

SEASON 1987-1988

No. 24

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

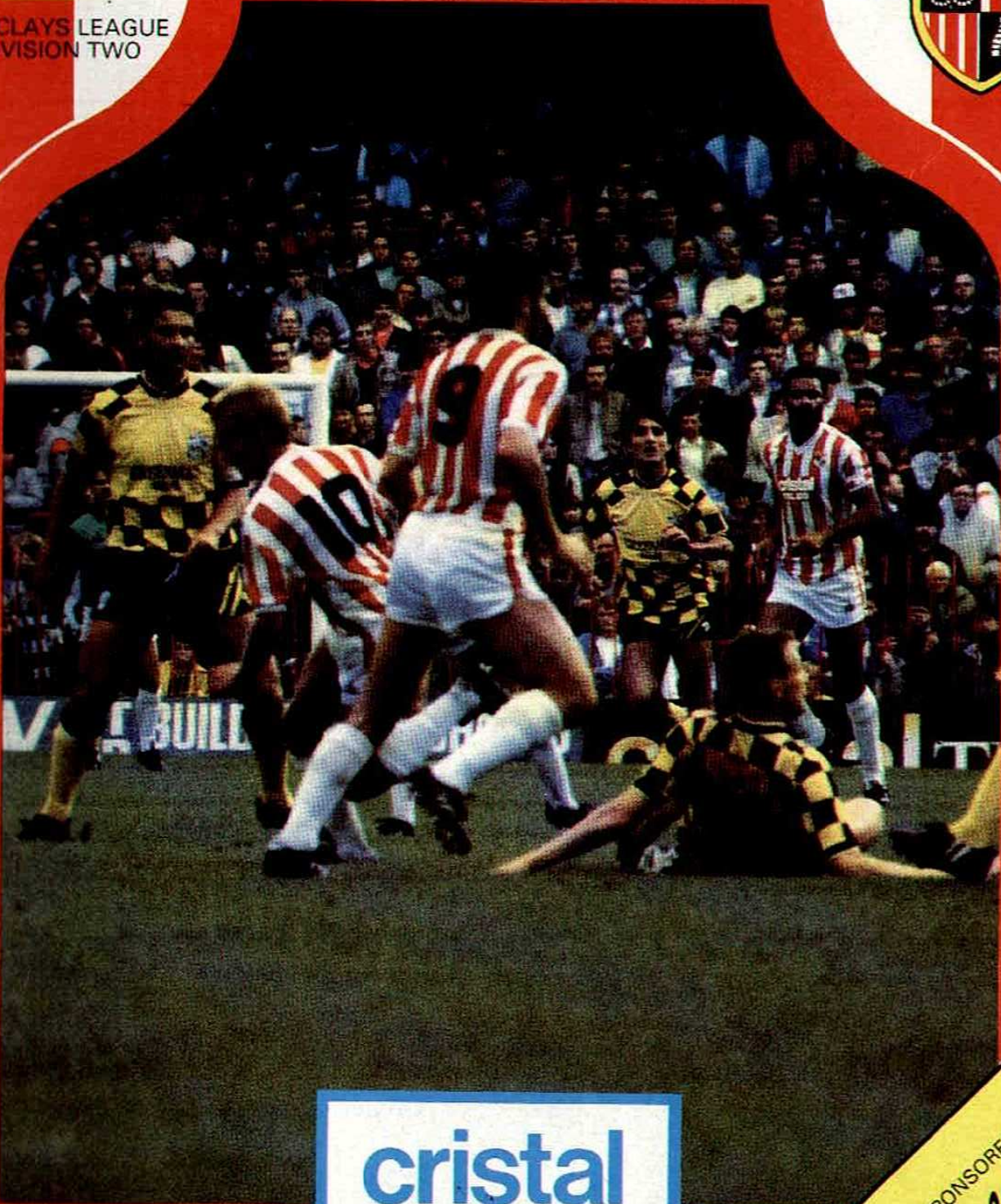
STOKE CITY

70p

Matchday Magazine



BARCLAYS LEAGUE
DIVISION TWO

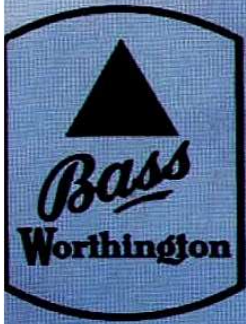


v
SWINDON TOWN

Saturday 23rd April 1988
KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

cristal
TILES BY
H&R JOHNSON
Stoke City Official
Club Sponsors

TODAY'S MATCH SPONSORED BY
Ansells



"I bet he drinks Carling Black Label."



Mick's Thoughts

I would like to offer a very warm welcome to Lou Macari and his players from Swindon Town Football Club.

I think Lou has done a fantastic job at Swindon by taking them from the Fourth to the Second Division and in their first year in the Second Division have proved more than their worth. Also something that I believe you have to learn very quickly when you move into management, is to be successful on the buying and selling aspect of the job and again Lou has proved his ability in this area. I am sure he feels he has a lot more to offer Swindon and there is no reason why they can't get to the First Division, as they are a very well supported Club, but I am sure that he will be a safe bet to pick up a big job in the future.

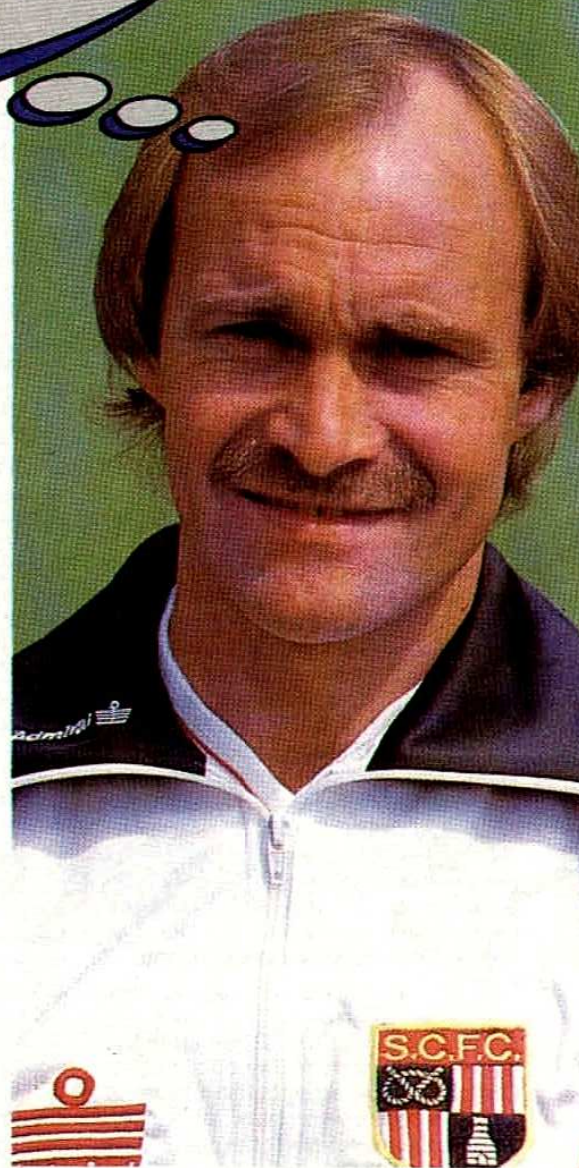
Since my last notes were written, again, like so many times this season, I find that I am talking about the inconsistencies of results and performances. Our last 3 matches have been very disappointing. The first away to West Brom where we lacked ambition and leadership. Then Crystal Palace, where after an encouraging first half performance and a great goal, we became very negative and nervous throughout the second half. Then our last match at Oldham where the team never got going and were soundly beaten. This has undoubtedly been our worst sequence since the turn of the year and I am looking for a fresh and more determined approach over our 3 games to end the season on a high and in a respectable position.

