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All contributions published in this programme do not necessarily reflect the view of Swindon Town Football Club.

HONOURS

Division 3 Promotion

Play-Off Winners 1986/87 Division Four Champions 1985/86

Football League Cup
 Winners

Winners 1969 Semi-Finalists 1980

Anglo Italian Cup Winners: 1970

International League Cup

Winners Cup.

Winners 1969

Division Three Runners Up: 1962-63, 1968-69 F.A. Charity Shield Finalists: 1911

F.A. Youth Cup Finalists 19

F.A. Cup Semi-Finalists: 1910, 1912



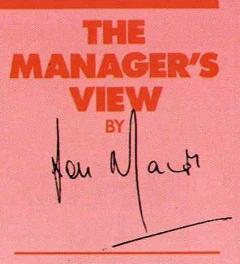
IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CLUB The days leading up to the pre-transfer deadline proved to be quite hectic. As usual there is often a lot of activity without tangible results for you to read about in your morning newspaper.

The on and then off situation with AFC Bournemouth eventually resulted in a conclusion for the transfer of Bobby Barnes. Originally I had received a bid of £80,000 from Harry Redknapp which was below the valuation I had set on the player. Eventually another £20,000 was added, which I still decided was not equivalent to my value. Eventually Bob was sold for £110,000 a fee that I felt was in the best interests of this Club. It only remained then for the player to settle his personal terms with Bournemouth. Bobby Barnes began his career well at the County Ground but I always felt he was a player that developed into an early and late season type of competitor. The heavy winter ground did not suit his style of play so well

THANK ALEX

I had earlier in the week managed to persuade Alex Ferguson, the Manager of my former Club, Manchester United, to release Jim O'Donnell on loan to the end of the season as cover for Fraser Digby.

It had been my original intention to take Andrew Petterson on loan again from Luton Town. The problem would have been that Andrew could not have stayed any longer than April 23rd and that would have left us with just one goalkeeper for the last few weeks of the season and also any possible matches concerning the play-offs. So I persuaded Alex to release Jim to us for the remainder of the season. This they could afford to do with Jim Leighton and Gary Walsh on their staff. My grateful thanks to Alex for his help.



WELCOME TO CURTIS

My next move into the transfer market meant that a player who I had watched on my scouting trips to Eire was my target. I had seen a young promising full back with St Patricks of Dublin and I decided that his promise could come to fruition here at the County Ground.

Curtis Fleming, who was actually born in Manchester, moved to the County Ground after a day of feverish activity at the Club. It is not the simplest of processes to sign a player from a Club in another country. The deal was set up and completed within eighteen hours of its conception. Curtis cost the Club a fee of £5,000 and he has signed a one year contract with us. The rigours of full time training and a move across the Irish sea will be an initial problem, With the correct attitude and endeavour he will overcome this and could develop into quite a find.

NOT QUITE THERE BUT WE TRIED There is always failure to complete deals every season and more so in the days leading up the transfer dealine. Without recalling names I may be interested in at a later date. I will give you an insight into

the almost, but not quite, situations that

partly developed.

I enquired about a Fourth Divison prospect with a Northern Chib. A player who had caught my attention two weeks previous but was quoted an astronomical fee! A loan proposal for a First Divison player in the North of England did not take off due to the Manager not being prepared to release the player. The same reason applied to two players with a London First Divison Club but I could have bought one of the two – for an arm and a leg, which I was not prepared to do. Fees may be astronomical but I am not prepared to spend money this Club simply does not possess.

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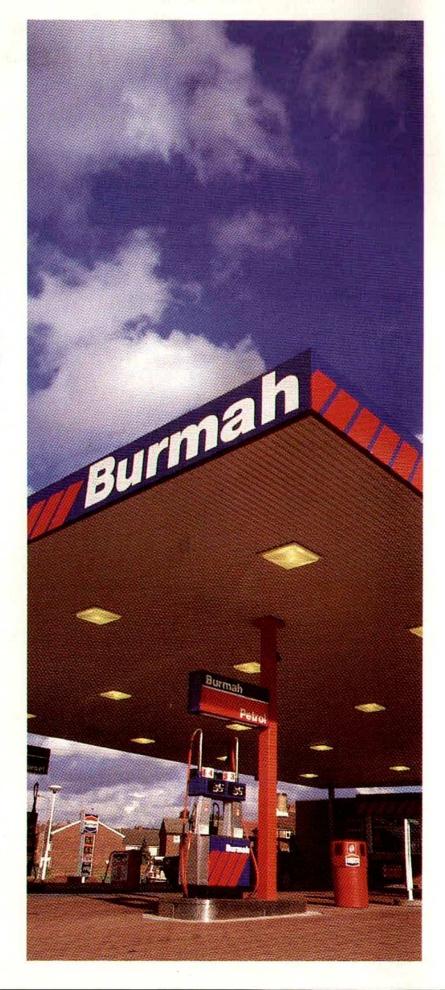
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FRUSTRATING TIMES

It is well known in football that Easter generally sorts out the genuine contenders from the mere pretenders, quite where that leaves Swindon Town after last weekend is difficult to say.

After a lifetime watching the "Town', frustrations are nothing new, but the combination of a hard fought draw against a promotion rival and a 4-1 drubbing at the hands of a relegation candidate brings back vivid memories of some embarrassingly inconsistent seasons.

WE MUST DEFEAT BLACKBURN ROVERS

This afternoon's match gives us another chance to show that promotion is something to be believed in, not dreamed of. Blackburn are one of many teams we must make sure we beat at the County Ground. West Brom were one of those teams that slipped the net, in spite of the Town's coring and Albion managing a brief bout of basketball in their penalty area. After refereeing so many classy fixtures over the past few seasons, maybe Keith Hackett has lost his grass roots touch, obviously even the best have their off days.

STRANGE HAPPENINGS AT SELHURST PARK

If the County Ground's biggest crowd of the season thought that they had seen some strange officiating on Saturday, Selhurst Park was the place to be on Easter Monday for bizarre decisions. A record five penalties, four to Palace and one to visitors Brighton were awarded and the 'Seagulls' Mike Trusson was sent off. Five other bookings made me think that we got off lightly with only two sendings off and a penalty when the offical concerned took charge of one of our away games earlier in the season and prompted Brighton Manager Barry Lloyd to comment that he, "thought we came to see a game of football, but we

SCOTT FREE



by Michael Scott

were too busy watching the referee."
Those sentiments certainly strike a
chord with the 'Town' travellers.

... EVEN STRANGER AT PLYMOUTH!

Whilst strange things were happening in South East London, even stranger events were unfolding at Home Park as the 'Town' ended Plymouth's two month run without a win and cast doubts on any hopes we may have of promotion.

ARE YOU LISTENING ... SIMON?

Hopefully by today, Simon Coombs and the other local MP's will have been hit by an avalanche of anti-I.D. Card postcards following their distribution at last Saturday's game. Perhaps this last ditch effort will cause some vital facts to dawn on the supporters of the hapless scheme, like the fact that the House of Commons has a massively worse ejection rate than any football ground, caused by the rowdy behaviour of its members. To conclude my weekly comments on the IDotic Cards I would like to thank Lord Stoddart of Swindon

for his attempts to exempt women from the scheme, I was already dusting off my blonde wig and high heels, but alas all to no avail as his sensible amendment was rejected.

SORT IT OUT ... FOR GOD'S SAKE!

As soon as English football sold its soul to ITV, problems were only a matter of months away, the implications of television schedules on the England national side seem at the moment to have more chance of halting our qualification than Albania themselves. The amount paid by ITV for exclusive coverage may have seemed a devilishly good deal at negotiation time, but niggling attempts to wring every last penny out of the contract are inflicting unnecessary pressure on the game. Delaying extra-time in the Bristol City-Forest Cup match for the adverts to finish just about sums up the priorities that football has allowed itself to be governed by. A crop of injuries in the televised, hyped 'championship decider' between Liverpool and Arsenal would really put the icing on the cake of a happy and successful first season of partnership between ITV and the Football League. Bobby Robson has enough problems managing to produce a side that can play football from all the fit players in the League, let alone being denied some of the best by the stranglehold of a TV deal.

WATCH OUT FOR JIM! . . AND THEN ON TO CITY!

On Tuesday night, we have another crucial home game, against Bradford City. That match will provide us with a chance to see Jimmy Quinn in his so far successful role as Ian Ormondroy's immobile successor.

Next. Saturday's fixture against Manchester City at Maine Road will be a very hard game, but is one that must see us get a result. Numerous bananas, but no varadi will be on show as the "Town' try to avenge City's win at the County Ground and try to live up to the big occasion for once.

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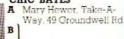
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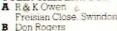


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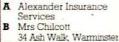
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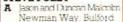


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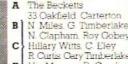
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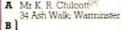
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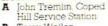
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COUNTY GROUND

Marketing

by Doug Buswell

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, welcome once again to the County Ground. A special welcome to our guests today from the Blewbury Youth Club from Oxfordshire. We hope they enjoyed themselves and that they will visit us again soon.



Videos of today's match can be ordered.

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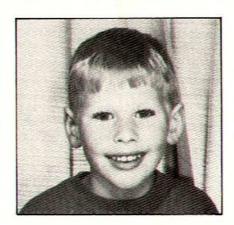
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1	2nd favourite team
	Swindon Town
	Favourite player Gary Lineker
	Favourite other player
	Peter Shilton

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THE CHAIRMAN Lpcaking

BRIAN HILLIER

WELCOME PLEASE FOR THE LADS FROM THE FERNDALE YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

Our excellent 3-2 victory at AFC Bournemouth on 18 March is the reason why we are delighted to welcome among our guests today 12 lads from the Ferndale Youth & Community Centre together with two of their leaders.

In addition to watching a Barclay League match, they are here to receive the Barclays Performance of the Week Award from Mr Tony Eves, Manager of the Bank's branch in High Street, Swindon

In the opinion of Bobby Robson and a panel of leading Mangers, our win at Dean Court merited the Award. We in turn pass it on to a local Club which is affiliated to the National Association of Boy's Clubs.

