



**BARCLAYS
LEAGUE**



PLAY-OFF FINALS

DIVISION 4 FINAL - 26 MAY 1990

DIVISION 3 FINAL - 27 MAY 1990

DIVISION 2 FINAL - 28 MAY 1990

ALL KICK-OFF AT 3.00 pm

**OFFICIAL MATCHDAY
PROGRAMME £2.50**



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COVENTRY CITY	166	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	688	FALKIRK	554
CREWE ALEXANDRA	647	PORTSMOUTH	182	HEARTS	183
CRYSTAL PALACE	145	PORT VALE	636	HIBS	189
DARLINGTON	149	PRESTON NORTH END	173	KILMARNOCK	557
DERBY COUNTY	187	Q.P.R.	162	MOTHERWELL	553
DONCASTER ROVERS	651	ROTHERHAM UNITED	637	RANGERS	555
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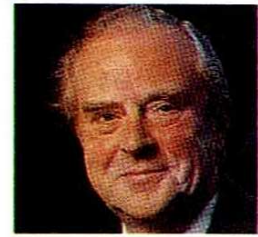
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TIMETABLE

BARCLAYS LEAGUE PLAY-OFF FINALS



Mr W. Fox, President of The Football League.



Mr Bill Gordon, Personnel Director, Barclays Bank PLC.



Mr Owen Rout, Director of Barclays Bank PLC.



Mr Brian Pearse, Finance Director, Barclays Bank PLC.

DIVISION 4

SATURDAY 26 MAY

1.00 pm... Taped music.

1.30 pm... Penalty Shoot-out Event. Celebrity keepers defend their goals against youth teams from Cambridge United and Chesterfield.

2.15 pm... Soccer Skills Event. A completely new game in which youth teams representing Cambridge United and Chesterfield display their skill over a competitive circuit of soccer skills.

2.40 pm... Parachute drop by the famous Red Devils.

2.50 pm... Teams presented to Mr Bill Fox, President of The Football League and Mr Bill Gordon, Personnel Director of Barclays Bank PLC accompanied by Mr J. D. Dent, Secretary of The Football League.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

3.00 pm... Kick-off

3.45 pm... Half Time.

4.00 pm... Second half kick-off.

4.45 pm... Scheduled end of game.

4.50 pm... Presentations.

DIVISION 3

SUNDAY 27 MAY

1.20 pm... Selection by The Senators Marching Band.

1.30 pm... Penalty Shoot-out Event. Celebrity keepers defend their goals against youth teams from Notts County and Tranmere Rovers.

2.15 pm... Soccer Skills Event. A completely new game in which youth teams representing Notts County and Tranmere Rovers display their skill over a competitive circuit of soccer skills.

2.40 pm... Marching band.

2.50 pm... Teams presented to Mr Bill Fox, President of The Football League and Mr Owen Rout, Director of Barclays Bank PLC accompanied by Mr J. D. Dent, Secretary of The Football League.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

3.00 pm... Kick-off.

3.45 pm... Half Time.

4.00 pm... Second half kick-off.

4.45 pm... Scheduled end of game.

4.50 pm... Presentations.

DIVISION 2

MONDAY 28 MAY

1.20 pm... Selection by The Senators Marching Band.

1.30 pm... Penalty Shoot-out Event. Celebrity keepers defend their goals against youth teams from Sunderland and Swindon Town.

2.15 pm... Soccer Skills Event. A completely new game in which youth teams representing Sunderland and Swindon Town display their skill over a competitive circuit of soccer skills.

2.40 pm... Marching band.

2.50 pm... Teams presented to Mr Bill Fox, President of The Football League and Mr Brian Pearse, Finance Director, Barclays Bank PLC accompanied by Mr J. D. Dent, Secretary of The Football League.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

3.00 pm... Kick-off.

3.45 pm... Half Time.

4.00 pm... Second half kick-off.

4.45 pm... Scheduled end of game.

4.50 pm... Presentation.

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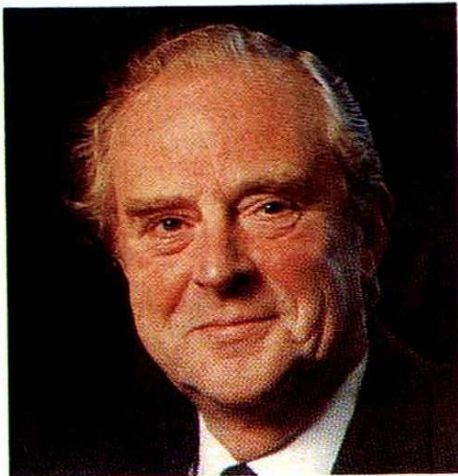
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PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS

BARCLAYS LEAGUE

WELCOME TO THE PLAY-OFFS



Mr William Fox, President, The Football League.

On behalf of The Football League, may I welcome you to the Divisional Finals of the Barclays Play-Offs. With so many clubs still involved in the race for promotion right up to the last Saturday of the regular season, this weekend's three deciding games promise a highly exciting finale to this year's Barclays League Championship.

This is, of course, the first time that the Play-Offs have been staged at Wembley — a measure of their ever-growing popularity and at the same time ensuring the safety and security of those attending this weekend's games.

As the Barclays League Championship enters its final stage it is encouraging to reflect upon yet another rise in attendance levels — the fourth year running that this has happened. Just under nineteen and a half million people have watched games this season, the highest level for eight years.

The Football League has always recognised the need to stimulate new interest in the game and the introduction, in the early eighties, of three points for a win and, more recently, the Play-Off system have surely been instrumental in attracting more spectators to the game. These two initiatives have ensured that more clubs than ever before retain an interest in the promotion race right up to the closing stages of the season.

The Play-Offs themselves, first introduced in 1986-87, have received strong backing from the fans. Market research, conducted for the League by MORI, has shown an overwhelming majority in favour of the Play-Off system, with two thirds of those questioned wishing to see them continue. This figure rises to 85% amongst supporters of Third and Fourth Division clubs.

It would be remiss of me not to welcome our sponsors Barclays Bank, and their guests, for the weekend. I would like to extend our sincere thanks to Barclays for the continued, and significant, support they provide for football. Barclays have, of course, extended their original sponsorship of the League Championship to 1993 and we look forward to continuing our highly successful relationship with them during the next three years.

It only remains for me to say that, whatever the result, I hope you all enjoy the occasion.

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BARCLAYS LEAGUE

LEAGUE POSITIONS INTO THE PLAY-OFFS

This is the fourth year since the Football League introduced a play-off system covering all three lower divisions.

Undoubtedly, this has considerably increased the end of season interest in League matches among many clubs.

The general theme of the play-offs is that the final promotions place in each division shall no longer be a formality but that the four clubs just below those given automatic promotion will fight it out for that last promotion place.

When all this was arranged, it was also decided that, of the four teams in contention in each division, the highest one should play the lowest and the two middle teams should meet on a home and away basis.

This year, for the first time, those two winning teams from each division will meet at Wembley for the right to be promoted.