Looking towards next season, I am very optimistic that we can now start to move forwards and to make a strong challenge for promotion. When I look back over my 3 years I feel confident to say that the downward look about the Club has been halted and the Club has been stabilised. Sometimes it takes longer to achieve this than one wishes, but moving into my fourth year at least we are in a position financially to compete with the majority of the Second Division. During my first 'close season', I can remember having no money to spend on team strengthening and deals were done on a selling and buying basis. Last 'close season' was only marginally better, when I had about £75,000 to spend I needed 3 players to make the squad as strong as possible. Incidentally, 2 of those 3 players have been very successful. Scott Barrett and Cliff Carr, having had very good first seasons. This 'close season', even having already bought Gary Hackett in readiness for next season, we have £300,000 to spend, so you can see why we can be more optimistic than at any other time since Stoke were relegated in 1985.

As has been reported I didn't attend the Oldham match and went on a scouting mission. I don't really like having to do this, but with the limited opportunities left to watch possible new signings, I decided to check on some good reports received on players who could become available at the end of the season.

Although this has been the least exciting season so far as home performances are concerned, I hope you will get behind the players today and against Shrewsbury to help towards a good finish and then to look towards next season with the same optimism as myself.

MICK MILLS



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Editors: Dave Capper and
Tony Tams
Photographer: Kevin Tatton
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Ltd.

CITY

NEWS DESK

Congratulations to Steve Parkin who was appointed captain of the England Under-21 team for their European Under-21 Championship semi-final against France on 13th April.

It is a great honour for both Stoke City and Steve, who has appeared for his country at Schoolboy, Youth and Under-21 level. Despite the 4-2 defeat, England and Steve are still hopeful of reaching the Final.

★ ★ ★

The friendly game between the Stoke City directors and staff and our sponsors, H & R Johnson (see picture below) proved a great success when it was held on Thursday 7th April.

The Stoke team won 4-1 with goals from Chairman Peter Coates, Director Keith Humphreys, Assistant Secretary David Capper, and Club Member Paul Wright. Mick Mills and Mick Cullerton were also in the staff team and Sammy Chung was the referee (for want of a better word!!).

Our sponsors certainly enjoyed the experience of playing on the Victoria Ground pitch and Peter Coates presented a pennant to Ray Hood of Cristal Tiles to mark the occasion.

★ ★ ★

Carl Beeston was the latest to join the injury ranks when he limped out of the Oldham game after half an hour. It made a complete team of eleven players out of action at the same time - an unbelievable situation.

Although the X-Ray showed no break, Carl's ankle was put in plaster and he spent some time on crutches.

★ ★ ★

Our final home League game of the season is on Bank Holiday Monday, 2nd May, when we entertain Shrewsbury Town.

Shrewsbury, of course, are fighting for points at the wrong end of the table, and this could be a vital game for them in the last week of the season. It is also our last game of the season as we have a free Saturday on May 7th the final day of the season.

Back in November we had an

emphatic win at Gay Meadow when we defeated the Shrews 3-0 with goals from Lee Dixon, Tony Ford and Carl Saunders, Ford's goal being one of the most spectacular of the season.

★ ★ ★

On Sunday 8th May Stoke City will be playing a Midlands All Stars XI here at the Victoria Ground, kick off 3.00pm.

All proceeds from the game will go to the Staffordshire Council for St. John Centenary Appeal. St. John's Ambulance provide First Aid cover at all League grounds and we hope that a large crowd will support this very worthy cause.

The Midland's All Stars team will be managed by Ron Atkinson of West Brom. The Boothen Stand and Paddock and the Butler Street Stand and Paddock will be open for this game. Seats will be £3 for adults and £2 for juniors/senior citizens, and standing prices are £2 for adults and £1 for juniors/senior citizens.

★ ★ ★

As you will be aware Ian Botham has recently been involved in a marathon walk retracing the footsteps of Hannibal and his elephants over the French Alps. This is the latest of Ian's efforts to raise money for Leukaemia Research and donations can be sent to:- Leukaemia Research Fund, 43 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JJ.

All 92 League clubs have been

asked to support this worthwhile cause.

★ ★ ★

The 14th International Football Programme Fair will be held on Saturday, 4th June at the Hotel Russell, Russell Square, London WC1., from 11.15am until 3.45pm. Advance tickets can be obtained by sending a remittance of 40p per ticket plus S.A.E. to David Stacey, The Editor, The F.P.D., (Dept IPF), 66 Southend Road, Wickford, Essex SS11 8EN.

Admission on the day will be 80p. Thousands of programmes, books, badges etc. will be available and bar the light refreshments will be available.

★ ★ ★

HALF TIME QUIZ.

1. Which club plays at Plough Lane?
2. Which League club is nicknamed the Pilgrims?
3. With which club did Gerry Daly begin his League career?
4. Who scored Stoke's goals in the recent testimonial game at Telford?
5. Which former Stoke Player has recently been transfer listed by Oldham?

Answers

1. Wimbledon; 2. Plymouth Argyle; 3. Ipswich; 4. David Puckett; 5. Aaron Calaghan.



The Cristal Tiles team who were allowed to wear our First Team strip.