So Ferndale, recommended to us by the NABC, receive an award worth £650 which includes a cheque and the new set of kit which they are wearing for todays presentation. It is the first time we have won this prestigious Barclays Award.

Part of the cash portion of the award must be used on a scheme which will benefit the local community – arranging a holiday for the disabled, providing security arrangements for old folks' houses, any project which they feel will improve the quality of life.

Hopefully, it may qualify for a share of the extra £1,500 which Barclays Bank will award to the three best projects at the end of the season. Mr Eves says, "We are delighted to be associated with the Performance of the Week Award because it does establish a direct link between clubs and the community. Futhermore." he adds "it stimulates extra interest in results throughout the four Divisions every week and helps the game at grass-roots level.

"We hope that their new kit will bring the Ferndale lads luck on the field and that the Robins will cause the judges to look towards them again in the future."

After the game, Mr Eves will also present our Directors with an engraved salver as a memento of the Award. Naturally all of us here at the football Club second his sentiments and, on behalf of the Ferndale Club and ourselves, thank Barclays Bank for their interest and support.

WELCOME IN THE SHORT TERM

This is the first opportunity that I have had to welcome Jim O'Donnell to the County Ground. We have signed Jim on loan from Manchester United and the nineteen-year-old goalkeeper will remain here until the season is complete. We have taken the precaution of having Jim at the Club even if we reach the play-offs.

... IN THE LONGER TERM...
Our Manager, Lou Macari, put his scouting excursions to Eire to good purpose last week when he signed Curtis Fleming from St Patricks.



Curtis has signed a contract with the Club and we hope he will enjoy his time here at the County Ground. Lou showed his astuteness in the transfer market by clinching the deal for a nominal fee. Curtis has experience of European Cup football and we shall all note his progress with a great deal of interest.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISITING SUPPORTERS GOING TO BRIGHTON There has been a further review of arrangements for supporters visiting the Goldstone Ground and I am taking this opportunity of reminding you of their match day policy which, I hope, you will note.

Admission for visiting fans is £5.00 with no concessions. This is standing accommodation using entrances 13, 14, 15, 38, 39 and 40 on the east side of the ground in Goldstone Lane. Regrettably there are no seat tickets available. The capacity for visiting fans is 3,300 i.e. two sections of 1,750 and 1,550. Supporters will also be asked to remain behind for approximately ten minutes after the final whistle to facilitate a safer departure to waiting coaches, private cars and Hove railway station (five minutes' walk). Finally, Sussex Police use their tow-away squad on match days to deal with any illegally parked vehicles. Hundreds of supporters have been affected this season and have had to pay standard costs of £67.00 to recover their cars from the Police compound. So may I ask you to take note of these arrangements.

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WELCOME TO SWINDON

To ensure your enjoyment of what promises to be a good afternoon's football, the Swindon Police are asking for your co-operation following the final whistle.

This means remaining quietly in your enclosure until home fans have left the area of the ground - probably a wait of some five to ten minutes. This will allow you to leave to board you coaches or get to your cars without interference. As a word of advice to supporters, the removal of favours - i.e. Scarves, Rosettes etc., is a

Coaches will be parked nearby as you leave the sensible precaution. ground and Police Officers will be present to answer any queries. We may escort supporters to the Railway Station. Would train travellers please gather at the rear of the car park adjacent to the County Ground Hotel after the

Above all, we ask that you are patient if faced with any delay after the match. Your coach or train will not leave without you and the Police arrangements have been made to help you.

SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

1. Ouiz

Monday 24th April - Rendezvous Club, 8 p.m. 4 teams of 3.

Directors/Management

Players

Media

Supporters

Entry: £1 non-members

75p Supporters Club Members

2. Forum

Monday 8th May - Rendezvous Club, 8 p.m. Chairman/Secretary/Manager/Coach/Captain Admission: £1.00 non-members

75p Supporters Club Members

3. Programme Fair Sunday 21st May 10.20 a.m. - 2 p.m. Supporters Social Club Admission: 30p Junior Robins - Free on production of Membership Card.

4. Will you please send your nominations for supporter of the year to: Mr. D. Smith, 12 Deburgh Street, Rodbourne, Swindon, Wilts, SN2 2BX.

ANDY ROWLAND TESTIMONIAL DINNER

at Blunsdon House Hotel on Wednesday May 10th

Guest speaker is Duncan McKenzie

Tickets are on sale at the County Ground Reception Desk Price £20.00

SWINDON TOWN F.C. TRAVEL CLUB

The Travel Club will be running coaches to the forthcoming matches:-

Saturday 8th April

Manchester City

Depart at 9.30 a.m.

Fare £7.00 or £11.00 (incl. evening cabaret) Birmingham City

Tuesday 11th April Depart at 4.30 p.m.

Fare £4.50

There will be **ONE** coach staying at Manchester City for an evening cabaret in the Social Club. As you will see above, the fare for this will be £11.00, this includes your coach trip to the match and your admission for the evening, NOT your entrance fee to the match.

*For those of you who travelled to Birmingham City on 14th March to find the match called off, you will be able to travel to the re-arranged fixture for £2.50. If you didn't make the journey before you will be charged the full price of £4.50.

Bookings are taken from members only, membership is still available for the remainder of the season at the cost of £3.00. For further details or to purchase tickets for any of the above trips please call in and see us at our office, situated at the rear of the North Stand. We are open on matchdays (before and after the game), Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays (7.30 - 10.00 p.m.). Alternatively, ring us on (0793) 611499 (24 hour answerphone).

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A SECOND LOOK

A LOOK AT THE SECOND DIVISION SCENE

EDDIE WAS BUSY SMASHING RECORDS! Hull City Manager Eddie Gray smashed the Boothferry Park Club's transfer record for the second day running in the pre-transfer deadline week when he set up a four player shuffle worth almost £500,000. He spent £155,000 on Notts County Striker Ian McParland and then paid Leeds United a £200,000 fee for centre half Peter Swan Notts County then dipped into the McParland fee for Hull's £25,000 rated full back Charlie Palmer, while striker Andy Saville left the Humberside Club in a £100,000 move to Walsall Ian McParland made over 200 appearances for Notts County, his only Club, with an average of a goal every three games Peter Swan a 22-year-old, six footer helped Leeds United to a 2-1 win at Hull only the previous week!

PRE-TRANSFER DEADLINE DEALS

Manchester City signed former lpswich Town goalkeeper from Leicester City in a £25,000 deal ... Leeds United sold defender Vince Brockie to Doncaster Rovers for . Shrewsbury Town paid £30,000 for East Fife's 21-year-old left back Steve Pitman - Manager Ian McNeill's sixth Scottish signing in 15 months! . Portsmouth Manager John Gregory sold 26-year-old midfield player Barry Horne to near neighbours Southampton for £700,000 and then snapped up Tottenham Hotspur midfield player John Moncur on a months loan, with a view to a £150,000 transfer. Birmingham City goalkeeper Tony Godden moved to Sheffield Wednesday on loan . Stirling departed from Watford to Peterborough United for £25,000. Walsall were busy signing goalkeeper Ron Green from Wimbledon on loan. The Saddlers then released Steve McChargey to Rotherham United and Paul Jones to Wrexham, both on loan. They also sold striker Trevor Christie to Mansfield Town for £40,000. AFC Bournemouth released Matthew Holmes to Cardiff City on loan. Leicester City signed Grimsby Town striker Marc North for £100,000. Sunderland released Paul McKenzie to Preston North End on Richard Cook left AFC Bourneloan mouth for a £140,000 transfer to Luton Town. Sunderland released David Harle to Peterborough United and John Hepple to Hartlepool United on loan Jon Purdie joined Brentford on loan from Oxford United

CASH BONANZA AT ELLAND ROAD

Leeds United pulled off a surprise deal when they snatched Gordon Strachan from the grasp of First Division Sheffield Wednesday. Howard Wilkinson underlined his determination to take the Yorkshire side back into the top flight when he won the race for the £300,000 rated Manchester United and Scottish winger.

The Scotland International signed a two-year deal worth £150,000 which includes

bonuses if the Club win promotion. Even loyalty to Ron Atkinson, once his Manager at Old Trafford, could not compete with the financial offer from Leeds United.

Ron Atkinson said of Leeds offer: "I think Gordon got the god-father ultimatum, an

offer he couldn't refuse."

An average attendance of nearly 23,000 has produced more than £1 million in receipts this season. A similar amount raised from commercial enterprises has put Leeds United among the wealthy Clubs in the country

Gordon Strachen said of his move, "I don't fancy hanging about in the Second Divison for too long and my ambition is to help Leeds get back to the top where they belong. You cannot stay with the best Club for the whole of your life and this move is a challenge, giving me the chance to help make Leeds great again." The Scot described United Manager Alex Ferguson as a good friend and almost a father figure, but added, "He told me when the offer came in for me that he would be looking to replace me within months rather than years, so I thought it was a perfect

Howard Willdnson also signed Tottenham Hotspur defender Chris Fairclough on loan with the view to a probable £500,000 transfer. The former Nottingham Forest defender moved to White Hart Lane for £300,000 two years ago. The Elland Road boss then recouped some of his outlay by selling striker Bob Taylor to Bristol City for £175,000. The

Elland Road Club then brought striker Carl Shutt from the Ashton gate Club for £50,000. Brian Talbot the Manager of West Bromwich Albion was extremely busy in the transfer market. After buying Paul Raven Robinson from Doncaster Rovers for £200,000. The Hawthorns boss moved swiftly to buy Ian Banks from Bradford City for £145,000 and then spent £140,000 on Tony Ford from Stoke City in a bid to bolster the midland Clubs promotion challenge.

The west midlands Club then released winger Robert Hopkins to Second Division rivals Birmingham City for £80,000 and goalkeeper Gary Leake to Chester City on loan.

SILLY MONEY

Portsmouth signed utility player John Beresford from Second Division rivals Barnsley for £300,000 a fee the Yorkshire Club's Manager Allan Clarke, described as 'silly'. Allan Clarke said Portsmouth Manager John Gregory had been asking him to part with 22-year-old John Beresford - given a free transfer by Manchester City in 1986-for the past two weeks. In an effort to deflect John Gregory, the Barnsley Manager said he had asked for "silly money"

"I did not want to lose him," explained Allan Clarke, "but John Gregory was per-sistent and eventually he came up with the silly money I was asking." Portsmouth also paid out £300,000 for Birmingham City

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winger Steve Wigley.