	HOME					AWAY					Pts
	P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A	
Liverpool	38	13	5	1	38 15	10	5	4	40	22	79
Aston Villa	38	13	3	3	36 20	8	4	7	21	18	70
Tottenham	38	12	1	6	35 24	7	5	7	24	23	63
Arsenal	38	14	3	2	38 11	4	5	10	16	27	62
Chelsea	38	8	7	4	31 24	8	5	6	27	26	60
Everton	38	14	3	2	40 16	3	5	11	17	30	59
Southampton	38	10	5	4	40 27	5	5	9	31	36	55
Wimbledon	38	5	8	6	22 23	8	8	3	25	17	55
Nottingham Forest	38	9	4	6	31 21	6	5	8	24	26	54
Norwich	38	7	10	2	24 14	6	4	9	20	28	53
Q.P.R.	38	9	4	6	27 22	4	7	8	18	22	50
Coventry	38	11	2	6	24 25	3	5	11	15	34	49
Manchester United	38	8	6	5	26 14	5	3	11	20	33	48
Manchester City	38	9	4	6	26 21	3	8	8	17	31	48
Crystal Palace	38	8	7	4	27 23	5	2	12	15	43	48
Derby	38	9	1	9	29 21	4	6	9	14	19	46
Luton Town	38	8	8	3	24 18	2	5	12	19	39	43
Sheffield Wed	38	8	6	5	21 17	3	4	12	14	34	43
Charlton	38	4	6	9	18 25	3	3	13	13	32	30
Millwall	38	4	6	9	23 25	1	5	13	16	40	26

	HOME					AWAY					Pts
	P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A	
Leeds	46	16	6	1	46 18	8	7	8	33	34	85
Sheffield United	46	14	5	4	43 27	10	8	5	35	31	85
Newcastle	46	17	4	2	51 26	5	10	8	29	29	80
Swindon	46	12	6	5	49 29	8	8	7	30	30	74
Blackburn	46	10	9	4	43 30	9	8	6	31	29	74
Sunderland	46	10	8	5	41 32	10	6	7	29	32	74
West Ham	46	14	5	4	50 22	6	7	10	30	35	72
Oldham Athletic	46	15	7	1	50 23	4	7	12	20	34	71
Ipswich Town	46	13	7	3	38 22	6	5	12	29	44	69
Wolves	46	12	5	6	37 20	6	8	9	30	40	67
Port Vale	46	11	9	3	37 20	4	7	12	25	37	61
Portsmouth	46	9	8	6	40 34	6	8	9	22	31	61
Leicester	46	10	8	5	34 29	5	6	12	33	50	59
Hull	46	7	8	8	27 31	7	8	8	31	34	58
Watford	46	11	6	6	41 28	3	9	11	17	32	57
Plymouth	46	9	8	6	30 23	5	5	13	28	40	55
Oxford	46	8	7	8	35 31	7	2	14	22	35	54
Brighton	46	10	6	7	28 27	5	3	15	28	45	54
Barnsley	46	7	9	7	22 23	6	6	11	27	48	54
West Bromwich Albion	46	6	8	9	35 37	6	7	10	32	34	51
Middlesbrough	46	10	3	10	33 29	3	8	12	19	34	50
Bournemouth	46	8	6	9	30 31	4	6	13	27	45	48
Bradford City	46	9	6	8	26 24	0	8	15	18	44	41
Stoke City	46	4	11	8	20 24	2	8	13	15	39	37

	HOME					AWAY					Pts
	P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A	
Bristol Rovers	46	15	8	0	43 14	11	7	5	28	21	93
Bristol City	46	15	5	3	40 16	12	5	6	36	24	91
Notts County	46	17	4	2	40 18	8	8	7	33	35	87
Tranmere	46	15	5	3	54 22	8	6	9	32	27	80
Bury	46	11	7	5	35 19	10	4	9	35	30	74
Bolton	46	12	7	4	32 19	6	8	9	27	29	69
Birmingham	46	10	7	6	33 19	8	5	10	27	40	66
Huddersfield	46	11	5	7	30 23	6	9	8	31	39	65
Rotherham	46	12	6	5	48 28	5	7	11	23	34	64
Reading	46	10	9	4	33 21	5	10	8	24	32	64
Shrewsbury	46	10	9	4	38 24	6	6	11	21	30	63
Crewe	46	10	8	5	32 24	5	9	9	24	29	62
Brentford	46	11	4	8	41 31	7	3	13	25	35	61
Leyton Orient	46	9	6	8	28 24	7	4	12	24	32	58
Mansfield	46	13	2	8	34 25	3	5	15	16	40	55
Chester	46	11	7	5	30 23	2	8	13	13	32	54
Swansea	46	10	6	7	25 27	4	6	13	20	36	54
Wigan	46	10	6	7	29 22	3	8	12	19	42	53
Preston	46	10	7	6	42 30	4	3	16	23	49	52
Fulham	46	8	8	7	33 27	4	7	12	22	39	51
Cardiff	46	6	9	8	30 35	6	5	12	21	35	50
Northampton	46	7	7	9	27 31	4	7	12	24	37	47
Blackpool	46	8	6	9	29 33	2	10	11	20	40	46
Walsall	46	6	8	9	23 30	3	6	14	17	42	41

	HOME					AWAY					Pts
	P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A	
Exeter	46	20	3	0	50 14	8	2	13	33	34	89
Grimsby	46	14	4	5	41 20	8	9	6	29	27	79
Southend	46	15	3	5	35 14	7	6	10	26	34	75
Stockport	46	13	6	4	45 27	8	5	10	23	35	74
Maidstone	46	14	4	5	49 21	8	3	12	28	40	73
Cambridge	46	14	3	6	45 30	7	7	9	31	36	73
Chesterfield	46	12	9	2	41 19	7	5	11	22	31	71
Carlisle	46	15	4	4	38 20	6	4	13	23	40	71
Peterborough	46	10	8	5	35 23	7	9	7	24	23	68
Lincoln	46	11	6	6	30 27	7	8	8	18	21	68
Scunthorpe	46	9	9	5	42 25	8	6	9	27	29	66
Rochdale	46	11	4	8	28 23	9	2	12	24	32	66
York	46	10	5	8	29 24	6	11	6	26	29	64
Gillingham	46	9	8	6	28 21	8	3	12	18	27	62
Torquay	46	12	2	9	33 29	3	10	10	20	37	57
Burnley	46	6	10	7	19 18	8	4	11	26	37	56
Hereford	46	7	4	12	31 32	8	6	9	25	30	55
Scarborough	46	10	5	8	35 28	5	5	13	25	45	55
Hartlepool	46	12	4	7	45 33	3	6	14	21	55	55
Doncaster	46	7	7	9	29 29	7	2	14	24	31	51
Wrexham	46	8	8	7	28 28	5	4	14	23	39	51
Aldershot	46	8	7	8	28 26	4	7	12	21	43	50
Halifax	46	5	9	9	31 29	7	4	12	26	36	49
Colchester	46	9	3	11	26 25	2	7	14	22	50	43

SETTING THE SCENE

What a season it has been! Liverpool clinched the League title for a record-breaking 18th time - overcoming a much improved Aston Villa side, who threatened the men from Anfield for much of the season; Oldham showed immense skill and stamina in League and Cup, surprising even their most ardent followers; the city of Bristol dominated the Third Division; newly promoted Maidstone had a dream-like beginning to their League history and now we welcome Darlington back into the the Barclays Football League after an absence of just one year.

Probably the most exciting aspect of all has been the close competition at both ends of each of the divisions. It was not until the final Saturday that many of the promotion and relegation issues were settled.

Which brings us to the Barclays League Play-Off Finals.

When the Play-Off system was first introduced in the 1986/87 season, there was understandable scepticism in certain quarters of the footballing community. Since then the Play-Offs have grown in stature and are now

widely accepted and welcomed as an exciting climax to the season, especially for the participating clubs' supporters.

The logical development of the Play-Offs' increasing popularity was to bring the Finals together and hold them at the nation's premier footballing venue - Wembley Stadium - a move which Barclays wholeheartedly welcomes.