ROUTE TO AWAY GAME

A.A. ROUTE TO MILLWALL

STOKE

Leave by A500 (signs Motorway (M6), The South) in 3.4 miles at roundabout take 2nd exit (signs Birmingham) to join Motorway M6 to Junction 1

in 3.9 miles join M1 to

MOTORWAY TERMINAL ROUNDABOUT

Take 3rd main exit A406 (signs North Circular Road, The West)

NEASDEN

HANGER LANE STATION

Follow signs Kew Bridge A406

CHISWICK ROUNDABOUT

Follow signs South Circular Road A205

KEW BRIDGE

PUTNEY

In 0.7 mile forward A3

WANDSWORTH

Follow signs South Circular Road, Clapham A3

in 0.8 mile turn right then left for Wandsworth Common North Side

1 mile farther keep forward with Clapham Common North Side (signs City)

CLAPHAM

Branch left (signs Brixton) then shortly bear right and at end keep left then at

clock tower (turn right A217)

BRIXTON

Over crossroads (signs Camberwell, New Cross)

In 1.4 miles at traffic signals turn left A215

CAMBERWELL GREEN

At crossroads turn right A202 (signs Folkestone)

In 1.8 miles turn left (one-way) then take 1st turning right into Besson Street

(one-way) At end forward into Hatcham Park Road unclassified (one-way)

Shortly turn left into Campin Street

0.3 mile farther over crossroads into Coldblow Lane

MILLWALL F.C. (on left)

Total mileage: 174.8 miles

MASCOT



Matthew James Barlow

Age: 11

Address: 21 Brookland Drive,
Sandbach Heath, Sandbach

School: St. John's C of E,
Sandbach Heath

Favourite Players: Graham
Shaw, George Berry, Peter Fox

Hobbies: Football, swimming
and roller skating

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Leeds Utd. F.A. Cup (5)		BAKFORDS GARAGE SERVICE, HANLEY
Blackburn Rovers	CHATFIELDS GROUP FORD	JOSEPH EDWARDS & SON - FUNERAL DIRECTORS, ALSAGER
F.A. Cup (6)		
Barnsley		JOHN & HILARY WHITE, WINKIES, LONGTON
Crystal Palace	CREDA, BLYTHE BRIDGE	TOM SEGRUE, MIDDLESEX PACKAGING CO.
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Shrewsbury Town	JAMES BLAKEMAN & CO, HANLEY	VICTORIA JANE CHINA, FENTON
Gillingham (Littlewoods Cup)	CRISTAL TILES	FARR'S JOINERY
Norwich City (Littlewoods Cup)		IVY HOUSE KITCHENS

WE'RE TALKING FOOTBALL.

*"Blimey, the ground looks a bit
different to Watford. Where's the
dog track?"*

LUTHER BLISSETT,
at Milan's San Siro Stadium, 1983.

"If ye dinnae score, ye dinnae win."

JIMMY SIRREL,
Notts County manager, 1983.

*"No footballer of talent should play
in the back four."*

MALCOLM ALLISON, 1975.

 **YOU'RE
BETTER OFF
TALKING TO**



BARCLAYS

*"All visiting teams complain about
the pitch - but they all seem to win."*

ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS,
to Dunfermline players visiting Cyprus, 1968.

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

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FROM THE BENCH



**SAMMY
CHUNG**

Good afternoon again everyone and welcome to our penultimate home league game of the season. May I say a special welcome also to Lou Macari and the players, directors and supporters of Swindon Town.

Swindon have made a successful return to the Second Division this season and have consolidated well in a mid table position. We were beaten 3-0 at the County Ground back in October in a game which is best forgotten as far as we are concerned – Brian Talbot was sent off and Chris Hemming carried off, both in the first half and we never recovered from those early setbacks.

With two of our last three games at home we hope to strengthen our league position – we already have the same number of points as last season, and although our performances have fallen away over the last three games, we are confident that we will end the season on a winning note.

Much has been said about our injury problems with a full team out of action at the same time. We are not making excuses, but when you have players of the calibre of Fox, Hackett, Morgan, Daly and Saunders out of action at the same time it is bound to stretch your resources to the full. It seems as though every time one player returns to fitness, another drops out of the team, the latest being Carl Beeston at Oldham.

Anyway, the season will soon be over and everyone will be fighting fit for the start of next season. Our squad will then be strong enough to mount a serious challenge for promotion and the competition for places will be fierce. Thank you for your support and let's hope for three points this afternoon.



**TONY
LACEY**

Since my last programme notes the reserves have played four games, losing three of them. They have suffered from the lengthy first team injury list and we have been forced to field a team made up of YTS players. When you think that earlier in the season we were able to name a side which included Barrett, Maskery, Carr, Shaw and Heath, it is easy to see why our promotion challenge has faded.

However, the lads have acquitted themselves well and it has been great experience for them – part of their educational process. All they have lacked in recent months is two or three experienced professionals alongside them to help them through the games.

Our defeats in the Central League over the last month have all been in away games – we have had four in a row. The only point gained was at Vale Park where we retained our good record against Port Vale with a 1-1 draw.

It is always encouraging for a coach when young players arrive on the first team scene and the current injury crisis has meant useful experience for the likes of Lee Fowler, Ian Gibbons and Paul Ware. Lee and Gibbo have both got into Second Division action while Paul Ware was on the bench against Oldham at Boundary Park.

Lee Fowler, incidentally, became the latest casualty when his knee locked following the Central League game at Rotherham on Tuesday night. He was taken to the Nuffield Hospital on Wednesday morning for an operation and was back at the Victoria Ground on crutches in the afternoon.

Claire
Jennings

FOCUS ON YOUTH



Seventeen years old Claire Jennings joined the administration staff at Stoke City on the Youth Training Scheme last August. Claire, who is a Stoke-on-Trent girl was educated at Trentham High School.

She confessed to not knowing a lot about football when she began work at the Victoria Ground but has soon become a Potters fan and her most memorable game so far was the home FA Cup tie against Liverpool in January. The best goal that Claire has seen is Graham Shaw's fantastic shot against Crystal Palace at the Victoria Ground on Easter Monday, and her favourite player in the current squad is Peter Fox.

Claire's favourite food is lasagne and her best drink is coke (or so she says!!!). Her taste in music includes anything from Madonna or Whitney Houston and she is very active on the disco scene!!!

She enjoys fast cars, red roses and rich men but dislikes dishonesty, selfish and thoughtless people and unpunctuality. Claire's parents have been a big help to her and her ambitions are to own a black MG and to have lots of money.