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		HOME				AWAY						
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Chelsea	37	10	6	2	36	19	11	6	2	38	18	77
Manchester City	37	11	6	2	41	21	9	4	5	22	16	70
West Bromwich Albion	37	12	5	2	36	13	4	9	5	20	20	62
Blackburn Rovers	37	13	3	3	41	22	5	5	8	19	29	62
Ipswich Town	37	10	2	7	33	21	7	3	8	23	29	56
A.F.C. Bournemouth	36	12	2	5	29	16	5	3	9	16	29	56
Crystal Palace	34	10	6	2	32	16	5	4	7	20	25	55
Watford	35	10	3	3	26	10	5	6	8	24	29	54
Swindon Town		9	5	2	27	13	5	6	7	24	31	54
Leeds United	37	9	5	4	28	18	4	9	6	19	23	53
Stoke City		10	6	2	27	15	4	5	8	18	35	53
Barnsley	36	9	7	3	34	21	4	6	7	16	25	52
Portsmouth		9	6	4	27	14	3	5	10	18	32	47
Sunderland	37	9	6	3	31	17	3	5	11	17	33	47
Leicester City	37	9	5	4	25	15	2	8	9	21	37	46
Oxford United		9	6	4	32	23	2	5	11	17	28	44
Bradford City		6	9	4	21	17	4	5	9	19	30	44
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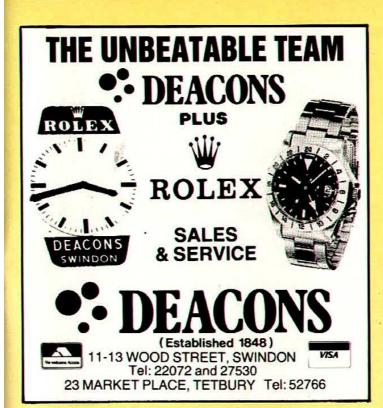
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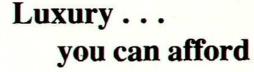
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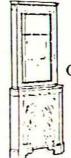
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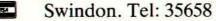
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JUNIOR ROBINS



It was good to see an increase in numbers at our last monthly meeting after the disappointing turnout the previous month. A closely fought Quiz football match ended in a one nil win for Tommy Jones' team against Ross Maclaren's side. The next meeting will take place on Monday 3rd April at 5.30 p.m. in the Alamo Club. Hopefully we shall be joined by some new members as a result of the Avco Junior Supporters Day.

Today we welcome a party from the Junior Blackburn Sup-

porters Club who will have been in action against the Junior Robins at Churchfields this morning. It is a long journey down from Lancashire and I am sure you will join me in wishing them an enjoyable day and a safe return.

Finally a quick quiz, team posters to the first four all correct entries.

1. How many League games did John Trollope play for Swindon?

- 2. What was the aggregate score of the League matches against today's visitors last season?
- 3. Which former Swindon player now plays for Kettering?
- 4. Who was the last Swindon player to score a League hattrick?
- 5. Swindon's first three Managers were an Englishman an Irishman and a Scotsman. True or false?

OUR NEXT OPPONENTS

The wind of change has certainly blown through Valley Parade, Bradford in recent weeks. The surprise departure of Terry Dolan as Manager of the Yorkshire Club and his assistant Stan Ternant was quickly overshadowed by the appointment of Swansea City Manager Terry Torath and the subsequent court action threatened by the Vetch Field Chairman, Doug Sharpe. A High Court injunction prevented the former Leeds United star from taking up his touchline seat for his first match. The set back was resolved and the former Welsh Club Manager was firmly in charge of the Northern Club days later.

One of his first tasks was to appoint an assistant. Terry Yorath had no hesitation in appointing another star of that famed Leeds United team of the late 1960's and early 1970's, Norman Hunter, to help him restore the ailing fortunes of Bradford City. The Valley Parade Club began the season with high hopes after last seasons exploits. Despite their failings in League matches, City had shown they were capable of disposing of the high and mighty. Everton could testify to this fact, following their dismissal from the Littlewoods Cup competition at Valley Parade this season.

Terry Torath soon set about rebuilding the City team. One of his first moves was to set up an exchange deal reputed to be worth £250,000 when he swapped former Portsmouth midfield player Mick Kennedy for the Town's leading goalscorer of last season, Jimmy Quinn. The Northern Ireland International was happy to leave Leicester City where life had been difficult since his move last summer. The former Blackburn Rovers striker soon responded with two goals in Bradford City's 3-1 win at Shrewsbury on

Easter Saturday.

Jim was also on the mark in Bradford's 1-1 draw with Hull City on Easter Monday, scoring with a spectacular 25-yard shot. Jim also hit the bar and had a goal disallowed in this match.

Seemingly obsessed with former Swindon Town strikers, Terry Yorath, was foiled in his attempt to return to Wales and buy Jimmy Gilligan from Cardiff City. The former Watford and Grimsby Town striker is the Welsh Clubs leading goalscorer this season and the deal, if it had proceeded, would have cost the Valley Parade Club £300,000. However, the proposed deal came to a halt on the transfer deadline date of Thursday March 23rd. The only substantial deal that the Yorkshire Club were involved in was the sale of midfield player Ian Banks to last Saturday's visitors West Bromwich Albion. The former Barnsley, Leicester City, Huddersfield Town player was one of the Hawthorn Clubs substitutes in our 0-0 draw with the West Midland Club.

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The Football Trust receives £9 million annually from the Spotting-the-Ball competition run by Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters and spends it all on projects which benefit football throughout the United Kingdom

Since 1979 it has been committed to the development of the game at every level and its broad and varying initiatives have ranged from essential safety work at Tottenham to social work at Toxteth, refurbishment at Wembley to repairs at Welling; closed circuit television at all League clubs to community facilities at Oldham Athletic; transport improvements at Sheffield Wednesday to storm damage in the South East of England: from policing costs at Hull City to an artificial pitch at Hyde United

1988-89 will see The Football Trust increase its commitment by investing further sums in closed circuit television. transport facilities for supporters and projects to bring Football League clubs closer to their local community

At the beginning of the season more than 110 League grounds in England, Wales and Scotland will be equipped with CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION which has been funded by The Football Trust.

It is there to increase crowd safety and to help the police. Recording facilities enable film and photographs to be taken of disorder, which may subsequently be used in a court of law.

CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION

SAFETY FIRST

Football grounds in England and Wales have reached their highest ever level of safety thanks to the £23,671,425 invested by the Football Grounds Improvement Trust since 1975

Almost every League club has been assisted with essential safety work and further substantial sums have been spent to enable them to improve facilities. in the past year alone FGIT grants to Football League clubs totalled:

Improvements

2,254,723 770 561

In addition to its safety programme, FGIT has also allocated £1.5 million to build or improve family and disabled facilities at League grounds during 1988.

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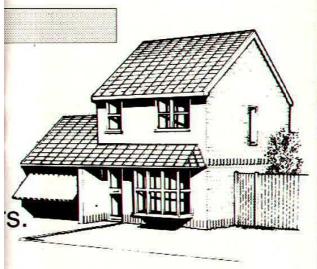


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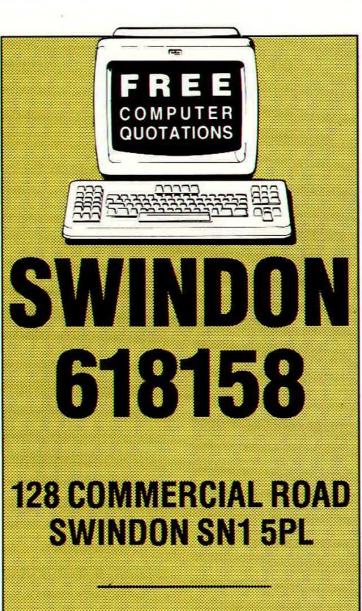
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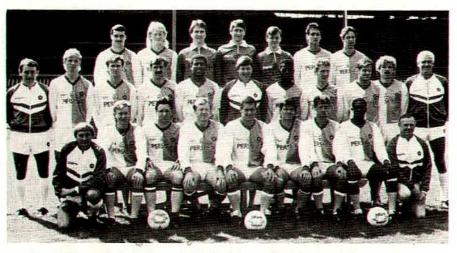






TAKING THE OPPOSITE OF VIEW

BLACKBURN ROVERS



Back Row (Left to Right): Mark Atkins, Colin Hendry, Vince O'Keefe, Terry Gennoe, Darren Collier, Andy Kennedy, Keith Hill.

Middle Row (Left to Right): Dave Hall (Youth Team Coach), David My, Tony Diamond, Ian Miller, Howard Gayle, Don Mackay (Manager), Lennie Johnrose, John Millar, Ally Dawson, David Mail, Jim Furnell (Reserve Team Manager).

Front Row (Left to Right): Tony Parkes (Assistant Manager), Ronnie Hildersley, Sean Curry, Alan Ainscow, Simon Garner, Chris Sulley, Scott Sellars, Tony Finnigan, Jack Cunningham (Physiotherapist).

Blackburn Rovers Football Club was formed in November 1874, at a meeting at the Old St. Legar Hotel, Blackburn. The prime mover on the formation was Mr. John Lewis. After some years as a purely amateur organisation Rovers were one of the 12 Northern and Midland clubs to form the Football League, on 17 April 1888, at a meeting at the Royal Bath Hotel, Manchester.

Until 1936, when the Rovers were relegated along with Aston Villa, they had maintained the longest unbroken sequence of First Division membership from its formation (44 seasons) and only Aston Villa (F.A. Cup 7 and League Cup 1) and Everton (Championship 9, F.A. Cup 4) of the original

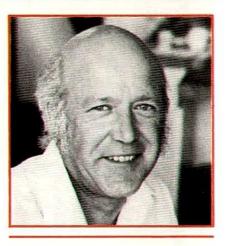
members have won more top honours.

Rovers were Division Two champions in 1939 and runners-up in 1958, and were Division Three champions in season 1974/75 which was also their Centenary Year.

