
Oxford City	11	1	2	8	11	48	5

East Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slough Town	10	6	2	2	21	12	20
Staines Town	6	5	1	0	15	1	16
Uxbridge	6	5	0	1	16	1	15
Ruislip Manor	6	5	0	1	22	8	15
Egham Town	10	4	1	5	16	15	13
Chertsey Town	9	3	1	5	13	18	10
Maidenhead Utd	9	2	2	5	15	25	8
Feltham	9	2	1	6	9	18	7
Hounslow	9	1	0	8	4	33	3

(up to and including Wednesday, December 9)

West Ham Res 1, Reading Res 0

ROYALS fell to a controversial penalty decision on their Football Combination visit to Upton Park.

They played with a lot of promise in the first half but were rocked five minutes from the break when Kelly Blackwell was harshly adjudged to have fouled an opponent in the home area.

Hammers tucked home the resultant spot-kick and were only denied further goals by some fine saves from keeper Gary Westwood in the second half. Royals also created a few chances but failed to take them.

Reading Res: Westwood, Blackwell, Goodenough, Franklin, Kearney, R. Cox, Head, Davis, King (S. Taylor), Bashir, Friel.

Brentford Youth 2, Reading Youth 1

ROYALS' miserable South East Counties League Division 2 run stretched to seven matches without a win with this defeat at Brentford.

They started well with Adrian Williams firing them in front after 25 minutes.

But the young Bees were back on level terms soon after following a poor clearance from keeper David Hook.

Brentford went on to clinch victory with a goal midway through the second half.

Reading Youth: Hook, Blackwell, R. Cox, Shaw, Goodenough, A. Williams, S. Taylor, Bashir, Friel, Davis, King (Aust). Sub: Cleverley (not used).

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES ROLL CALL

	Apps	Gls		Apps	Gls
M. Cummins	8	-	A. Williams	10+6	4
P. Taylor	20	9	D. Edwards	3	-
K. Blackwell	22+2	1	P. Aust	8+3	-
R. Cox	27	-	M. Caldicott	2	-
W. Shaw	28	5	D. Callaghan	2+3	1
A. Chatterley	18	2	R. Cleverley	5+3	-
S. Taylor	28	4	T. Williams	0+1	-
A. King	19	9	S. Lovell	6+2	2
P. Davis	19	13	D. Lamont	1+1	-
N. Bashir	19	4	D. Hook	14	-
R. Goodenough	19	1	P. Luck	2+3	1
G. Friel	19+3	11	G. Stevens	4-1	-
J. Giles	7	-	S. Nightingale	0+1	-
S. Butler	9+2	2	P. Beech	1	-
			C. Seymour	0+1	-

(up to and including Thursday, December 17)
 (Figures include League and Cups)

QPR Res 2, Reading Res 1

READING slipped to their third successive Football Combination reverse on the artificial surface at Loftus Road.

David Madden, the former Arsenal and Southampton midfielder, made a promising first showing for Royals before being substituted 20 minutes from the end.

Earlier on, Royals had gone 1-0 up when Andy King found the net with a low drive from the edge of the area.

But Rangers levelled on the half-hour — a deflection giving keeper Gary Westwood no chance — and they went 2-1 ahead approaching half-time.

Reading Res: Westwood, Blackwell, Goodenough, Madden (Friel), R. Cox, Franklin, Bashir, Joseph, King, Head, Smillie.

ALLIED COUNTIES YOUTH LEAGUE WEST DIVISION

Sept.	9	Hungerford	W 2-1	A. Williams, Lovell
	16	Camberley	W 1-0	Callaghan
Oct.	5	Newbury	D 1-1	Friel
	14	Oxford City	W 6-1	Aust, Meli, Butler(2), Lovell, Caldicott
	28	Hungerford	L 2-4	Holtzman, Meli (pen)
Nov.	18	Marlow	W 5-0	Lovell, Shaw, Caldicott, Callaghan, Butler
	23	Newbury	L 2-3	Lovell, Seymour
Dec.	2	Oxford City	W 7-0	A. Williams, Butler(2), Cleverley, Seymour, Lovell, Saunders
	9	Wokingham	W 1-0	Major
	23	Camberley		
	30	Wokingham		
Jan.	6	Marlow		
	18	Basingstoke		