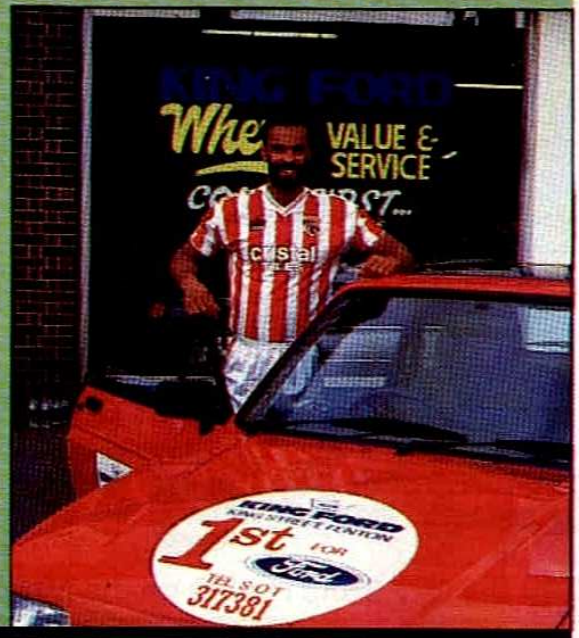
George
Berry

CAPTAINS CORNER

Well there's three games to go including today's game against Swindon and they are all very important to us as a club and also for the teams we are playing against for many different reasons. We want to beat Swindon to avenge the defeat we had at their place. Millwall will be looking to beat us because they will be looking to win the second division championship and Shrewsbury who I feel need only a point to be safe is a local derby. So it's going to be a hard run in with no easy matches and as a club we would of course like to go out on a winning streak because it puts us in a good frame of mind when we start our holidays and sets us up nicely for the new season knowing we were playing well at the end of the old season.

This time of the season is funnily enough one of the busiest for our players because it's the time when the local football leagues finish and that means lots of presentations. This week I've been out on a 'do' every day apart from Friday. The highlights of the week both happened on Friday. There was a St George's Day Dinner at the North Staffs Hotel which was the brainchild of John Horton of Kingford. It was sold out, the food was great, the guest speakers were good and a lot of money was raised for charity. John, you did a marvellous job.

The same day but in the evening I was proposing the last toast to Robert Dickie who won the WBC World Interim Super Featherweight Title (Phew!) here at the Kings Hall. He's only small but one hell of a fighter but Promoter, Pat Brogan didn't seem all that happy when using Robert's inside knowledge I proceeded to take his money off him.



COMMERCIAL

COLLATOR



MICK CULLERTON

THE BOYS ARE BACK IN TOWN! is an advertising message Ansells use to promote their intensive range of beers and lagers and is significant for Stoke City today as we welcome back Ansells Brewery as today's Match Sponsors.

It is a number of years since Ansells last sponsored a game at Stoke City and we are delighted to welcome them back. We hope that both Ansells staff and guests enjoy their day here at the Victoria Ground and look forward to a long and happy association.

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Stoke City director, Mr Mike Loftus presenting a Match Sponsors pennant to Mr Len Sambrook of Creda.

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£5 CONSOLATION WINNER
A 02 19 32 C. Wright, 98 Mill Road, Cheadle.
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£5 CONSOLATION WINNER
A 03 08 14 K. Grocott, 16 Milton Grove, Talke.
£5 CONSOLATION WINNER
B 03 08 14 B. Rogers, 5 Stanfield Crescent, Cheadle.

STOKE CITY

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11th April 1988

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D. Reaper, Stoke. 1255
P. Wardle, Shelton. 0424
A. Clubb, Stone. 0431
L. Cullen, Stoke. 1521
A. H. C. George, Chesterton. 0164
A. Bailey, Meir. 1366
H. P. Clulow, Leek. 0628

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Signal-Radio

For the City Bond results on the Mel Scholes Show, daily Monday to Friday at 2.10pm.

DAVID PUCKETT



FULL NAME: David Charles Puckett
AGE: 27
PLACE OF BIRTH: Southampton
HEIGHT: 5ft 7in
WEIGHT: 10st 10lb
MARRIED: Yes to Theresa
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Southampton, Bournemouth
JOINED CITY: On loan deadline day
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Home debut for Southampton v Arsenal, scored 2
BEST GOAL EVER SEEN: Maradona 2nd goal v England, '86 World Cup
BEST GOAL EVER SCORED: Southampton v Spurs 1985
FAVOURITE CURRENT PLAYER: Maradona
FAVOURITE PAST PLAYER: George Best
BEST OTHER GROUND: Anfield



FAVOURITE FOOD: Chicken
TOP DRINK: Tea
BEST ACTOR/ACTRESS: Robert de Niro/Marilyn Monroe
BEST FILM: The Sting
MUSIC: Eddie Cochran, Chuck Berry
STAR SIGN: Scorpio
SUPERSTITIONS: None
LIKES: Playing with my one-year-old son George
DISLIKES: Smoking
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My family
AMBITIONS: To play in the First Division again and play on after the age of 35

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S WINDON TOWN



MANAGER



LOU MACARI

Swindon return to the Second Division this year after an absence of 12 seasons

During that absence they have sampled Fourth Division soccer for the first time in their history. It was during that decline that Lou Macari, the former Glasgow, Celtic, Manchester United and Scotland international joined the County Ground staff in July 1984 as player-manager.

Since then the former Scotland star has masterminded the phenomenal rise of the Wiltshire club in successive seasons of promotion.

In 1985/86 Swindon Town set up a Football League record of 102 points as they raced away with the Fourth Division championship finishing the season 18 points clear of Chester City, their nearest challengers.

Last year they went up again after the play-offs.

After rejecting offers from Glasgow Celtic, Coventry City and Leicester City the previous summer, Lou Macari was once again the target for other clubs during last close season, both Wimbledon and Ipswich asking permission to speak to one of the games brightest young managers.

Lou Macari generously declined.

A warm welcome to today's visitors, Swindon Town and their Manager, Lou Macari. They returned to the Second Division this season after an absence of 12 seasons. Lou joined the club in 1984. As player manager of a side then in division four. In 1985/86 they set up a Football League record of 102 points as they raced away with the Fourth Division championship. Last season they battled through to the Third Division play-offs. Five matches ensued including a deciding game at Selhurst Park against Gillingham. Two goals from Striker Steve White ensured second division football this season.

Former Man. Utd. goalkeeper, Fraser Digby bought for £25,000 is only 20 and has had an outstanding season. He has been capped for England at Under 21 level, to add to his Youth and Schoolboy honours.

Striker Jimmy Quinn is another player to watch. He re-joined Swindon from Blackburn Rovers in December 1986 for a fee of £5,000 and has been a regular goalscorer ever since.

FRASER DIGBY

The former Manchester United apprentice spent two loan periods at the County Ground before eventually joining the Club for a fee of £25,000 in December 1986. Fraser's outstanding displays last season not only helped Swindon Town to gain promotion for the second successive season but also helped him to gain England Under-21 honours. He had previously been capped at Schoolboy and Youth level.