It made them one of the few clubs to have won First, Second and Third Division championships, as well as appearing in a grand total of 8 F.A. Cup Finals and 16 semifinals.

Rovers were famous F.A. Cup fighters even before they became a professional club, reaching the final in season 1881/82 (played at Kensington Oval in those days) to be beaten 1-0 by Old Etonians.

The following year the same two teams



by Dave Eaton

again won through to the final, this time the Rovers won 2-0. In 1886 came the Rovers third successive Cup win. They beat West Brom 2-0 in a replay at Derby following a goal-less draw at the Oval. This unique hattrick of Cup wins was marked by the F.A. who presented the Rovers with a silver shield, which is now proudly displayed in the boardroom.

Rovers won the Cup a fourth time in 1890, the fifth win was in 1891 and then had to wait until 1928 for the sixth win, beating Huddersfield Town 3-1. Rovers were beaten finalists in 1960 at Wembley, losing 3-0 to Wolverhampton Wanderers after being reduced to 10 men when David Whelan broke his leg. Substitutes were not allowed in those days.

During the Cup successes in 1890 in 1891. Rovers invested in acquiring their present headquarters at Ewood Park, moving from Alexander Meadows.

After being relegated in 1938/39 and again in 1947/48, the Rovers had to wait until 1957/58 before the splendid side managed by John Carey got the club back to the top flight once more, and there they stayed until 1965/66 when, after gaining only 20 points that season, they dropped into the Second Division

The low spot of Rovers history was season 1970/71 which saw them relegated to the Third Division for the first time.

They won the championship of the Division under Gordon Lee's managership in 1974/75. Rovers were relegated again in 1978/79, but Howard Kendall took them back to the Second Division the following season in his first season as manager.

MEET THE MANAGER AND PLAYERS

Don Mackay (Manager) Appointed in February last year. A former boss at Dundee and Coventry City, he has also managed abroad, during a spell in Denmark. As a player, he was best known for a lengthy spell as goal-

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Nicky Reid

keeper with Dundee United, during which time he played in more than 30 different countries around the world. Before taking over at Ewood Park, he was on the staff at Glasgow Rangers, helping Graeme Souness plot the great Ibrox revival.

Terry Gennoe (Goalkeeper) Joined Bury from local side Bricklayers Sports in 1972 and made his League debut for them at Workington (20.4.73). Had a spell on loan with Blackburn in 73/74 but did not play. In 1975 he signed for Halifax and played 78 League games before his £40,000 transfer to Southampton. Set up a Club record at the Dell by keeping six clean sheets in a row but made only 36 League appearances. Loan spells with Everton and Crystal Palace followed until Blackburn invested £60,000 for him in 1981.

Simon Garner (Striker) Boston was the first Club to recognise the potential of Simon as a schoolboy when it was under the management of Jim Smith, who was later to take over the reins at Ewood Park, and sign him. Regularly top scorer and has scored over 100 League goals for the Club.

Colin Hendry (Striker) Signed from Dundee, the Club he joined at 17. Born in Kieth, Scotland this 23 year old player, who operated as both a centre forward and central defender for Dundee cost Blackburn £30,000. Scored the winning goal for Blackburn in the 1987 Full Members Cup Final.

David Mail (Central defender) Hails from Bristol, but served his apprenticeship with Aston Villa. Did not make first team appearance with Villa, however, and joined Blackburn in 1982 on free transfer. Made the breakthrough at Derby County (25.9.82) and made 34 appearances that season. Player of the year 1986/87.

Ian Miller (Right winger) A Scot from Perth, he joined Bury as a youngster in 1973 and made his debut against Bradford City (8.9.73). Played 15 games before joining Nottingham Forest on a free in 1975. Failed to make the team there and so moved to Doncaster where he made 138 appearances before signing for Swindon Town for £25,000 plus a player exchange, in the summer of 1978. Enjoyed League Cup success at Swindon, but moved back north to Blackburn in August 1981 for a fee of £67,000. The Club Captain.

Chris Sulley (Full Back) A Londoner from Camberwell, he was recruited to the Chelsea apprentice ranks in 1978 but was released in the 1980/81 season and signed for Bournemouth. Was given his League baptism against Darlington (14.3.81) and went on to play 245 senior games for the Cherries, before transfering to Dundee United. Made his Blackburn debut in the Full Members Cup semi-final with Ipswich Town last season.

Scott Sellars (Midfield) A skillful player who first made his name with Leeds United, where he was signed from school by Allan Clarke. Learned much from Eddie Gray at Elland Road, before deciding to move to Rovers at the end of his contract summer 1986.

Nicky Reid (Midfield) Snapped up from Manchester City during the 1987 close season, and was immediately made team captain by Manager Don Mackay. A versatile player with bags of experience in the top two Divisions. He spent a decade at Maine Road after joining City as an apprentice and played more than 200 senior games for his only previous Club.

John Millar (Midfield) Picked up from Chelsea for a small fee. A player who can operate anywhere down the left side, he marked his Rovers debut in the pre-season Lancashire Manx Cup tournament last season by coming on as substitute and scoring the winner against Bolton.



• John Millar



• Howard Gayle

Howard Gayle (Winger) A much travelled winger who began his career at Anfield and has played more recently for Sunderland and Stoke. Howard joined Rovers on trial at the start of last season, after spending some time in the USA indoor League.

Tony Diamond (Striker). Became full-time professional with Rovers two years ago after working through junior ranks. Has represented Northern Ireland at youth level. Very pacey, has made several first-team appearances.

Mart Atkins (Defender). A summer £45,000 purchase from Scunthorpe United. Although born in Lancaster, the 20 year old joined Scunthorpe straight from school. Made over 50 appearances before transferring to Ewood Park

Andy Kennedy (Striker). A Scot, born in Stirling, he cost Rovers £50,00. Signed to fill the boots vacated by Steve Archibald in a strikers role. He has seen service with Glasgow Rangers and Birmingham City.

Tony Finnigan (Defender). Fullham-born and a genuine Cockney. He was another summer signing costing £45,000 for the move from Crystal Palace, his only previous Club. A recognised defender, he is a versatile performer whose future could be in midfield. Made over 100 appearances for Palace.

Ronnie Eildersley (Winger-Midfielder). A Scottish schoolboy international who served his apprenticeship with Manchester City. Later moved to Chester, then Rochdale and came from Preston to Ewood on a free transfer at the end of last season.

Keith Hill (Defender). An apprentice who has come through the junior ranks. Has skippered the youth team and is now regarded as a fully fledged member of the senior squad.

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TUNE IN WITH BBC WILTSHIRE SOUND'S VIC MORGAN

ALWAYS WELCOME

Good Afternoon and welcome to the County Ground especially those of you from the red rose county. A name familiar to both Clubs of course is Ian Miller, a member of Swindon's League Cup Semi-Final side of the late 1970's and a player for Blackburn for many years since. Very popular on the terraces here was Ian and I would suspect at Ewood Park, he's always welcome here.

EWOOD HOSPITALITY

Blackburn has one of the most renowned Board rooms in the League and is rightly proud of its hospitality. The same must be said of the press box. It is, without doubt, the friendliest in the League and the humour that abounds during a game is quite exceptional. Always a pleasure to visit that particular ground with golden vegetable soup a welcome half time refreshment.

THANK YOU ADRIAN

Talking of humour brings me round once again to those wonderful inflatables currently livening up the football scene. I am indebted to Mr Adrian Smith from Gloucester for his recent letter in which he suggested several more items to be used as the official Swindon 'blow up'. Groundsman Geoff Warren has suggested plastic celery, now Adrian has come up with a Robin or a '125' high speed train. Both of course have strong Swindon connections. All suggestions – clean ones – no come to think of it all suggetions are

welcome and I will pass them on to the Club officials to see if they can be adopted. Meanwhile sightings from the West Brom game include several large dolphins and three magnificent A.L.F. characters on the Shrivenham Road side. Terrific stuff, keep it up.

A GOOD MATCH

The game against West Bromwich Albion was as good a goal-less draw you're ever likley to see. It could have gone either way and despite not finding the net I thought Swindon played exceptionally well. It was also the Club's biggest home League crowd of the season 12,240. That's more like it, let's see attendances like that for the rest of the campaign the team appreciates your support.

FRENETIC TIME

Another transfer deadline has come and gone with its usual frenetic activity before the 5.00 p.m. mark. It seems the football world become mad as March hares for two or three days and crazy money changes hands for players who would cost possibly half the amount at any other time of the year. It's difficult for the fan on the terrace to understand the telephone number money that zooms from Club to Club while queing in line for dilapidated toilets and soggy meat pies. Still I'm sure he understands how hard up football is for the other 360 days of the year.

LUCRATIVE TIMES

One player who moved was Gordon Strachan who dropped from Division



One with Manchester United to Division Two and Leeds. According to the newspapers it seemed a pretty lucrative contract for a 32 year old spread over two years. Well I'm 33 so a one year agreement will do anywhere in midfield, my current Club have come up with a new offer but I certainly couldn't put it in print, I'd get arrested.

A LOVELY TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

Which leads me on to tales of my current team GWRFC, regular readers will recall we've not had the best of luck with the weather in recent weeks which has meant postponements by the rain bucket full. Well I must report success in one of the most extraordinary games the large crowd around twenty had seen. We were at Mildenhall and playing in a beautiful setting just outside Marlborough. GWR a goal up until five minutes from time, Mildenhall strike twice in a minute and things look bad. But amazingly we find the net twice in the remaining minute to take the points 3-2. A great game played in a good spirit and thanks to the people of the lovely village for making us so welcome.

BBC WILTSHIRE SOUND

Finally may I remind you of the birth of a new radio station this coming Tuesday. BBC Wiltshire Sound takes to the air covering all aspects of life in Wiltshire, it's always exciting when a new station starts. I hope you'll give it a warm welcome and take it to your hearts—ahh how twee. Now back to the matter in hand, let's enjoy a good peaceful game of football—stay tuned.

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FOOTBALL COMBINATION & YOUTH TEAM NEWS

WATER WINGS WOULD HAVE BEEN APPROPRIATE!