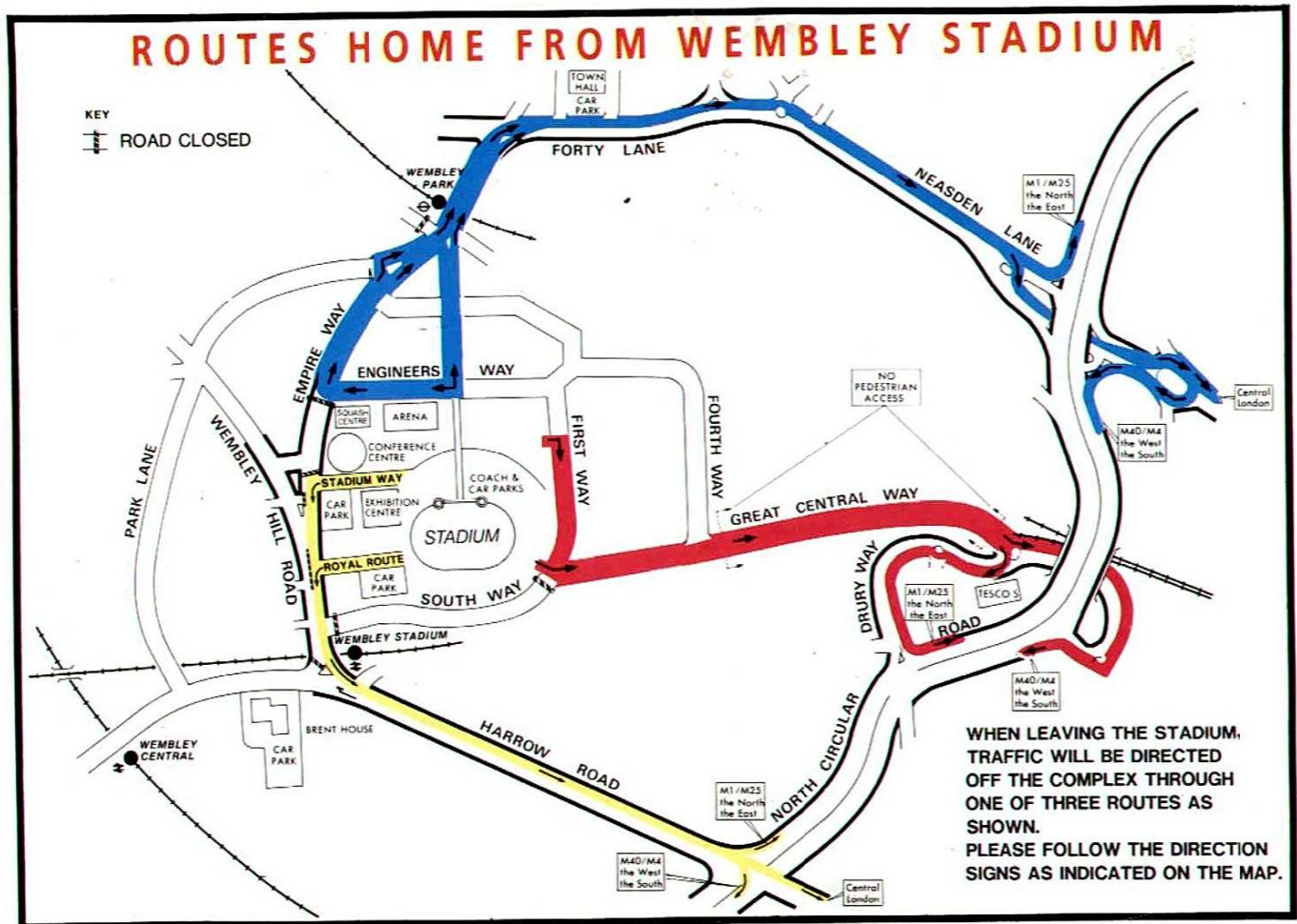
The move to Wembley ensures the safety and security of supporters attending the game - something which is foremost in all our minds in the light of the Taylor Report - and will raise the profile of the Finals onto the national stage.

Barclays is very excited about this new venture. Having sponsored The Football League Championship for 3 years, we see this latest development as leading the way forward for the new spirit of the game in the 1990's.

This weekend's festival of football will be complemented by a range of other entertaining activities, which will appeal to all the family. We hope you enjoy it!



BARCLAYS LEAGUE



UNITED DATA-FILE

Abbey Stadium, Newmarket Road, Cambridge.
Telephone: Teversham (0223) 241237.
Commercial Dept.: 0223-241237.
Clubcall: 0898 12 11 41.

Ground Capacity: 10,218.

Record Attendance: 14,000 v *Chelsea*, Friendly, 1 May, 1970.

Record Receipts: £60,065 v *Crystal Palace* FA Cup Quarter Final 10 May 1990.

Pitch Measurements: 110yd × 74yd.

Chairman: R.H. Smart. **Vice-Chairman:** D.A. Ruston.

Directors: R.J. Smith, C. Howlett, J. Howard, R. Hunt.

Team Manager: John Beck.

Physio: Roy Johnson.

Secretary: Nigel Pleasants. **Sales Manager:** Gary Johnson.

Year Formed: 1919. **Turned Professional:** 1946. **Ltd. Co.:** 1948.

Club Nickname: 'United'.

Previous Name: *Abbey United* until 1949.

Record League Victory: 6-0 v *Darlington*, Division 4, 18 September 1971 — Roberts; Thompson, Akers, Guild, Eades, Foote, Collins (1p), Horrey, Hollett, Greenhalgh (4), Phillips. (1og). 6-0 v *Hartlepool*, Division 4, 11 February 1989 — Vaughan; Beck, Kimble, Turner, Chappel (1), Daish, Clayton, Holmes, Taylor (3 incl. 1p), Bull (1), Leadbitter (1).

Record Cup Victory: 4-1 v *Woking* (away), FA Cup, 1st rd, 19 November 1988 — Vaughan; Bailie, Kimble, Smith, Chapple, Beck, Clayton, Ryan, Reilly (2), Hamilton, Croft (2).

Record Defeat: 0-6 v *Aldershot*, Division 3, 13 April, 1974 and v *Darlington*, Division 4, 28 September, 1974 and v *Chelsea*, Division 2, 15 January 1983.

Most League Points (2 for a win): 65, Division 4, 1976-77.

Most League Points (3 for a win): 68, Division 4, 1988-89.

Most League Goals: 87, Division 4, 1976-77.

Highest League Scorer in Season: David Crown, 24, Division 4, 1985-86.

Most League Goals in Total Aggregate: Alan Biley, 74, 1975-80.

Most Capped Player: Tom Finney, 7(15), Northern Ireland.

Most League Appearances: Steve Spriggs, 416, 1975-87.

Record Transfer Fee Received: £350,000 from *Derby Co* for Alan Biley, January 1980.

Record Transfer Fee Paid: £140,000 to *Northampton T* for George Reilly, November 1979.

Football League Record: 1970 Elected to Division 4; 1973-74 Division 3; 1974-77 Division 4; 1977-78 Division 3; 1978-84 Division 2; 1984-85 Division 3; 1985—Division 4.

Honours: Football League: Division 2 best season: 8th, 1979-80 Division 3 — Runners-up 1977-78; Division 4 — Champions 1976-77. **FA Cup best season:** 5th rd, 1982-83. **Football League Cup:** 4th rd, 1980-81.

Colours: Yellow and black shirts, yellow and black shorts yellow stockings. **Change Colours:** All sky blue with amber and black trim.



Dion Dublin takes a slide against Maidstone United.

PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS

CAMBRIDGE UNITED

CAMBRIDGE UNITED THROUGH THE YEARS

IT is almost as if Cambridge United had leapt out of the pages of a boys comic so dramatic and remarkable has been the club's rise to fame. Just eight short years after winning the Southern League Premier title in 1970 the U's were preparing for their debut in the Second Division of the Football League.