NICKY HAMMOND

Signed on a free transfer from Arsenal in July 1987. The former Highbury Club Keeper had a brief loan period with Bristol Rovers last season where he made his League debut against Blackpool on 27th September 1986 at Twerton Park. Nicky also spent loan periods with Scottish Club Aberdeen and with Peterborough United last campaign, without appearing in their senior team.

DAVE HOCKADAY

The former Blackpool player moved to the County Ground in August 1983. After several seasons of appearing in midfield or as a winger the Billingham born player made the successful transition to full-back during Swindon Town's Fourth Division Championship winning season of 1985/86. Dave is one of only two players to remain on the County Ground staff from the day Lou Macari was appointed to the position of Team Manager in July 1984. An influential member of last seasons promotion campaign from Division Three. The Town full-back should make his three-hundredth League appearance in the early part of this season.

TERRY MERRIMAN

The former Coventry City defender joined the County Ground staff in July 1987 on a free transfer. Terry, who had joined the Highfield Road Club as an apprentice, found his appearances limited to the "Sky Blues" Central League team last season. Terry is another newcomer to Swindon Town who will be eagerly looking to make his League debut this season.

ALAN McLOUGHLIN

The former Manchester United defender joined Swindon Town on a free transfer in July 1986. Alan did not appear in the Old Trafford Clubs League team and made his debut for Swindon Town against Newport County at Somerton Park on September 6th 1986 in a 2-2 draw. Alan is a versatile performer who can play in a variety of positions. He spent a period on loan to Torquay United last season.

PHIL KING

The Bristol born full back joined Swindon Town

from Torquay United for a fee of £12,500 in March 1987. Phil quickly slotted into the Town defence and helped the Club to eventual promotion. The former Torquay defender had only been with the Plainmoor Club for a few months following his move from Devon neighbours Exeter City in July 1986. A Football League tribunal had settled the fee between the two Devon Clubs at £3,000. During his brief spell at Torquay Phil was the subject of interest from Tottenham Hotspur and he spent a brief spell training with the White Hart Lane Club.

TIM PARKIN

Joined Swindon Town from Bristol Rovers in July 1986 for a Football League Tribunal settled fee of £27,500. The former Rovers stalwart eventually established himself in the Town defence and was prominent in helping the Club to promotion last season. Tim began his career with Blackburn Rovers before moving to the Continent for a brief spell with Swedish Club Malmö. On his return to the Football League with Bristol Rovers he proved to be a great favourite with the fans of the former Eastville Club.

COLIN CALDERWOOD

Stranraer born, Colin, had the distinction of captaining Swindon Town to promotion in consecutive seasons. It is a measure of the dedication and fitness of the former Mansfield Town defender that he has not missed a single match for the Club since his £27,500 move in July 1985. Tipped by many to gain eventual honours with Scotland, Colin has often been the target for many of the leading Clubs in both England and Scotland. After completing a century of League appearances for Mansfield Town, Colin is set to do likewise with the Wiltshire Club in the early part of this season.

JON GITTENS

Jon moved to the County Ground in July 1987 and therefore became the fifth close season signing for Lou Macari. The former Southampton central defender cost Swindon Town £40,000 at a Football League Tribunal appeal. Jon had joined the First Division Club from non-League Birmingham Club Paget Rangers. Jon first attracted the attention of Lou Macari when he gave a commanding display against Ian Rush when the Welsh international was with Liverpool. Further impressive displays against Swindon Town for "the Saints" in last seasons Littlewoods Challenge Cup prompted the Town manager to move for the Saints defender.

CHRIS KAMARA

The Middlesbrough born player is now in his second spell at the County Ground, Chris rejoined the Club from Brentford in August 1986 for a fee of £12,500. His earlier spell with the Club came following a move from Portsmouth in July 1977. One of the few players to have appeared for two Clubs in different spells. Chris rejoined the Fratton Park Club in 1981 although his second spell with "Pompey" was short lived. Chris, who celebrated his 400th League appearance last season against his home town Club at Ayresome Park, was the driving force in the Towns midfield section as the Club moved into Division Two.

PETER COYNE

Following some brilliant displays with England Schoolboys Peter joined Manchester United. His early promise declined after two appearances in the Old Trafford Clubs League line up and following a free transfer he drifted into non-League football. Peter eventually returned to League action with Crewe Alexandra where he spent four seasons with the Gresty Road Club. Another free transfer took him back to non-League soccer and it was from Hyde United in August 1984 that Lou Macari signed Peter for £5,000. He probably played the best



Back Row (left to right): Tim Parkin, Jimmy Quinn, Fraser Digby, Chris Kamara, Nicky Hammond, Charlie Henry, John Kelly (now Oldham Athletic), Steve White, Steve Foley, Chris Ramsey (now Southend United), Kevin Morris (physiotherapist), Colin Calderwood.

Middle Row: Andy Rowland (player/coach), Dave Hockaday, Phil King, Terry Merriman, Dave Bamber, Jon Gittens, Alan McLoughlin, Bryan Wade, Peter Coyne, Lou Macari (team manager), John Trollope (assistant manager), Steve Berry (now Aldershot), Leigh Barnard, Mark Jones.

football of his career in the first half of the Clubs Fourth Division Championship winning season of 1985/86

LEIGH BARNARD

Leigh, along with Dave Hockaday, is one of the only two players remaining from the squad of players who were at the County Ground before the arrival of Lou Macari in July 1984. Leigh was actually signed on a free transfer from Portsmouth in July 1982. A player with endless stamina, Leigh has now made nearly 200 League appearances for Swindon Town. Once had a loan spell with Exeter City and actually played for the Devon Club against Swindon Town.

CHARLIE HENRY

One of Swindon Town's most popular players over recent seasons. His natural enthusiasm for the game having won him many admirers: Charlie originally joined the Club as an apprentice. Capable of playing in a variety of positions. At the completion of Town's Fourth Division Championships winning season of 1985/86 he was the Clubs leading goalscorer with 18 goals. Last season was more difficult for Charlie in Division Three as he struggled to recapture his form of the previous season. Another of the Town players close to completing a personal milestone for he is now approaching 200 League appearances. Charlie spent brief loan periods with Torquay United and Northampton Town last season.

MARK JONES

Mark moved to the County Ground in October 1986 from Oxford United for a fee of £25,000. He joined the Manor Road Ground Club as an apprentice and helped the meteoric rise of the Club to the First Division. Mark spent an initial loan period at the County Ground before his eventual signing. His non-stop running was a contributory factor in Lou Macari's decision to bring him to Swindon. Once again Mark proved to be as lucky an omen for Swindon Town as he had previously for Oxford United! Another season of promotion followed.