Although our Youth team lost their Second Leg match in the Midland Youth Cup Semi-Final 1-0 to Leicester City at the County Ground on Monday March 20th, they won the Semi-Final 3-2 on aggregate. The atrocious conditions spoiled any idea of a footballing spectacle and the continuous downpour during the first half reduced the conditions to bordering on the farcical. The twenty two players stuck manfully to their arduous task.

Town Youth team Manager John Trollope in his report of the match said. "We entered the match with a 3-1 lead and we were immediately under pressure when we conceded a penalty in the tenth minute of the match which was converted successfully for the Filbert Street Club. This really put the tie in the balance. Once again Leicester City were a better footballing team, passing and supporting each other very well. We worked hard and with the bit of luck that we needed we managed to retain our slender lead."

"Admittedly we did not play to our strengths as we did in the First Leg match at Leicester when our more direct approach proved so effective. It was only late in this game that we consistently managed to do this and consequently we began to have a greater share of the game.

It was to our credit that we managed to restrict Leicester City to one goal and this proved to be enough to allow us to win the tie on the aggregate score of 3-2 and we can now look forward to participating in the Final."

Team: Thompson, Lea, Graham, Quinn, Sandrey, Murray, Hammersley, Trollope, Summerbee, Hunt, Morgan.

Substitutes: Dixon and Spalding.

UNBEATEN RUN CONTINUES

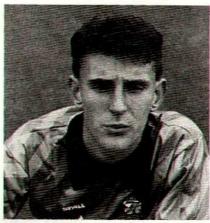
Our 'Ovenden Papers' Football Combination team extended their unbeaten run to six matches when they defeated Queens Park Rangers 2-0 at Hayes on Tuesday March 21st. Their fine form in recent matches has seen them rise to the top six positions in the League table.

Town Coach Andy Rowland in his report of this latest success said: "In a match in which the real feature was the amount of water lying on the surface, we adapted much better to the conditions than the youthful opposition we faced. Our strength was the dominant factor. We took charge of the game from the start and Peter Coyne put us into the lead after twenty minutes of play, when he lifted the ball over the 'keeper from close range. Peter then laid on the second goal which allowed David Geddis to stroke the ball home from ten yards. We entered the half-time interval with our two goal lead."

The Town Coach continued. "The second half petered out into a non-event with chances few and far between. However we were comfortable winners of a match which saw Mark Jones complete ninety minutes of continuous action since his injury put him out of action in August 1987."

Team: Digby, Barnard, Marshall, Coyne, Gittens, Cornwell, Jones, Simpson, Geddis, King, Viveash.

Substitutes: Tomlinson, (for Viveash in 85th min.) Summerbee.



 Paul Thompson – The Town's promising trainee goalkeeper will now be on standby for our Reserve team following Jim O'Donnel's shoulder injury sustained in a training accident



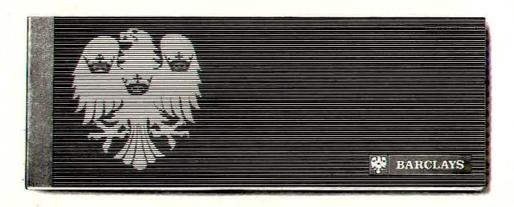
 Mark Jones - who played his first full match since his knee injury, sustained in our pre-season friendly against Gloucester City in August 1987 at Meadow Park Mark helped our Reserve team to their 2-0 success at Queens Park Rangers.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION RESULTS 1988/89

Sept	06	Ipswich Town	Away	L1-5	Own goal
	10	Luton Town	Away	D1-1	Hunt
	13	West Ham United	Home	W2-1	Tomlinson, Simpson
	21	Millwall	Away	W2-1	McLoughlin, Coyne
	28	Arsenal	Home	L1-2	Bodin
Oct	08	Tottenham Hotspur	Away	LO-2	_
	12	Oxford United	Away	L1-4	Simpson
	26	Crystal Palace	Away	L1-2	Viveash
Nov	01	Reading	Home	W6-1	Bodin, Maclaren (pen),
					Tomlinson, Coyne, Geddis,
					Morgan
	80	Southampton	Home	D0-0	-
	15	Norwich City	Away	W2-1	Shearer, Geddis
	22	Chelsea	Away	L1-2	Bodin
	29	Watford	Home	D3-3	Coyne, Bodin, Shearer
Dec	03	West Ham United	Away	W2-1	Barnard, Barnes
		Arsenal	Away	L1-4	Coyne
	20	Brighton & Hove Albion	Home	W5-0	Barnard, Coyne, White,
					Simpson, Hammersley
Jan	04	Portsmouth	Home	W4-0	McLoughlin, Bodin, Simpson,
					Coyne
	11	Charlton Athletic	Home	W3-2	Bodin (2 pens), own goal
	17	Wimbledon	Home	L1-4	Hunt
		Brighton & Hove Albion	Away	D2-2	Coyne, McLoughlin
	31	Fulham	Home	W5-1	Simpson, Viveash,
					G. Morgan (2), Barnes
Feb	07	Ipswich Town	Home	LO-1	-
	14	Luton Town	Home	W2-0	Henry, Shearer
	22	Millwall	Home	W2-1	Barnes, Geddis
		Reading	Away	W2-1	Summerbee, own goal
Mar	07	Portsmouth	Away	W2-0	Coyne, Geddis (pen)
	15	Tottenham Hotspur	Home	W2-1	Barnes, Geddis
	21	Queens Park Rangers	Away	W2-0	Coyne, Geddis
	28	Crystal Palace	Home	W1-0	M. Jones (pen)

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TALKING TO

HOLY WEEK CONNECTION

Have you noticed the **Holy** week connection with today's game? In Easter week we have **D. S. Vickers**, **B. P. Bishop** and **B. D. Priest** officiating! Yes, we know it's April 1st.

INTERESTING DATES

For your interest the following include all the **major** dates, matches and competitions for the remainder of this season.

April

1 Sat FA Vase Semi-Final (2nd Leg)
5 Wed European Cups Semi-Final (1st Leg)
8 Sat FA Trophy Semi-Final (1st Leg)
9 Sun Littlewoods Cup Final
18 Sat FA Cup Semi-Final
FA Trophy Semi-Final (2nd Leg)
19 Wed European Cups Semi-Final (2nd Leg)
25 Tue England v Albania (U-21)
Scotland v Cypnus (WC)
26 Wed England v Albania (WC)
Malta v N. Ireland (WC)

Czechoslovakia v England (EYC)
29 Sat FA County Youth Cup Final (Fixed Date)

30 Sun FA Sunday Cup Final FL Simod Cup Final at Wembley Stadium

Kick-Off 3.00 p.m.

May

3 Wed UEFA Cup Final (1st Leg)

6 Sat FA Vase Final

10 Wed European Cup Winners Cup Final (Lausanne)

13 Sat FA Trophy Final

17 Wed UEFA Cup Final (2nd Leg)

20 Sat FA Cup Final

23 Tue England v Chile (Rous Cup)

24 Wed European Champion Clubs' Cup Final

(Barcelona)

27 Sat England v West Germany (Schoolboys)

Scotland v England (Rous Cup)

28 Sun FL Sherpa Van Trophy Final at Wembley

Stadium, Kick-Off 3.00 p.m.

30 Tue Scotland v Chile (Rous Cup) 31 Wed Wales v West Germany (WC)

June

2 Fri England v Poland (U-21) 3 Sat England v Poland (WC)

7 Wed Denmark v England (F) at Copenhagen 10 Sat England v West Germany (Schoolboys)

at Wembley Stadium

OUR BEST WISHES

Our best wishes are extended to **Hungerford Town** today. In their quest to reach the final of the **F.A. Vase** they travel to **Priory Stadium**, **Priar Street** to meet **Sudbury Town** in the **Second Leg** match. Last week they drew **0-0** at home in the First Leg, watched by **1.684**

If a replay is required it will take place on Wed-

nesday April 5th, Enfield F.C., Kick-Off 7.30 p.m.

Hungerford Town have several former Swindon Town players in their ranks including Andy Wollen, Dean Csserley, Mark Payne and Peter Lango

A PROFILE

How other Clubs see us. In a recent edition of an Oxford United programme the issues of **Swindon Town** and **Blackburn Rovers** were reviewed. For your interest here are the comments made.

Programme Profile

United Supporter Phil Malcolm takes a look at programmes

After the F.A. Cup defeat at Old Trafford Oxford United returned to League action, their away fixtures during February taking them to Swindon Town and Blackburn Rovers. In between these two games they also visited the Channel Islands where they played a friendly against the Jersey representative sade. However, no programme was issued for this match.

Swindon Town - 5th February

This was surely one of the most depressing days United fans have had to endure for a very long time.

At least the match programme provided plenty to read while I waited on Swindon station for a scheduled train to take me back to Didcot!

Containing thirty-six 65 k" × 91 k" sized pages the programme has a fairly homely feel to if but strikes a good balance by also including items of more general footballing interest—often in the same article. For example, in Scott Free! Town supporter Michael Scott discusses not only the days match and Swindon's recent F.A. Cup games against West Ham, but also roore generally, misbehaviour by players suggesting that managers should take more responsibility for their team's misdemeanours. Having chastised clubs like Wimbledon, his honesty in singling out a Swindon player for criticism about illegal use of the elbow is also much to be admirred.

A similar theme is taken up by Vic Morgan of Swindon's local radio station GWR, who besides praising Town's efforts against West Ham, also discusses such diverse subjects as apartheid and sport in South Africa and the appearance this season of those plastic inflatable objects on the terraces of football grounds throughout Britain.

More conventional club news and views are supplied in articles by Manager Lou Macari. Chairman Brian Hilher, Commercial Manager Doug Buswell and player Alan McLoughlin. There is also a jurior Robins column, action photographs from a recent game, first team 1988/89 match statistics, news of Swindon's Football Combination and Youth Teams, an article on their next Football League opponents. Chelsea and a letters page

Further club news appears in 'Noticeboard' and

News Desk' the latter incorporating a well deserved tribute to United Secretary Jim Hunt who plans to retire at the end of the season – a nice gesture by the Swindon club who also makes a point of welcoming back one of their former players. David Moss, now on Oxford's coaching staff. Two pages are devoted to the visiting club with a fairly comprehensive history of United together with pen pictures of the Manager and players.