● All games away from home
 ● To be arranged: v Basingstoke

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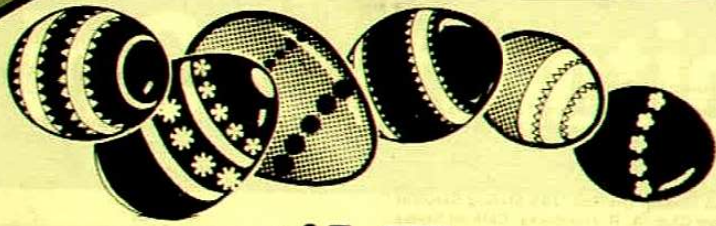
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DEMONSTRATORS		Retail Price	Weekly Equiv	OTHER MAKES		Retail Price	Weekly Equiv
Montego 2.0Si, 1987/D two-tone white/grey, alloys, radio cassette, one owner, under 7,000 miles		£7195	£46.19	Ford Fiesta 950 Pop Plus, 1987/D, one owner, red, rear seat belts		£4695	£30.14
Montego 2.0HL auto, blue, ex-demo, velour trim, 1987/D, radio cassette, under 7,000 miles		£7485	£48.11	Renault 5GTL, 3 door, 1987/D, one owner, red, radio, rear belts		£5195	£33.34
Montego 2.0HL auto, white, ex-demo, velour trim, 1987/D, radio cassette, under 7,000 miles		£7485	£48.11	Escort 1.4GL, 1986/D, blue, one owner, ABS brakes, radio cassette		£5995	£38.48
Montego 2.0HL Estate auto, 1987/D, ex-demo, blue, split rear seats, electric mirrors, under 10,000 miles		£7895	£50.68	Cavalier 1.6i Hatchback, 1986/D, white, 1987 spec, one owner		£5995	£38.48
Montego 2.0HL auto, 1987/D, white, radio cassette, one owner, velour trim, under 10,000 miles		£7695	£49.40	AUSTIN ROVER			
Maestro 1.6 Vanden Plas, 1987/D, ex-demo, blue, sunroof, electric windows, central locking, radio cassette, under 5,000 miles		£6995	£44.90	Montego 1.5HL Estate auto, 1986/D, ex-demo, blue, radio cassette, velour trim		£6295	£37.77
Maestro City 1.3, 1987/D, ex-demo, beige, radio, rear wash/wipe, folding rear seats, under 6,000 miles		£4995	£32.06	Montego 2.0EFI Vanden Plas, 1985/B, one owner, silver, leather, alloys, many extras		£3865	£33.37
Maestro City 1.3, 1987/D, ex-demo, red, radio, rear wash/wipe, rear seat belts, under 6,000 miles		£4895	£32.06	Montego MG 2.0EFI, 1986/D, silver, one owner, alloys, electric windows, radio cassette, sports trim		£7745	£45.47
Maestro 1.3L, 1987/D, ex-demo, blue, radio cassette, split seats, under 6,000 miles		£5795	£37.19	Montego 1.6L, 1986/C, gold, radio cassette		£3995	£23.97
Metro 1.3L, 3-door, 1987/E, ex-demo, red, rear belts, split seats, under 6,000 miles		£4995	£32.05	Maestro 1.6 Mayfair, 1986/C, one owner, gold, central locking, electric windows, velour trim		£4895	£29.37
AUSTIN ROVER				MG Maestro EFI, 1986/D, red, one owner, sunroof, alloys		£2395	£14.97
Montego 1.5HL Estate auto, 1986/D, one owner, gold, radio cassette		£5995	£38.48	Maestro 1.3L, 1983/A, brown, split seats, 5-door		£2995	£17.97
Montego 2.0 Mayfair Estate auto, red, 1987/D, ex-demo, electric windows, many extras		£7495	£48.11	Metro 1.3L, B reg, 3-door, blue, r/w/a, radio		£3795	£22.77
MG Montego 2.0EFI, 1987/D, one owner, white, alloys, sports trim, electric windows, central locking		£7995	£51.32	Metro 1.0 HLE, 1986/C, 3-door, dark brown, radio, split seats, cloth trim, v/c condition		£3895	£23.37
Montego 1.5L, 1987/D, two-tone blue and grey, radio, 5-speed, rear belts		£6295	£40.41	Metro 1.8L, 3-door, 1985/C, one owner, red, rear wash/wipe, radio, cloth trim		£4995	£28.17
Maestro City X 1.3, 1987/D, one owner, blue, radio, rear belts, split seats		£5295	£33.99	Metro 1.8L, 3-door, 1986/D, ex-demo, beige, split seats, rear belts		£3895	£23.37
Maestro City X 1.3, 1987/D, one owner, white, radio, rear belts, split seats		£5295	£33.99	Metro 1.0 City X, 1986/D, 3-door, radio, cloth trim		£4495	£26.97
Maestro 1.6 Mayfair, 1987/D, blue, one owner, sunroof, electric windows, central locking		£6705	£43.04	Rover 2135, 1986/D, one owner, blue, radio cassette, velour trim, 5-speed		£3995	£23.97
Mini Advantage, 1987/E, red, one owner, low mileage, limited edition		£4495	£28.85	Rover 213, 1986/D, one owner, blue, radio cassette, velour trim, 5-speed		£5199	£37.17
Rover Sterling, 1987/E, one owner, 2-tone red/grey, air con, leather, elec seats, pas, ABS		£16,995	£109.10	Rover 2165, 1985/C, metallic green, radio cassette, velour trim		£4895	£29.97
Rover 820Si, 1987/D, one owner, silver, electric windows, central locking, radio cassette, pas		£12,695	£81.50	Rover 3500 Vanden Plas auto, 1986/C, electric windows, sunroof, pas, alloys		£8995	£53.97
Rover 820i, 1986/D, grey, electric windows, central locking, radio cassette, pas		£10,695	£68.65	OTHER MAKES AVAILABLE			
Rover 820Si, 1986/D, one owner, manual, bronze, electric windows, central locking, radio cassette, pas		£12,695	£81.50	Vauxhall Cavalier 1.6 Hatch, 1986/C, one owner, blue, 5-speed, radio cassette		£5195	£31.17
Rover 820Si, 1987/E, ex-demo, blue, s/roof		£12,995	£83.41	Renault 11GTL, 5-door, 1984/A, beige, 5-speed, radio, cloth trim		£3695	£21.97
Rover 825i auto, 1987/D, metallic green, sunroof, electric windows, central locking		£12,995	£83.41	Lotus Esprit Turbo, 1986/D, metallic blue, leather, air cond, lsh		£19,995	£119.97
				Nissan Sunny 1.3ES, 4-door, 1985/C, one owner, red, 5-speed, radio		£4995	£27.57
				TVR 390 Roadster, 1985/B, blue, alloys, half leather		£14,500	£87.00
				VW Passat GLS Hatch, 1985/S, radio cassette, one owner, gold		£5995	£35.97
				Escort 1.6GL, 1985/C, black, one owner, radio cassette, velour trim		£4995	£29.97
				Escort 1.3GL, 1985/C, blue, one owner, radio cassette, split seats		£4895	£29.97
				Escort 1.6GL, 1985/C, auto, maroon, 5-door, radio cassette		£6495	£38.97
				Renault 5TS, 1983/A, silver, 3-door, radio		£2895	£16.17
				Mazda RX7, 1986/C, one owner, alloys, radio cassette, red, low mileage		£11,995	£71.97
				Peugeot 309GR, 1986/C, red, one owner, radio, split seats		£4995	£29.97
				Cavalier Commander Hatchback, 1985/C, alloys, sports trim, alloys		£4995	£29.97
				Fiat Uno 55S 5-door, 1985/B, one owner, lints, radio, rear wash/wipe		£3995	£23.97
				Ford Orion Ghia I, 1984/B, black, factory roof, a/windows, 5 speed		£5995	£35.97
				Orion Cherry 1.0 DX 3-door, 1982/A, black, radio, cloth trim		£2995	£17.97
				Volvo 340GL 5-door, 1985/C, one owner, white, radio, tinted glass		£4895	£29.97
				VW Polo Classic, 1983/Y, 2-door, maroon, radio, low mileage		£2795	£16.77
				Vauxhall Cavalier 1.3i Hatch, 1986/C, one owner, white, radio, r/w/a, cloth trim		£4995	£29.97
				Astra GTE, 1986/D, white, s/roof, a/windows, stereo cassette, v/c		£7995	£47.97
				Triumph Acclaim L, 1983/Y, green, 5-speed, one owner, radio, cloth trim		£2995	£17.97
				CoR Gallant 2.0 Turbo 4-door, 1985/A, silver, 5-speed, alloys, low mileage, ticks		£4495	£26.97