STEVE FOLEY

Another of Lou Macari's close season captures. Steve moved South to join Swindon Town from Sheffield United in July 1987 for a Football League Tribunal fee of £35,000. The Liverpool born player began his career as an apprentice with Liverpool. Steve failed to make the Anfield Clubs League line up and actually made his League debut while on loan to Fulham. Eventually given a free transfer from Anfield he joined Grimsby Town in the close season of 1984, making 31 League appearances for the Blundell Park Club. Once again given a free transfer he joined Sheffield United in July 1985. During two seasons with the Bramall Lane Club he made 55 League appearances.

Steve finished last season as the Yorkshire leading goalscorer with 9 goals.

DAVE BAMBER

The much travelled striker has probably produced the best soccer of his career with Swindon Town following his move from Portsmouth in March 1986. Dave had previously spent a loan period with the Club prior to his £12,500 move. Few would question that he has played a prominent role in the County Ground Clubs successive seasons of promotion. Dave began his career with Blackpool and his early promise attracted the attention of First Division Coventry City where he move in 1983. Subsequent moves to Walsall and Portsmouth were a prelude to his eventual move to Swindon Town. A maker and taker of goals, he could be a key factor in the Clubs hopes for consolidation this season. Dave scored 19 League and Cup goals last campaign.

STEVE WHITE

Incredibly allowed to join Swindon Town on a free transfer from Bristol Rovers in July 1986. What a signing he proved to be for the Club as he headed both the League and Football Combination goalscoring charts for the 1986/87 season. The Chipping Sodbury born striker had two spells with Bristol Rovers where he began his League career. Steve left Rovers after his first spell in a £200,000 move to Luton Town. He eventually rejoined Rovers in August 1983 from Charlton Athletic. Steve wrote his way into the Wiltshire Clubs history when his two goals gave Swindon Town that vital 2-0 win against Gillingham at Selhurst Park, Crystal Palace on May 29th 1987 and ensured their passage into the Second Division this season.

BRYAN WADE

Plucked from the virtual obscurity of non-League soccer with Southern League Trowbridge Town for a nominal fee in the Summer of 1985. Bryan had previously had a spell with Bath City following his rejection after trials with Manchester City. A strong and powerful player with pace he often causes defenders problems with his forceful play. Bryan scored many crucial goals in Swindon Town's consecutive seasons of promotion.

KEIRAN O'REGAN

The Republic of Ireland Under-21 international joined the Club in August 1987 on a free transfer from Brighton and Hove Albion.

Keiran, 24, made his debut for Swindon Town in the First Round of the Littlewoods Challenge Cup Competition on August 18th, 1987 against Bristol City.

Keiran, born in Cork, made 86 League appearances for Brighton after his signing from Tranmore Athletic.

STAR PLAYER



JIMMY QUINN

The Northern Ireland International rejoined Swindon Town from Blackburn Rovers in December 1986 for a fee of £50,000. Jim had originally joined Swindon Town from Oswestry Town in 1982. The tall striker had made 49 League appearances in his first spell at the County Ground before moving North to join the Ewood Park Club in a £32,000 transfer deal. Ironically it was the first of Lou Macari's transfer deals for Swindon Town. Jim scored 9 goals in last seasons successful promotion bid.



CRYSTAL PALACE

1. Tony Ford (hidden) hit the woodwork with this effort.
2. A determined Tony Ford in a midfield tussle.
3. Carl Beeston went close with this effort.
4. Puckett, Shaw and Henry lose out on this cross.
5. Debut boy Gibbons in action.





Tony Ford pictured relaxing after the Crystal Palace game with guests of match sponsors Creda.

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Admiral

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Liverpool were the visitors for a game that should have been played on New Year's Day. They were of course sitting at the top of the table and their line up as usual looked formidable and was Clemence, Neal, Alan Kennedy, Thompson, Ray Kennedy, Alan Hansen, Kenny Dalglish, Jimmy Case, David Johnson, Terry McDermott, Graham Souness. We battled hard but went down 2-0, a result which meant we had to get maximum points from the last two games. Our team was Fox, Evans, P. Johnson, Heath, Smith, Dodd, P. A. Johnson, Richardson, O'Callaghan, Crooks, Ursem, Sub: Jeff Cook who came on for Paul Richardson. Terry McDermott had a great season for the reds and for the first time since its inception, won both the PFA Player of the Year Award and Sportswriters Award.

Monica Hartland who was chairman of the London South and West Branch of our supporters had reached the finals of the Rothmans Football Supporter of the Year Award. She beat the challenge of supporters from Leeds, Nottingham Forest and other Midland Clubs to win the Midland section. Popular winger, Kevin Sheldon was back in training after yet another injury set back, this time an achilles tendon strain hoping he can finally place injury battles behind him after being offered a new contract.

Garth Crooks and Ray Evans had made the most appearances in the League both with thirty seven, next came Adrian Heath with thirty five. In the Central League Steve Nelson who has just reached the F.A. Trophy Final with Telford United had just two appearances scoring once. Martin Hanchard, Altrincham's £7,500 signing from Stafford Rangers played just one game. Another non-league player, Trevor Brisset played in 24 games. Irishman Jim McGroarty could not break into the first team appearing in 24 Central League games plus nine as sub, while Paul Randell had scored six goals in twenty appearances.

The Goodison hordes meant an increased gate of 18,285 for the visit of the Blues. A battling performance on a hard pitch was to no avail as we went down 2-0. It was a very sad moment for everyone connected with the club at the final whistle as we realised we were returning to the Second Division. The team that day was Sidall, Bould, Maskery, Saunders, Dyson, Berry, Painter, McIlroy, Bertschin, Hudson, Heath. Sub: Dodd. Howard Kendall said "I am sad for I had two tremendous seasons here but the club were down then and came back. I am sure they will bounce back again."

Two new directors were added to the board, Audley Road Haulage Contractor, Mr Maurice Nield and Sports Catering Company, Managing Director, Mr Peter Coates to achieve a better balanced Board and to widen their views. Former Manager, Richie Barker was dismissed by Notts County after only 5 months in charge. Across the Trent Brian Clough said "Its too daft for words."

Four days after the Everton game, Norwich City were the visitors. For this game the attendance was almost 14,000 down as only 4,597 diehards turned out. Keith Bertschin scored his first goal for the club while sub Carl Saunders added a second but we slid to a 3-2 defeat. Tony Lacey was disappointed saying "we had enough attacks to have done better".

Next was a visit to Watford, Alan Hudson was left out of the side after being substituted by Carl Saunders at half time against Norwich. Tony Lacey wanted to play with two wide men and wanted to start looking to next season. We tightened up in defence but went down 2-0 in a wind-blown game. Mr Lacey was encouraged by the commitment and said he expected at least two wins before the season ran out. Mark Chamberlain resumed full training while Steve Parkin was out of action with a jarred thigh muscle. Details were announced of a 125 year agreement with Asda for a Superstore development on the training ground with 400 jobs in the store. Outline planning application was submitted to the City Council offices.