Finally Short and Sweet contains a number of more general snippets of obscure football news. For example, Peter Shilton, at the age of 40 has now become the oldest player ever to appear in Derby County's first team whilst long-serving Farnborough Town Manager Ted Pearce has recently completed his 1,000th match in charge of the Vaixhall Opel League Club.

Although a fairly dull front cover and a general lack of colour inside the issue meant that the general layout could be better, the Swindon Town programme certainly contains plenty to read which makes it reasonably priced at 70p.

Blackburn Rovers - 21st February

In many ways the Blackburn programme is exactly the opposite to Swindons with an elaborate and colourful front cover attractive presentation of the contents, but not a great deal of reading material. Although also priced at 70p Blackburn's production contains only twenty-four pages on the smaller page size of 574" × 814".

The front cover design is unusual and would not have been out of place on an issue from the 1969's or 1960's, featuring as it does an artist's drawing of a Rovers player in the club's distinctive style of blue and white shirt, standing alongside the club badge whose design incorporates the red rose of Lancashire.

As you might expect, most of the contents seem to be aired exclusively at the home supporters – in contrast to the Swindon programme the only items of more general interest being an explanation as to how this year's Football League play offs will operate and a look at the contrasting fortunes of the two Sheffield clubs. United and Wednesday, who could well end up meeting in next season's Second Division.

The rest of the programme contains fairly standard features such as the Manager's notes. Supporters Club column. Commercial News and playing statistics. There is also an editorial congratulating Rovers player Terry Gennoe who recently broke the record for the highest number of first team appearances by any Blackburn goalkeeper.

Finally, there are two pages of black and white action photographs and a fairly uninspired piece on the visiting club featuring liftle more than pen pictures of the players.

All in all this leaves the reader with a feeling of disappointment in a programme which at first glance seems to promise so much

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20 Bradston Road Aylestone Leicester LE2 8QG

Dear Sir/madam.

I am anxious to obtain a copy of the Swindon Town v Hereford United Division 4 match programme in the season Swindon won the Division 4 Championship (or at least were promoted). I believe they also met in the Freight Rover Trophy that season but it is the League issue I require to complete my collection of Hereford League home and aways. I think it was the 85/86 season (?). If a copy is available please be good enough and let me know how much you require for it. Please let me know too if you have any team sheets for reserve games v Hereford (any season).

Many thanks,

Yours, Peter Clifton.

Editor: Can anyone help Mr Clifton?

Amundsletitet 5 5095 Vlset Bergen – Norway

Hello, Swindon Town Football Club

I am a big fan of Swindon. I have supported the team in many years. I am 15 years old and I play for AAsane F.C. from Bergen (in Norway). I will be very glad if I can get a match proframme from a match this year. Photo and autographs would also be nice. Good luck in the rest of the season, and best wishes from Ronny.

Ronny Monsen

Editor: We are pleased to send your requirements plus a copy of today's programme.

11 Evelyn St Swindon SN3 1RP

Dear Mr King

My son Philip (aged 11) and I are keen supporters of S.T.F.C. and would normally consider joining the many family groups of the North Stand. Other than Stratton Bank it allows them all a good view of course.

We wonder if you have considered the logistics of having no-smoking sections, particularly since so many young children support from this area. There is nothing worse than spending 2 hours with smoke swirling under one's nose and being unable to relocate.

We have no objection to smoking, other than it is injurious to our healths.

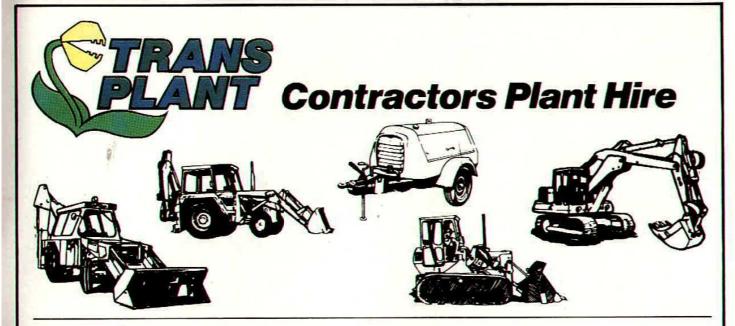
We do nothing to injure a smokers health, why should they injure ours. If they seek to shorten their lives by 10 minutes a cigarette then that's their choice, but passive smoking risk has been proven to be dangerous to the non-smoker.

We appreciate that the logistics would be difficult, but we for one, would then be keen to be North Stand season ticket holders.

Yours sincerely, Adrian & Philip Downing

P.S. Regards to the evil Peter Lucas and Thamesdown Litho.

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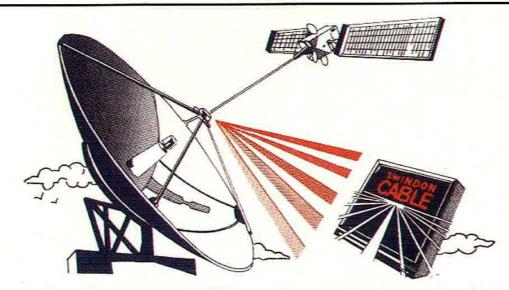
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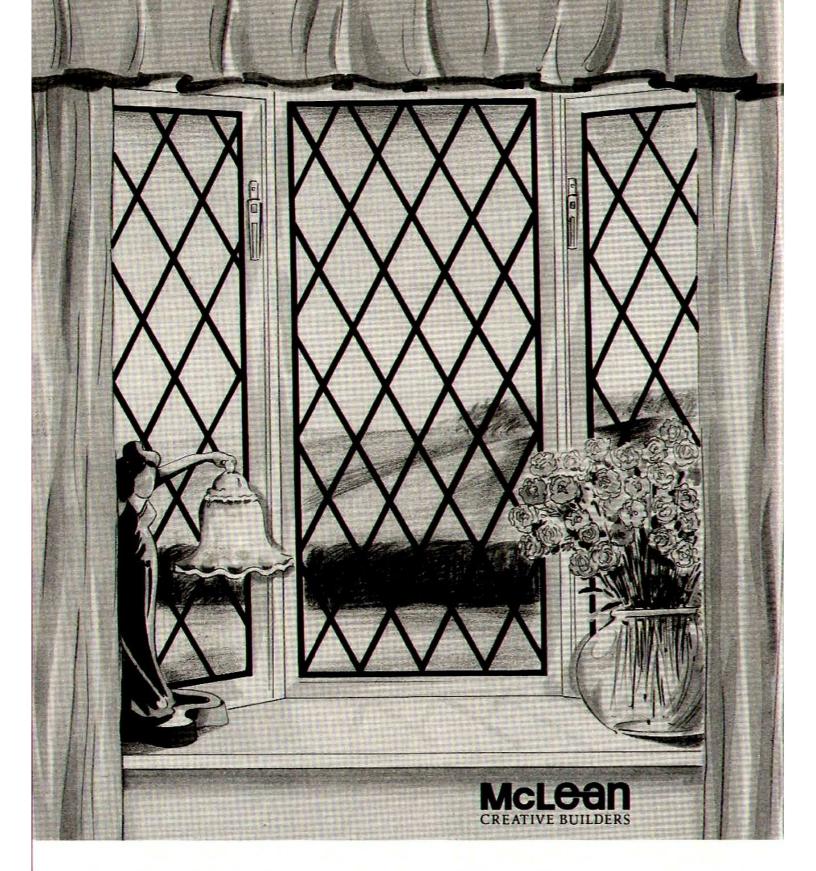
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Admit it, you're beginning to feel at home already.

««VIEWPOINT»»

THE TIME IS APPROACHING We are now approaching the end of yet another season and it will come as a surprise if Swindon Town Football Club are not involved in the transfer tribunal system which dominates the close season activity surrounding the Football League.

Swindon Town have recently been reported to have used the tribunal system more than any of the other 91 Clubs. If that statistic is fact it is because this Club has chosen to disagree on the price of a player. Those decisions have been taken in the interests of this Club. We simply do not decide to arbitrate to the benefit of others. Why should we?

AN INSIGHT INTO THE FORMAT OF THE TRIBUNAL COMMITTEE

The conroversial tribunal system is, in reality, a much maligned court of appeal where decision is taken to settle a fee for a player where a gulf has developed between the price wanted and offered, usually where a player's contract has expired.

To give you an insight into how the system works it is neccessary to introduce you to the format of the committee. They have been in existance since 1978. The Chairman of the present committee is Sir John Wood, an experienced lawyer and arbitrator who is Professor of Law at Sheffield University. Sir John is a gentleman with a surprising knowledge of players and a keen supporter of the game. He also possesses a memory that serves him well in every negotiation. A man who can easily quote with uncanny accuracy past conversations of previous tribunal hearings.

The three remaining members of the committee are representa-

DAVE KING

tives of a) The Players Football Association – usually the Chief Executive Gordon Taylor or his assistant Brendon Batson. b) A member of the Football League, this may be the Secretary or a member of the League staff. c) A member of the Football League Executive Staffs Association, this person could range from a former Club Manager to a current serving Football League Club Secretary.

HOW THE SYSTEM EVOLVES The system works in an orderly fashion and several cases are dealt with in one hearing by the Committee, the venue can be anywhere in the country ranging from a Football League Club to an hotel conference room.

a) Clubs go to the Football League Appeals Committee after failing to agree on a transfer fee for the registration of the player. The tribunal's decision is in normal circumstances binding and the procedure is adopted as follows:

i) Both Clubs are required to provide written statements containing the transfer fee offered and also requested. The contract offered by the players original Club and the contract signed with the new Club. The details of negotiation are also required and any other offers made for the players. The Clubs are encouraged to provide any other relevant information at this stage of procedure.

ii) When the Clubs and the player attend the tribunal hearing the player is interviewed alone by the Committee to establish the background to the dispute. The reason he has sought a move and any



DAVE KING

efforts made to retain him. The Football League provide a history of the player.