This was but one of the many outstanding achievements which passed almost unheralded in this university city where cap and gown go their separate ways. Cambridge as a seat of learning dates back to 1281 its reputation world renowned. Cambridge United, pioneers of professional football in this august setting, have but 70 years of mainly regional glory to reflect upon.

Indeed, the origins of the club are ecclesiastical rather than academic a band of young pioneers led by the curate of the Abbey Church, the Rev. W. Warr, forming a team called Abbey United in 1920.

The next 29 years were spent in the Cambridgeshire League the team racing from the third to the Premier Division in record time and winning the County Challenge Cup in 1925 and 1929.

Spurred on by ambition, and success, Abbey United turned fully professional after the war and entered the United Counties League. In 1950 a limited liability company was formed and the purchase of the ground, where the Abbey Stadium is now situated, was completed.

On Monday, 9th October 1950 at 2.30 p.m., the new company's first Board meeting convened, in the offices of Mr W. M. Francis at Peas Hill, in Cambridge. Amongst those present was Geoff Proctor, a local businessman, who was to become the driving force and leading light in the club's rapid rise to League football.

It was Proctor who, in June 1951, hired Bill Whittaker as the club's first player-manager. A player with Huddersfield Town he had been in Charlton Athletic's FA Cup winning side of 1947 and at 27 his current employers, Crystal Palace, were seeking a transfer fee of £6,000.

Whittaker was given a salary of £520 per annum plus a rent-free house.

In May 1952 the club changed its name to Cambridge United Football Club Limited and gained admission to the Eastern Counties League where they stayed until 1958 when they joined the Southern League. First Division runners-up in 1961 Cambridge United, who within the city were always considered to be in the shadow of their more illustrious neighbours Cambridge City, pressed on and under the managership of

another former FA Cup winning hero, Bill Leivers (who played at Wembley in the 1956 final for Manchester City) won the Southern League Premier championship in 1969.

Desperate attempts to gain Football League recognition failed but after retaining the Premier title in 1970, and investing in a PR company to state their case, Cambridge United were voted into the League at the AGM at the expense of Bradford Park Avenue in 1970.

Promotion to Division Three was achieved in 1973 and the U's were to meet the challenge with their best ever start to a season under Bill Leivers. But by the end of January the team were fourth from bottom, a position they were to fail to improve on.

It was a period of austerity all round with the three-day working week and on January 6th, 1974, Cambridge United made history by staging the very first ever senior competitive match on a Sunday when they played Oldham Athletic in a FA Cup third round tie.

The arrival of Ron Atkinson in 1974 was a significant development. The flamboyant manager created a solid foundation and although he quit before the team gained promotion to the Second Division in 1978 the success was very much a product of his creation and of course in winning the Fourth Division Championship in 1977 he had secured the club's only major title since joining the League.

John Docherty was to guide the team through those halcyon days when the likes of West Ham United and Newcastle United provided the opposition. It was the change in the distribution of gate receipts which really provided the death knell for this progressive club. Quite simply the home gates were not sufficient to support a team of this standing.

Consequently the better players were allowed to leave and by 1985 Cambridge United were back in Division Four. Yet all is not lost. The passion and determination that was so prevalent in the fifties and sixties is still there in abundance.

The success of manager John Beck, who was thrust into the managerial seat in January for an FA Cup tie with Darlington, is living proof that clubs like Cambridge United can still thrive on a touch of romanticism.

Beck took over a team struggling in mid-table which had been held at home by the Darlington non-leaguers. He introduced the cold-shower treatment before games and United not only climbed the table but disposed of First Division Millwall on route to the quarter-finals of the FA Cup.

"I made a few changes such as putting Colin Bailie into midfield and signing Steve Claridge and started playing a little more direct," says Beck whose playing career with QPR, Coventry City, Fulham, Bournemouth and Cambridge spanned well over 450 games.

In his first four months in charge John won two Barclays 'Manager of the Month' awards. He says: "I always thought I could do a good job it was just a case of being in the right spot at the right time."



Colin Bailie moved to midfield.

"Chris Turner wanted to resign he had had enough and I being my enthusiastic bubbling self wanted to take the bull by the horns and try and do the proverbial business."

A single minded but outwardly shy young man he thought his football career was ended until Turner invited him to be his assistant. Says John: "Sometimes your personality might not suit the right people so like I said I was just lucky to be here at the right time."

"We just steered the lads in the right way and they have been magnificent."

At ease with the playing staff John does admit "there is a side to football management that I do find difficult. The social side, the talking to directors side, which I have found quite hard. A lot of people label me as an introvert but I think that is because basically I am quite a shy person. But all that shyness goes as soon as I get out onto a football field... It is amazing."

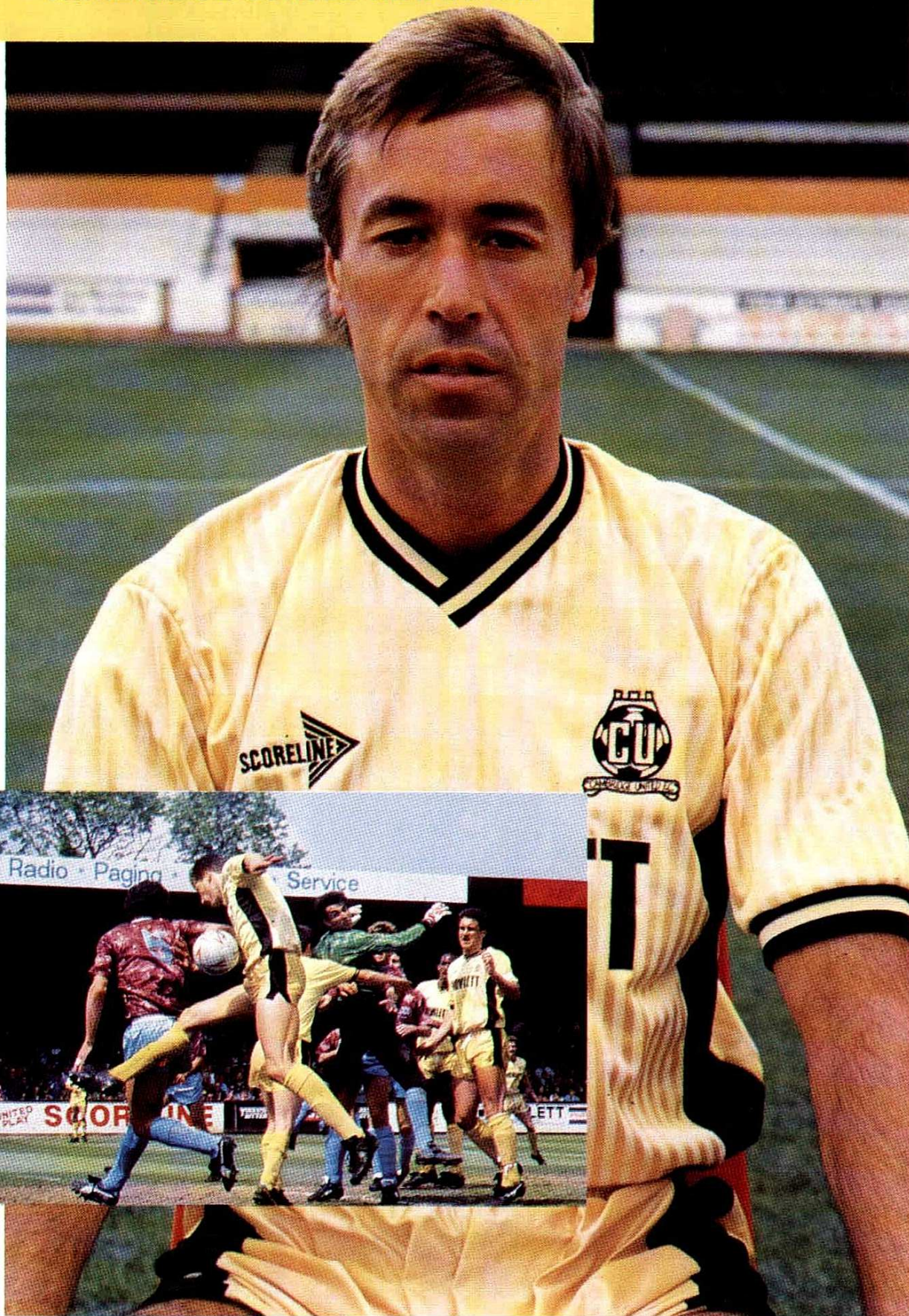
John insists his main quality is his enthusiasm for the game which he tries to inflict on all his players but he does himself a great dis-service for his tactical and planning strategy has been behind the U's revival and was particularly important in the Play-Off semi-final against Maidstone United.