JUNIOR

POTTERS

The Junior Potters won the Supporters Quiz Trophy against the Junior Alex from Crewe in the Executive Suite at the Victoria Ground on Wednesday 6th April.

The 9 year olds team of Daniel Meeson, Edward Silk and David Capper were joined by Phil Heath and defeated the Crewe boys with player Roger Eli by 58 points to 39. Then the 10/11 year olds and Graham Shaw beat their Crewe counterparts and player Paul Fishenden 54-39 to give us a comprehensive victory. Our 10/11 year olds team was Simon Beckett, David Talbot and Matthew Dale.

Question master was Russ Couch, Sports Editor of Signal Radio, who did a splendid job. The contest took place in a splendid atmosphere in the packed Executive Suite.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

A party of Junior Potters and their families enjoyed a great day out at Oldham on Saturday 9th April. Our lads played against the Junior Latics on the Boundary Park pitch on the morning of the game and despite a 7-0 defeat, thoroughly enjoyed the experience. After a splendid lunch at the nearby Boatyard Res-

taurant the party returned to watch the League game in the afternoon.

Craig Brookes who was 10 on the day was mascot for the game.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

The Junior Potters Dads will be in action in the annual Dads five-a-side tournament at the North Staffs Polytechnic, Leek Road Stoke on Tuesday from 6.00 pm to 9.00 pm.

Eight teams will take part in the competition which will be split into two groups of four with the winners and runners up in each group going forward to the semi-finals.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Today is the closing date for your votes for Junior Potters Young Player of the Year. This award is restricted to players aged 23 or under and the following players are eligible for your votes:

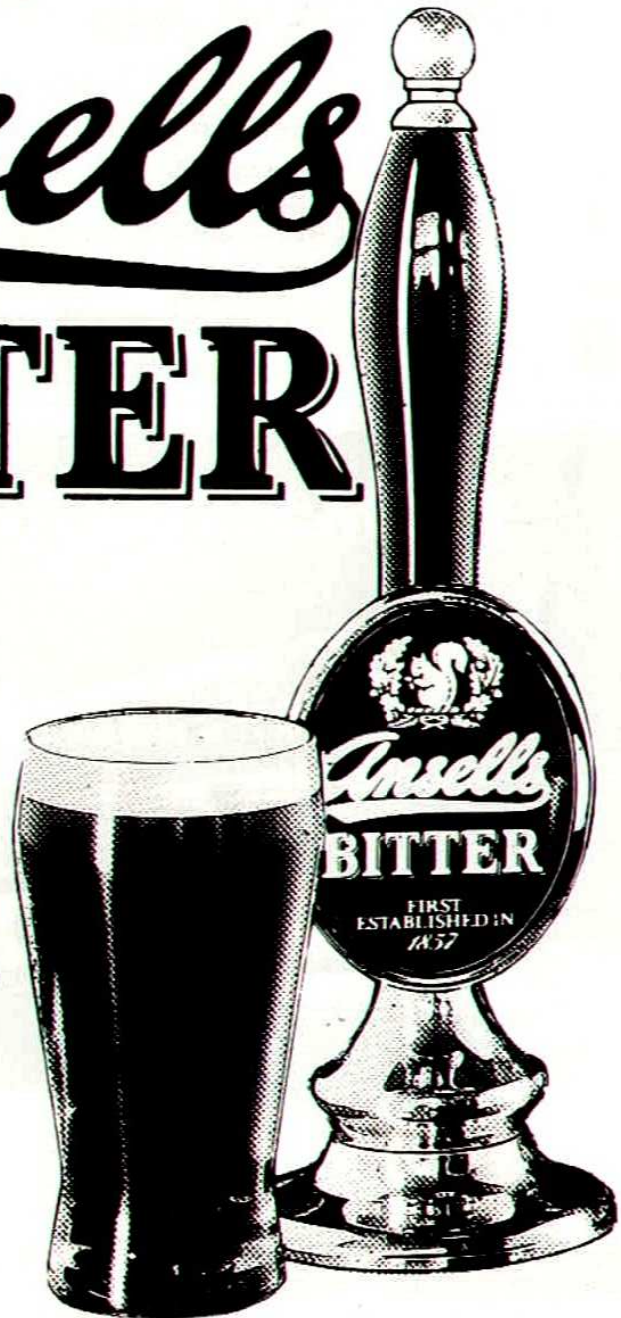
Carl Beeston, Graham Shaw, Steve Parkin, Cliff Carr, Phil Heath, Chris Hemming and Carl Saunders.

The trophy will be presented before the kick off at our final league game against Shrewsbury on Monday 2nd May.



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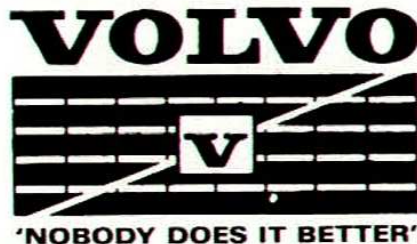
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SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

PLAYER OF THE SEASON

Today sees the final opportunity for Supporters Club Members to nominate their choice for the 'Player of the Season'. Voting ends at 5.30pm and the winning player will be announced before our final home game with Shrewsbury next Monday.

PROGRAMME FAIR

This season's Programme Fair is due to take place in the Stoke City Gymnasium on Sunday 1st May (11am - 2.30pm).

The event is set to be an interesting occasion as in addition to a vast selection of old and rare programmes, there will also be a number of other stalls representing the Junior Potters, magazines and books, and other souvenirs and memorabilia.

Entry by programme will cost only 20p, and is free to Supporters Club and Junior Potters Members.

POLICE APOLOGY

Our scheduled darts match versus Stoke Police had to be cancelled at the last minute due to this week's Royal visit. The police send their apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.

A preliminary date for the rearranged clash is Tuesday 3rd May (7.30pm) in the Executive Suite, and this will be confirmed in the next programme.

The Supporters Club are due to send a team to compete in a police "Sports Quiz" to be held this Wednesday, at Stoke Police Station.

ENGLAND MATCHES

The Supporters Club are organising coaches to Englands next two Wembley appearances against Scotland (21st May) and Columbia (24th May).

Bookings can be made at our Programme Shop or the Stoke City Ticket Office, and further information can be obtained from Ken Marek on (S-O-T) 812388.

PROGRAMME SURVEY

A host of comments and suggestions concerning the Stoke City Match Day Programme are currently being recorded at our Programme Shop. If you are an enthusiastic collector or an infrequent purchaser call in and have your say.