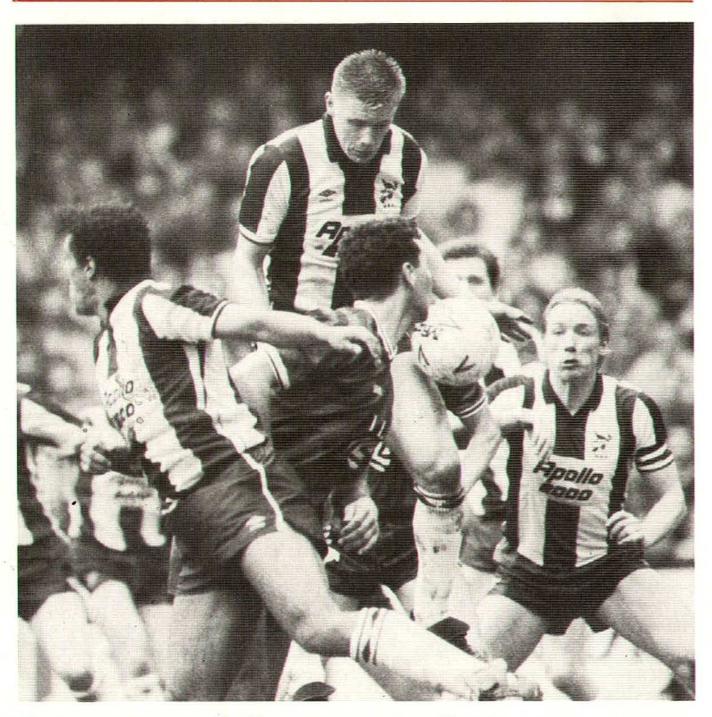
both Clubs to meet the Committee together. The Clubs are usually represented by the following officials. Here at Swindon Town by the Chairman – Mr B. Hillier, the Manager – Mr L. Macari and myself as Secretary. Both Clubs are invited to speak and provide evidence and reasons for their action. It is always a dignified process and conducted in a convivial manner.

iv) Both Clubs and the player are then requested to return after the hearing to allow the Committee to announce its decision and its reasons for that arbitration. Where appropriate any conditions relating to the transfer are also announced.

There are many critics of the system. Many feel it is undignified but Clubs have a responsibility, the asking price is often absurd and astronomical. Compromise is usually the decision of the tribunal system. All officials have a duty to their Club, perhaps one day that duty may embrace sanity and a sense of financial proportion... we can only dream ...

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LOOKING AT SOME GREAT Chots Shots Shots



West Bromwich Albion striker Colin West towers above everyone in this attack.

Lowndes Lambert UK Ltd.



 Prima who . . . Duncan Shearer joins a West Bromwich Albion defender in a pose that we are sure Margot Fonteyn would not have been disappointed with.

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'ISTICS - STATISTICS -

			A. a.v.			SW	INDON	TOWN	1988	8/89			
2	DATE .	TIE.	OPPONENTS	٧	Attnd	Result	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	29.8.88	MON	BARNSLEY	A	6,034	1-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren	Parkin	Gittens	McLoug
	3.9.88	SAT	WEST BROM	A	7,512	1-3	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren	Parkint	Gittens	Bodin
	11.9.88	SUN	PORTSMOUTH	H	11,443	1-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren	Calderwood	Gittens	Foley (1
	17.9.88	SAT	BLACKBURN ROVERS	A	7,622	0-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren	Parkin	Calderwood	Foley
	20.9.88	TUE	A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH (7.45)	H	8,055	3-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren (1)(p)	Calderwood (1)	Gittens	Foley
	24.9.88	SAT	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	H	6,585	3-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren	Calderwood (1)	Gittens	Foley
	27.9.88	TUE	CRYSTAL PALACE (7.45) (LCC1)	H	7,064	1-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maciaren	Parkin	Gittens	Foley
	1.10.88	SAT	WATFORD	A	11,657	3-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones (1)	Parkin	Gittens	Foley .
	5.10.88	WED	OXFORD UNITED	A	9,398	1-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin (1)	Gittens	Foley
	9.10.88	SUN	CHELSEA	H	11,927	1-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	McLoughlin	Gittens	Foley
	12.10.88	WED	CRYSTAL PALACE (8.00) (LCC1)	Ā	6,015	0-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Gittens	Henry	Jones	Foley
	16.10.88	SUN	LEEDS UNITED	H	9,234	0-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin	Gittens	Foley
	22.10.88	SAT	SUNDERLAND	A	13,520	0-4	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkon	Gittens	Foley
	26.10.88	WED	LEICESTER CITY (7.45)	A	9,764	3-3	Digby	Hockaday	King (1) lones	Parkin	Cittens	Foley
	29.10.88	SAT	BIRMINGEAM CITY	H	6,937	2-1	Digby	Hockaday	Kina	lones	Parkin	Gittens	Foley
	5.11.88	SAT	HULL CITY	A	5,192	0-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	lones	Parkin	Cittens	Foley
,	9.11.88	WED	NORWICH CITY (SIMOD CUP)	A	5.014	1-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Maclaren	Parkin	Gittens	McLoug
	12.11.88	SAT	IPSWICH TOWN	H	7.246	2-3	Digby	Hockaday	King	lones	Parkin	Gittens (1)	
	19.11.88	SAT	STOKE CITY	A	9.339	1-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones (1)	Parkin	Gittens	Foley
	26.11.88	SAT	WALSALL	B	5,328	1-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones (1)	Parkin	Calderwood	- Committee and a
	3.12.88	SAT	SHREWSBURY TOWN	A	3.626	1-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin	L. Comment of the Landson	
	10.12.88	SAT	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	H	5.540	2-2		Hockaday	King		Parkin	Calderwood	
	17.12.88	SAT	BRADFORD CITY	A	9,462	2-2	Digby	Hockaday	-	Jones*		Calderwood	
	26.12.88	MON					Digby		King	Jones	Parkin	Calderwood	
	31.12.88	SAT	PLYMOUTE ARGYLE (3pm)	H	7,883	1-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin	Gittens	Foley
			MANCHESTER CITY	H	10,776	1-2	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin	Gittens*	Foley
	2.1.89	MON	PORTSMOUTH	A	11,681	2-0	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Parkin*	Calderwood	
	7,1.89	SAT	PORTSMOUTH (FA Cup R3)	A	10,582	1-1	Digby	Hockaday	King	Jones	Cornwell	Calderwood	
	10.1.89	TUE	PORTSMOUTH (FA Cup R3)	H	11,457	2-0	Digby	Hockaday*	King	Jones	Calderwood	White	Foley (1
	14.1.89	SAT	BARNSLEY	H	10.201	0-0	Digby	McLoughlir		Jones	Calderwood	Comwell	Foley
	21.1.89	SAT	CRYSTAL PALACE	A	8,109	1-2	Digby	McLoughlir	Bodin	Jones	Calderwood	Cornwell	Foley (1
	28.1.89	SAT	WEST HAM UTD. (FA Cup R4)	H	18,627	0-0	Digby	McLoughlir	Bodin	Jones	Calderwood	Gittens	Foley
	1.2.89	WED	WEST HAM UTD. (FA Cup R4)	A	24,723	0-1	Digby	McLoughlir	Bodin Bodin	Jones	Calderwood	Cittens	Foley
	5.2.89	SUN	OXFORD UNITED	H	10,227	3-0	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones	Calderwood (1)	Gittens	Foley
	11.2.89	SAT	CHELSEA	A	17,802	2-3	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin(l)jones	Calderwood	Gittens	Foley (1
	18.2.89	SAT	SUNDERLAND	H	7,432	4-1	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones	Calderwood	Cittens	Shearer
	25.2.89	SAT	LEEDS UNITED	A	22,651	0-0	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones	Calderwood	Gittens	Shearer
	28.2.89	TUE	LEICESTER CITY (7.45)	H	7,456	2-1	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones (p)	Calderwood	Gittens	Foley
	4.3.89	SAT	IPSWICH TOWN	A	11,542	2-1	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones	Calderwood	Parkin	Shearer
	11.3.89,	SAT	HULL CITY	H	7,090	1-0	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones	Parkin	Calderwood	i Foley
	18.3.89	SAT	A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH	A	9,752	3-2	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones(1)	Parkin	Calderwood	Foley(2
	25.3.89	SAT	WEST BROM	H	12,240	0-0	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones	Parkin*	Calderwood	Foley
	27.3.89	MON	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	A	8,487	1-4	Digby	Hockaday	Bodin	Jones(1)	Gittens	Calderwood	i Foley
	1.4.89	SAT	BLACKBURN ROVERS	H		-				-			
	4.4.89	TUE	BRADFORD CITY (7.45)	H									
	8.4.89	SAT	MANCHESTER CITY	A				gar-					
	11.4.89	TUE	BIRMINGHAM CITY	A	1				CIL	TINDON WOUNT	S DIVISION TV	OPECOPE	V
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		SAT	WALSALL	A	53				Played	Won Dr	ewn Lost	For Ag	ainst
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	9	10	11	12	14	Match Sponsor	Ball Sponsor
alderwood	Shearer	White (1)	Barnes	Henry*	Bodin		
Calderwood		White (1)	Barnes	Henry*	Coynet		
lodin*		White	Barnes	Henry*	Barnard	Bluebird Toys PLC, Swindon	Roy Warren and Family, Lambourn
Sittens	AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON	White	Barnes	Henry	Bodin	and a soyou are, emailion	Troy Training Landy, Danisonan
arkin	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	Whitet	Barnes (1)		Bodin*	Myson Heating Ltd. Travis and Arnold PLC	The Blunsdon House Hotel
Parkin							
			Barnes (1)		McLoughlin	Texaco Ltd., Swindon	Kissocasion, Male/Female Kissograms 87080
	Shearer (1)		Barnes	Henry	Jones*	Wheelies Ltd., Signal Way, Swindon	David Marchant, 16 Means Drive, Shaw, Swindo
The state of the s	Shearer (1)		Barnes (1)				
Calderwood	Shearer	White	Barnes	Maclaren	Henry		
Calderwood	Shearer (1)	White	Barnes*	Maclaren	Barnard*	Arkells Brewery	Emery McLaven Orr
Calderwood	Shearer	White	Barnes*	McLoughlin	Barnard		
Calderwood	Shearer*	White	Barnes	Maclaren	Henry*	Mr. C. Puffett, Multi Agg Quarries Ltd.	David Norcliffe and Ben Ryan
Calderwood*	Barnard	White	Barnes	Henry*	Maclaren		
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Calderwood	Henry*	White (2)	Barnes	Geddis*	McLoughlin	Clarion Shoji (UK) Ltd.	Mr Ron Franklin, The Rat Trap, Swindon
Calderwood	Henry	White*	Barnes	Maclaren			
Calderwood	Henry	White (1)	Barnes*	Bodin	Shearer*		
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		4 (1)	Barnes			Skurrays Ltd., Drove Road, Swindon	J. Tremlin, Coped Hill Service Station
Calderwood	Henry	White	Barnes*	Geddis	Shearer*		
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Maclaren	Henry (1)	Barnes	Geddis	Shearer	White*	McLean Homes South West Limited	Punch Press Tooling Ltd., Faraday Rd, Swindo
Shearer (1)	Henry	Maclaren	Geddis (1)	Cittens	McLoughlin		
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Shearer	Geddis	Maclaren	Henry*	White*	McLoughlin		
Cornwell	Shearer(1)†		Geddis	Henryt	McLoughlin*	Tenco Industries Group	Anfield Factors Ltd. & Jenco Ind. Services
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Comwell	Henry*	Maclaren	Geddis	Hockaday*		Transplant Ltd & Wheelies of Swindon	Our friends from the Disabled Enclosure
Cornwell	Hockaday*		Geddis	Henry*	Parkin		
White	-	Maclarent) Comwell	Parkin	Henry	Oxford and Swindon Co-Operative Society	Hale & Hutchings Masonry. (0793) 727355
White	McLoughlin	Maclaren	Comwell*	Parkin	Geddis*		
McLoughlin(1)	White(1)	Maclaren	Simpson*	Henry*	Parkin	Dreweatt Neate, Chartered Surveyors	Auto Electrix, Swindon 511643
McLoughlin	White	Maclaren	King	Parkin	Geddis		
McLoughlin	Shearer(1)	Maclaren*	White	Henry	King*	The Holiday Inn, Swindon	Mr. G. Williams, The Ring Cafe, Cavendish S
McLoughlin*	White(2)	Maclaren*	Foley	King*	Geddis		
Shearer(1)	McLoughlin		White	King	Henry	Burmah Petroleum Fuels Limited	Mr Raynor, Unimill Engineering, Swindon
Shearer	McLoughlin		White	King	Geddis		
McLoughlin	Shearer	Maclaren	White	King*	Geddis	Action Plant Ltd.	C.H. Baxter and Son, Wholesale fruit and ve
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* and † denote	s substitute	and player	Substituted			Roy Allen Supplies, Swindon	A TANASAN A SAARMASKI ON BARKANAN
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reduction in the cost of household insurance.
ask for the 50 Plus Policy.