"I have never been to Wembley before apart from one game to watch Chelsea in a cup final," says John. "It is everyone's dream to walk out on the Wembley turf and it is a great incentive for us as well to not only show our capabilities but win a place in Division Three."

United fans are sick of seeing the TV re-runs of Geoff Thomas' goal for Crystal Palace which shattered their Wembley dreams last March. But today they can live dreams of their own exactly 20 years after gaining League status.

COLIN BENSON

JOHN BECK
CAMBRIDGE UNITED MANAGER



CAMBRIDGE UNITED

PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS

THE PICK OF CAMBRIDGE AT WEMBLEY

JOHN VAUGHAN

Goalkeeper who joined Cambridge on a free transfer from Fulham in June 1988. Began as an apprentice at West Ham before joining Fulham for £20,000 in August 1988. He has also had loan spells at Charlton, Wrexham, Bristol Rovers and Bristol City. Born Isleworth. Age 25.

COLIN BAILIE

Belfast-born defender who made 107 League appearances for his first club Swindon, who he joined as an apprentice. In July 1985 he transferred to Reading for £22,500 and in September 1988 he joined Cambridge for £25,000. Was captain for the first half of last season. Age 26.

ALAN KIMBLE

Cambridge's penalty taker. A defender who began his career at Charlton making six appearances for them and one on loan at Exeter before joining Cambridge in August 1988 on a free transfer. He made his 150th appearance for the club this season. Born Poole. Age 23.

LIAM DAISH

Ever present defender in Cambridge's FA Cup run to the fifth round. Signed from his first club Portsmouth on a free transfer in July 1988 after making only one League appearance for the Fratton Park club. His form this season earned him a call-up to the Republic of Ireland 'B' squad. Born Portsmouth. Age 21.

PHIL CHAPPLE

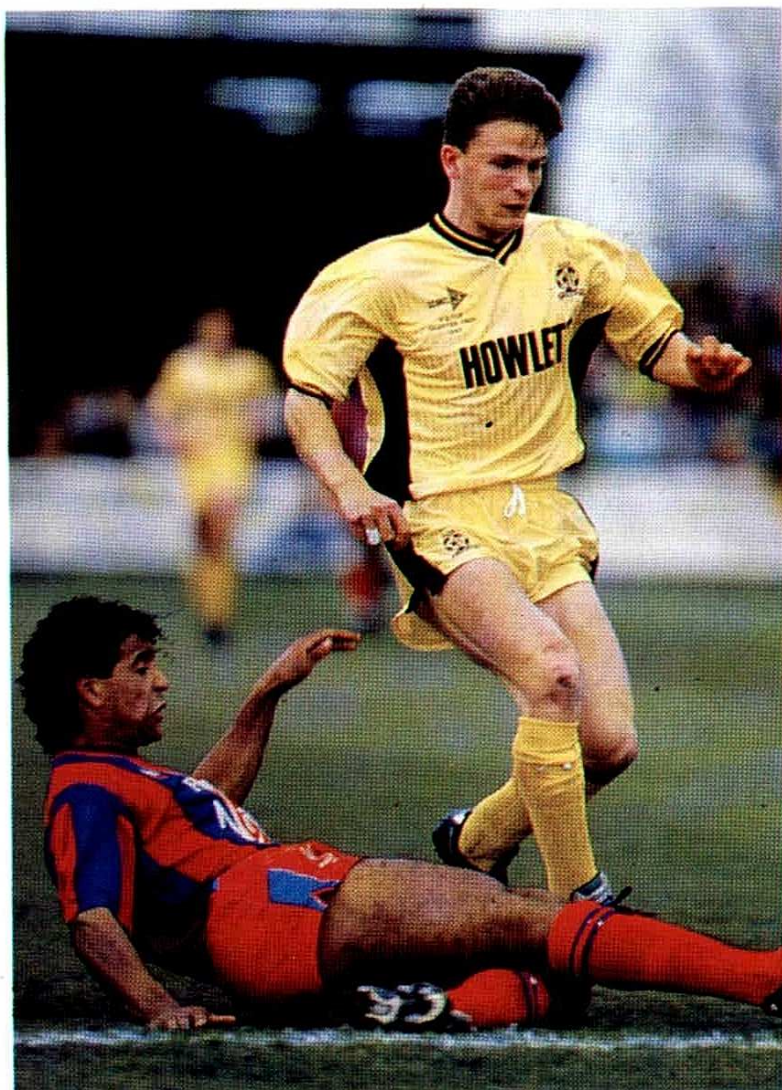
A former YTS defender at Norwich City, he was unable to break into the first team at Carrow Road. Arrived at Cambridge in March 1988 for a small fee and has made more than 100 appearances for the club. Took over the club captaincy mid-way through last season. Born Norwich. Age 23.

CHRIS LEADBITTER

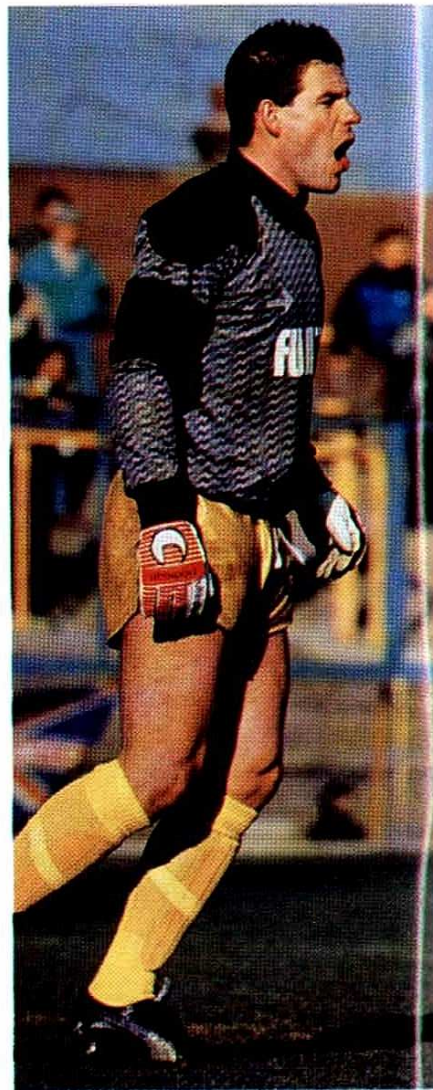
Middlesbrough-born forward who has scored in all major domestic competitions this season. Was an apprentice at Grimsby before joining Hereford where he made 36 League appearances before he joined Cambridge in the summer of 1988. Age 22.