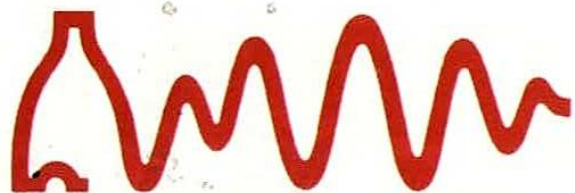
THE POTTERS TALE

The Potters Tale story of Stoke City is now available from our Programme Shop priced at £15.95 with a £1 reduction to Supporters Club Members.

LOOKING AHEAD

During the summer months the Supporters Club will be represented at the National Federation of Football Supporters Clubs conference, to be held at Warwick.

There will also be the issue of the Club magazine and a look into the possibility of forming outline branches of the Supporters Club.



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FAMILY FOCUS

BRAIN TEASER

Winners of the brain teaser at the Crystal Palace game were Richard Malbon, Peter Gregory and Luke Bielby. Well done boys, you will each receive a free ticket for the Shrewsbury Town game on 2nd May.

For today's brain teaser we have a special prize. A £5 voucher to be spent in the Stoke City Souvenir Shop. What we would like you to do is write down as many words of three letters or more as you can make up from letters DAVID POWELL. Add your name, age and Family Club membership number and hand your entries in to the girls on the Information Desk before the end of the half time interval.

The voucher will be given to the Family Club member aged 16 or under who has the most correct words.

FAMILY CLUB PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Today is your last chance to vote for the Family Club Player of the Year. If you haven't already voted write your nomination down now and hand it to the girls on the Information Desk.

The trophy will be presented before the kick off at our final home league game of the season against Shrewsbury Town on Monday 2nd May.

'FOOTBALL'S FAMILY DAY'

Junior supporters and families from all 92 League Clubs have been invited to 'Football's Family Day' at the American Adventure Park in Derbyshire on Saturday 13th August.

The 'American Adventure' is the new Alton Towers with over 100 exciting rides and live 'cowboy' type shows. It will be a great day out for all the family and, as the idea originates from Stoke City, we will be taking a number of coaches on 13th August. We have negotiated special discounted admission prices and the cost of our trip which includes coach travel and admission to the American Adventure is £6.50 for adults and £5.50 for children.

Coaches will leave the Victoria Ground at 9.00am and return from the American Adventure at 6.00pm. If you would like to join us please send the correct remittance as soon as possible to 'Football's Family Day', Stoke City F.C., Victoria Ground, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 4EG.

To add a little extra purpose to the occasion all clubs have been asked to organise a series of fund raising events to raise money for the Children in Need appeal. Each organisation will present their cheques to a famous TV personality at the American Adventure on 13th August.

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STATISTICS



CROWD

DATE OPPONENTS F A POS

Date	Opponent	F	A	Pos	Goal	Assist	Penalty	Yellow	Red	Subs	Crowd
1987/88											
Aug. 15	Birmingham City	0-2	-								13,137
Aug. 18	Hull City	1-1	11								9,139
22	Middlesbrough	1-0	15								9,345
29	Ipswich Town	0-2	1								11,149
Sept. 31	Leicester City	2-1	9								9,948
5	Sheffield United	0-0	10								10,066
12	Bradford City	1-2	13								9,571
16	Reading	1-0	9								5,349
19	Manchester City	0-3	14								19,322
22	Gillingham (LC2 1L)	2-0	15								7,198
26	Huddersfield Town	1-1	14								8,665
30	Leeds United	0-0	10								17,208
Oct. 3	AFC Bournemouth (LC2 2L)	1-0	10								8,104
10	Gillingham (LC2 2L)	1-0	9								5,039
17	Plymouth Argyle	0-2	10								8,275
20	Blackburn Rovers	0-3	10								7,280
24	Swindon Town	0-0	10								9,160
27	Aston Villa	2-1	15								13,494
31	Norwich City (LC 3)	2-5	14								8,603
Nov. 7	West Bromwich Albion	3-0	14								9,982
14	Portsmouth (Simod Cup 1)	0-2	14								3,228
10	Crystal Palace	3-0	14								30,058
14	Arsenal (LC4)	0-3	14								7,998
17	Millwall	1-2	14								5,158
21	Shrewsbury Town	1-2	14								5,228
28	Sheffield Weds (Simod Cup 2)	3-0	14								6,740
Dec. 1	Oldham Athletic	1-0	15								12,289
8	Reading	2-2	15								6,968
12	Middlesbrough	0-2	15								9,500
19	Huddersfield Town	4-2	14								18,020
26	Manchester City	3-0	14								9,976
Jan. 2	Ipswich Town	1-3	15								12,223
9	Bradford City	1-2	15								31,979
12	Liverpool (FAC3)	0-0	12								39,147
2	Liverpool (FAC3R)	0-1	14								10,076
9	Birmingham City (Simod Cup 3)	0-0	12								5,161
16	Leicester City (Simod Cup 3)	0-0	12								9,344
19	Sheffield United	1-0	10								6,424
Feb. 6	Hull City	0-0	12								10,129
13	Leeds United	2-1	10								6,871
27	AFC Bournemouth	0-0	10								4,580
Mar. 1	Luton Town (Simod Cup 4)	1-4	9								14,100
5	Blackburn Rovers	0-3	10								8,749
12	Plymouth Argyle	2-1	9								10,502
16	Leicester City	1-1	10								8,029
19	Barnsley	3-1	9								20,392
26	Aston Villa	1-0	8								12,144
Apr. 4	West Bromwich Albion	0-2	8								9,613
9	Crystal Palace	1-1	9								6,505
23	Oldham Athletic	1-1	9								
30	Swindon Town	1-5	9								
May 14	Shrewsbury Town F.A. Cup Final										

*Player sent off †Player withdrawn •Player used △Own goal ‡After extra time won 5-3 on penalties.

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TEAM CHECK

STOKE CITY

Red & White Shirts,
White Shorts

SCOTT BARRETT	1
STEVE PARKIN	2
CLIFF CARR	3
CARL BEESTON	4
STEVE BOULD	5
GEORGE BERRY	6
TONY FORD	7
TONY HENRY	8
GRAHAM SHAW	9
DAVID PUCKETT	10
PHIL HEATH	11
	12

SWINDON TOWN

White Shirts,
Black Shorts

FRASER DIGBY
DAVE HOCKADAY
PHIL KING
KIERAN O'REGAN
TIM PARKIN
JON GITTENS
DAVE BAMBER
BOBBY BARNES
JIMMY QUINN
STEVE FOLEY
ROY WEGERLE

REFEREE: J. C. Deakin. LINESMEN: S. Carr (Red trim) D. M. Charnley (Yellow trim)
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