SHORT SWEET

VIVA YASSER

F.I.F.A. president Joao Havalange has invited officials from the Palestinian Football Association to a meeting to discuss possible membership of world soccer's governing body.

A NEW RECORD

A new transfer fee record between non-League Clubs was set on March 2nd this year when Fisher Athletic striker Ken Charley joined Maidstone United for £35,000.

NOT SO

Wimbledon's crowd of 4,207 against Derby County on February 28th was widely reported as the lowest post-war First Division attendance. Not so. In December 1987, 4,026 saw Wimbledon defeat Norwich City!

CHEEKY

Andy Gray made a cheeky contribution to Queens Park Rangers 0-0 home draw with Arsenal in February! A wayward free-kick crashed against the electronic scoreboard damaging the bulbs and snuffed out the NAL from the visitors name.

VEGAN

Darlington Captain Neil Robertson is possibly the only vegan in the Pootball League. The former Everton and Swansea City defender shuns anything made from animal products, he wears specially made boots – plastic. Neil also worries about encountering a leather football.

CAN GEOFF BECOME A POET?

Could Swindon Town groundsman, Geoff Warren, become a Byron or Keats? Mansfield Town groundsman Don May started to write poetry because his job gave him so much time to think. Now his tales of Robin Hood are broadcast on Radio Nottingham. Don says "I think they would be good with illustrations in children's books and I'm looking to get them published."

SAD MOMENT FOR BILLY

Former Swindon Town inside forward Billy Lucas mourned the pessing of his beloved Newport County. The former Welsh International had three spells as Manager at Somerton Park. "I had some great memories of Newport" he said. "I ran the Black Horse pub across the road and completed most of my signings over the bar. I always gave the players a drink and then told them that was the last time I expected to see them in a pub." Billy, now 71, now lives in Caerlon.

A MISTARE

How unfortunate. A recent newspaper advert on Friday March 3rd proclaimed. Incredible but true. Thinning hair made thicker instantly. "It was printed directly beneath a picture of Bobby Charlton."

NOT LONG ENOUGH!

A gang of soccer thugs were jailed for 20 years after a vicious motorway ambush on rival fans. Twenty-two members of the notorious Border City Firm lay in wait for Scots fans on their way to an international at Wembley in May. Eight youths from Carlisle and one from Liverpool were jailed for 20 years. Life might have been more appropriate.

THE FIRST

Wales and Northern Ireland played the first International at any level to be played on Astro Turf in Britain when they played a Youth International at the new Holyhead Stadium on the Isle of Anglesey on March 22nd.

A NARROW ESCAPE

Darlington defeated Lincoln City 2-1 on March 4th and so avoided an unwanted record. They had drawn 11 and lost 5 games at home since defeating Wrexham 2-1 on April 23rd 1988. This equalled the record of Rochdale (1931-2) and Cambridge United (1983-84) who both went 16 home League games without success.

IT NEARLY REQUIRED A T-SHIRT!

Darlington had defeated Oldham Athletic, Carlisle United and Doncaster Rovers in cup matches at home this season. It was almost a case of the 1,711 who watched the defeat of Wrexham wearing T-shirts with the slogan. I was there!

PLAIN TALKING JOE

The late Joe Harvey was an inspirational leader with Newcastle United as a player in the 1950's and as a Manager in the 60's and 70's. A plain speaking man who did not confuse players with complicated tactics. Before one tie against a skilled European team he warned players: "Whatever you do, don't let them panic you into playing football."

THESE FEET ARE MADE FOR WALKING

On Saturday March 11th, Chippenham's Chairman Doug Webb, aged 49, walked 50 miles from the Town's soccer pitch at Hardenhuish to the Weston-Super-Mare ground to help raise £1,000 for the Club Every year he does something to raise money. Previously Doug had done a sponsored slim.

SIX FIGURES

Most First Division Managers earn six figure salaries but there is a difference between them and the England team Manager. Terry Venables is reputed to earn £150,000 compared with Bobby Robson's annual pay cheque of £100,000.

KIND AND CONSIDERATE

Some football fans could be allowed to watch matches without identity cards, the Government have conceded. Consideration will be given to the disabled and Club guests who could be issued with temporary membership cards for one game only.

BACK ON COURSE

Peter Shilton is back on course to break Bobby Moore's record of 108 England appearances. The England keeper made his 104th appearance for his country in England's 2-0 win in Albania in March.

'CAPTAIN MARVEL'

Manchester United's Bryan Robson led his country for the 50th time in Albania and after the match he received a pennant signed by all the players. Dubbed 'Captain Marvel' by England boss Bobby Robson he was in danger of missing this match because of a stomach allment.

COLOURLESS

Former Queens Park Rangers star Rodney Marsh, now of Tampa Bay Rowdies, describes English football as "a grey game, played on grey days, watched by grey people."

THE LEADING ELEVEN

Did you know that the eleven England International goalscorers are Bobby Charlton, Jimmy Greaves, Tom Finney, Nat Lofthouse, Gary Lineker, Geoff Hurst, Bryan Robson, Stan Mortensen, Tommy Lawton, Mick Channon and Kevin Keegan.

Bonus 25 – House and Contents Insurance with a 15% No Claims Bonus, Hill House Hammond Tel; 618158.



Not just because it's light and airy but, with toughened glass, it's as safe as houses.

It also makes an extra living room for all the family.

A room that needs the minimum of maintenance because it never needs a lick of paint, just the occasional wipe.

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to measure.

You see, we specialise in making individual conservatories and never toy around to convert standard models.

Most people can see through that little game.

So, for further details, contact Wessex Aluminium Limited, Hawksworth, Swindon SN2 1TT. Telephone: (0793) 644633.





TEAM CHECK

SWINDON TOWN

Team Changes 1. Fraser Digby 2. Dave Hockaday 3. Paul Bodin 4. Tommy Jones 5. Colin Calderwood 6. Jon Gittens 7. Steve Foley 8. Duncan Shearer 9. Alan McLoughlin 10. Ross Maclaren 11. Steve White 12. Phil King 14. David Geddis

BLACKBURN ROVERS

	Team Changes
1. Terry Gennoe	
The American Company of the Company	
3. Chris Sulley	******
4. Nicky Reid	
5. Keith Hill	
6. David Mail	
7. Howard Gayle	
8. John Miller	***********
9. Andy Kennedy	
10. Simon Garner	
11. Scott Sellars	
19	
14	

Match Sponsors:
Roy Allen Supplies
Swindon

Wilson Tool International Ltd.
is your
Match Ball Sponsor



TEAM IN THE MIDDLE

Referee: Mr. D. S. Vickers

Linesman Red Flag: Mr. B. P. Bishop

Linesman Yellow Flag: Mr. B. D. Priest

Reserve Official: Mr. L. E. Paddock

NEXT AT HOME

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION TWO Tuesday April 4th 1989 BRADFORD CITY Kick-Off 7.45 p.m.



WARNING TV SURVEILLANCE

This ground is equipped with

CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION

Installed with the help of a grant from the Football Trust. It is there to increase crowd safety and to help the police. Recording facilities enable film and photographs to be taken of disorder, which may subsequently be used in a court of law.

The Football Trust is funded entirely by the pools companies Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters from their Spotting-the-Ball competition.

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DO CALL AND SEE DOUG WOODMAN AND VIEW THE LARGE RANGE OF FOOTBALL AND OTHER SPORTS GOODS AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICIAL CLUB SHOP.

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