DANNY O'SHEA

Kennington-born midfielder who gained First Division experience with his first club Arsenal. After nine appearances for them he had spells with Charlton, Exeter and Southend before joining Cambridge on a free transfer at the end of last season. Age 27.



Alan Kimble in FA Cup action against Crystal Palace.



John Vaughan.

CAMBRIDGE UNITED



John Taylor.

JOHN TAYLOR

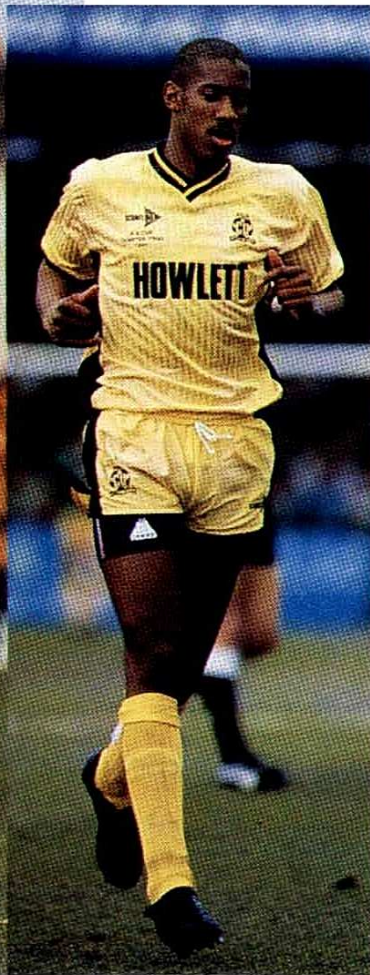
Norwich-born striker who stands at 6ft 1in. He began his career at Colchester United before joining non-League Sudbury Town of the Eastern League, in the summer of 1985. Cambridge brought him back into League football in September 1988, again on a free transfer. Has now made more than 50 appearances for the club, scoring freely in partnership with Dion Dublin. Age 25.

MICHAEL COOK

Midfielder who began his career on the Youth Training Scheme at Coventry City. However, he failed to make the first-team at Highfield Road and it was during a loan spell at York City that he made his League debut in August 1987. He joined Cambridge on a free transfer in February 1989. Born Stroud. Age 21.

LEE PHILPOTT

Barnet-born midfielder who was transferred from his first club Peterborough on a free transfer during last summer. In his three years at Peterborough he started only one League game and made three appearances as substitute. Age 20.



Dion Dublin.

TONY DENNIS

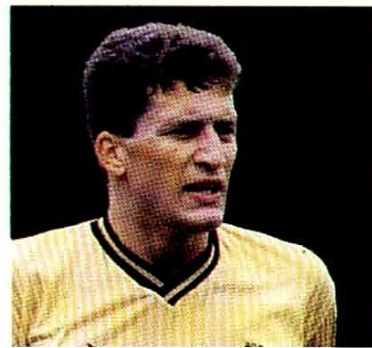
5ft 8in forward born in Eton. In his second spell of League football after originally failing to make the grade with Plymouth Argyle. Had more success in non-League football with Bideford, Taunton and Slough Town before Cambridge signed him from Slough for £15,000 in February 1989. Age 26.

MARTIN ROBINSON

Much travelled midfielder who has appeared largely as substitute this season. Signed for Cambridge on a free transfer from Southend after spells with Tottenham, Charlton, Reading and Gillingham during which time he made a total of 392 League appearances. Born Ilford. Age 32.

ANDY FENSOME

Midfielder who started as a trainee with Norwich. He was a regular in their reserve side last season when he also spent one month on loan at Newcastle. Joined non-League Bury St Edmunds in the close season before signing for Cambridge on a free transfer in January this year. Born Northampton. Age 21.



Phil Chapple.



Lee Philpott.

MICHAEL CHEETHAM

Midfielder born in Nijmegen, Holland. He was spotted by Ipswich whilst serving in the Army and signed for them in time for the start of last season. After four appearances for them and a three month loan period with Cambridge he signed permanently for £50,000 in December 1989. Age 22.

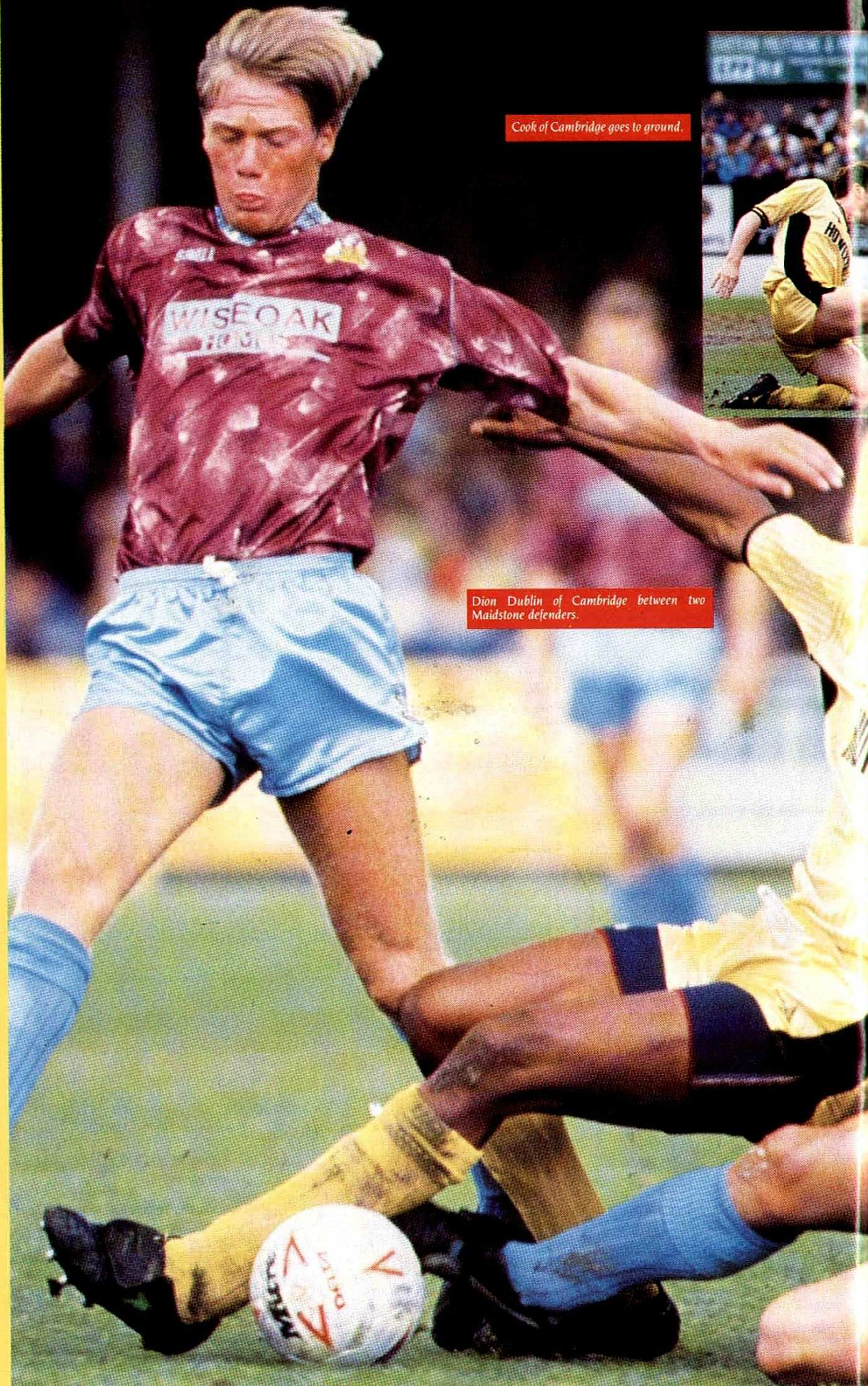
DION DUBLIN

6ft 2in forward transferred from Norwich in January 1989 on a free transfer. Leicester born, his first club was non-League Oakham Town. Has scored consistently this season including six in the cup competitions and a spell of four in five League games at the end of October. Age 21.