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LORD WIGG,
after Poland had knocked out England, 1973.

"I suppose it will be an all-ticket match."

DANNY BLANCHFLOWER,
on being put into the reserves.

"There is a rat in the camp trying to throw a spanner in the works."

CHRIS CATTLIN,
Brighton manager, 1983.

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BARCLAYS

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JIMMY SIRREL,
Notts County manager, 1985.

Source: *The Book of Football Quotations*, Peter Ball and Phil Shaw (Stanley Paul, an imprint of Century Hutchinson Ltd).

READING *Colours: Blue/white/navy*

- 1 Steve FRANCIS
- 2 Colin BAILIE
- 3 Michael GILKES
- 4 Mick TAIT
- 5 Martin HICKS
- 6 Keith CURLE
- 7 Jerry WILLIAMS
- 8 Les TAYLOR
- 9 Colin GORDON
- 10 Steve MORAN
- 11 Mark WHITE

Subs.

SWINDON TOWN *Colours: Red/white*

- 1 Tim FLOWERS
- 2 Dave HOCKADAY
- 3 Phil KING
- 4 Chris KAMARA
- 5 Jon GITTENS
- 6 Colin CALDERWOOD
- 7 Bobby BARNES
- 8 Dave BAMBER
- 9 Jimmy QUINN
- 10 Steve FOLEY
- 11 Steve WHITE

Subs.



OFFICIALS

Referee:

TERRY HOLBROOK

(Walsall, West Midlands)

General manager with manufacturing and service company. Started refereeing 1966 in Walsall Minor League. Appointed to Football League in 1980 after progressed via Staffordshire County and Central Leagues. Lined European Nations' Cup Cyprus v Sweden 1982. Refereed FA Trophy semi-final 1986, FA Vase semi 1987. Secretary of tennis club and plays league tennis. Also plays competitive squash and enjoys gardening.

Linesmen:

C. Proud (yellow flag)

J. Smyth (red trim)

UP AND COMING

ROYALS

v

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