STEVE CLARIDGE

A striker who was signed for £75,000 from Aldershot in January this year and made his debut for the club in February's 2-1 win against Southend. Portsmouth born, he began his career along the coast at Bournemouth. Also had a spell at Crystal Palace but left for Aldershot without making a first team appearance. Age 24.

CAMBRIDGE UNITED

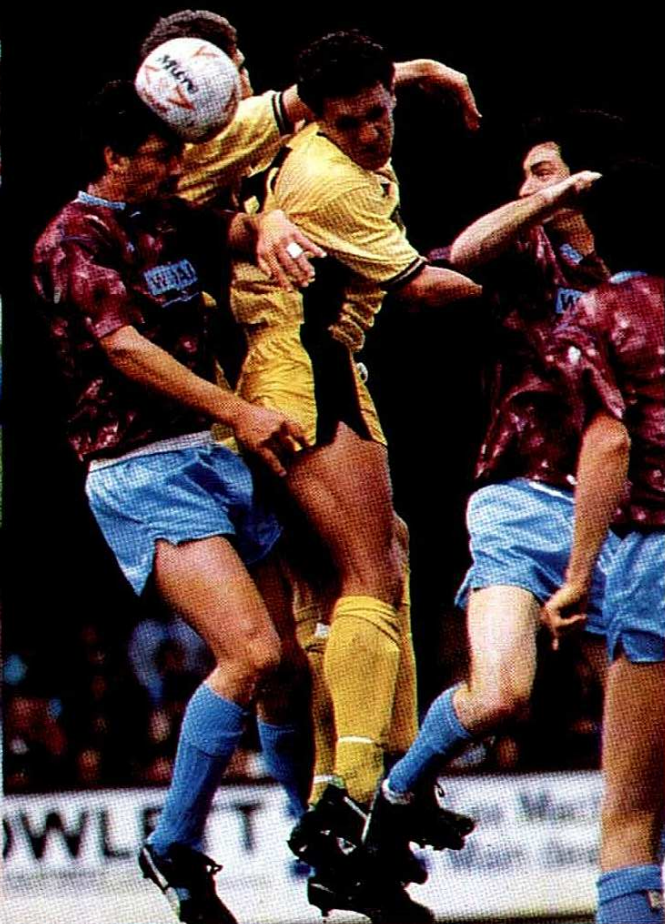


Cook of Cambridge goes to ground.

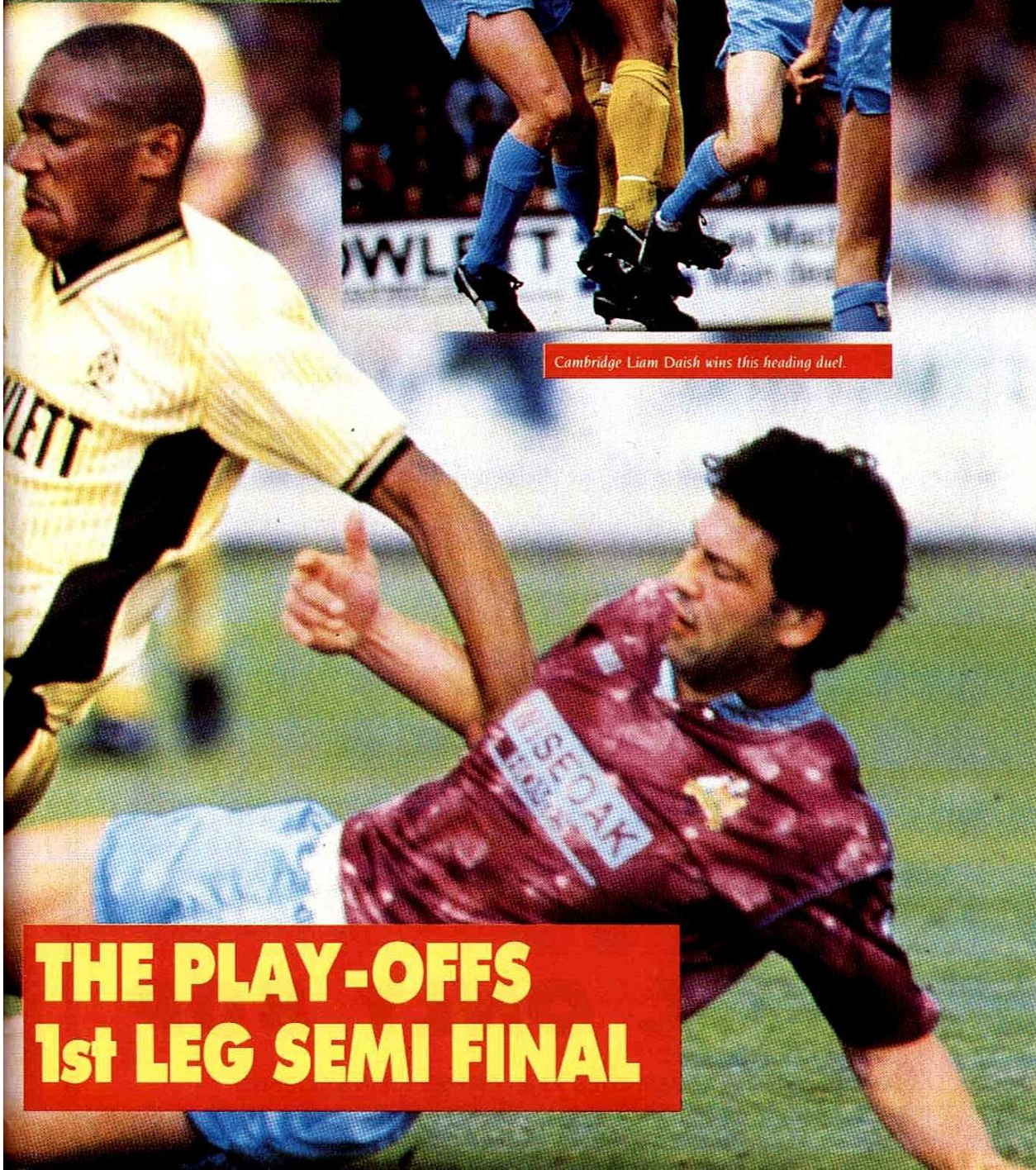
Dion Dublin of Cambridge between two Maidstone defenders.



CAMBRIDGE UNITED

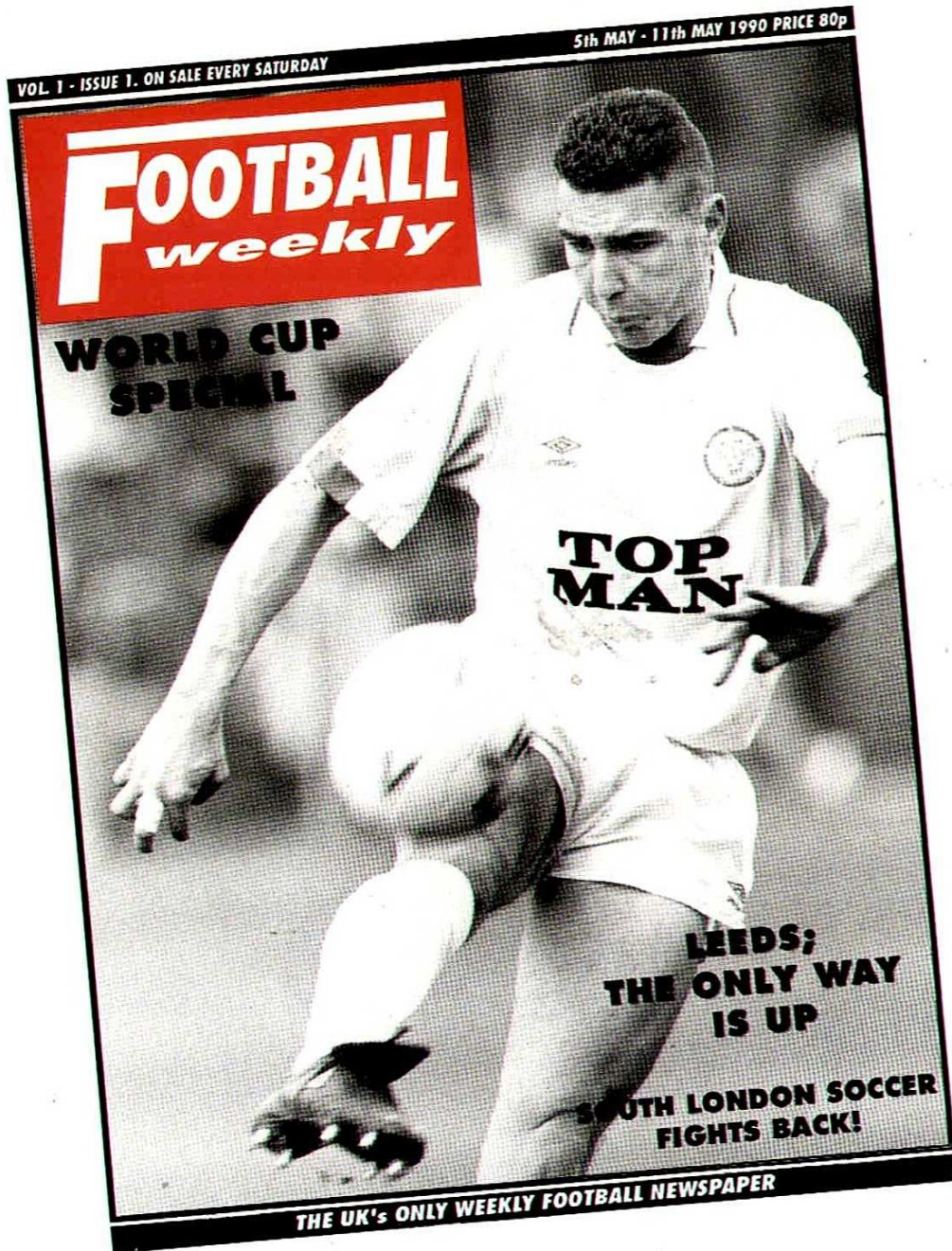


Cambridge Liam Daish wins this heading duel.



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MAGPIES DATA-FILE

County Ground, Meadow Lane, Nottingham NG2 3HJ.
Telephone: Nottingham (0602) 861155.
Clubcall: (0898) 121101.
Fax No. (0602) 866442.

Ground Capacity: 21,242.

Record Attendance: 47,310 v York C, FA Cup 6th rd, 12 Mar 1955.

Record Receipts: £63,505 v Everton, FA Cup 6th rd, 10 March, 1984.

Pitch Measurements: 114yd × 74yd.

Chairman: D.C. Pavis. **Vice-Chairman:** J. Mounteney.

Director: W.A. Hopcroft.

Team Manager: Neil Warnock. **Commercial Manager:** Fiona Green.

Coach/Assistant Manager: Mick Jones.

Chief Executive: N.E. Hook, M.INST.M.

Physio: Dave Wilson.

Year Formed: 1862 *(see Foundation).

Turned Professional: 1885. **Ltd Co.:** 1888.

Previous Grounds: 1862, *The Park*; 1864, *The Meadows*; 1877, *Beeston Cricket Ground*; 1880, *Castle Ground*; 1883, *Trent Bridge*; 1910, *Meadow Lane*.

Club Nickname: 'Magpies'.

Record League Victory: 11-1 v Newport C, Division 3(S), 15 January 1949 — Smith; Southwell, Purvis, Gannon, Baxter, Adamson, Houghton (1), Sewell (4), Lawton (4), Pibley, Johnston (2).

Record Cup Victory: 15-0 v Rotherham T (at Trent Bridge), FA Cup, 1st rd, 24 October 1885 — Sherwin; Snook, H.T. Moore, Dobson (1), Emmett (1), Chapman, Gunn (1), Albert Moore (2), Jackson (3), Daft (2), Cursham (4). (10g).

Record Defeat: 1-9 Blackburn R, Division 1, 16 November, 1889 and v Aston Villa, Division 1, 29 September, 1888 and v Portsmouth, Division 2, 9 April, 1927.

Most League Points (2 for a win): 69, Division 4, 1970-71.

Most League Points (3 for a win): 81, Division 3, 1987-88.

Most League Goals: 107, Division 4, 1959-60.

Highest League Scorer in Season: Tom Keetley, 39, Division 3(S), 1930-31.

Most League Goals in Total Aggregate: Les Bradd, 124, 1967-78.

Most Capped Player: Harry Cursham, 8, England.

Most League Appearances: Albert Tremonger, 564, 1904-26.

Record Transfer Fee Received: £350,000 from Tottenham H. for John Chiedozie, August 1984.

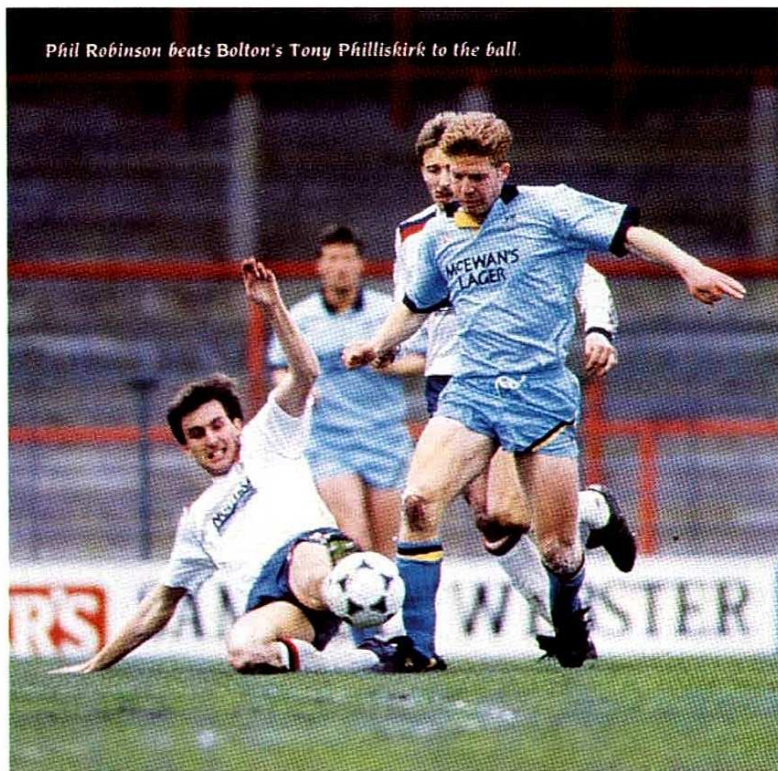
Record Transfer Fee Paid: £600,000 to Orient for John Chiedozie, August 1981.

Football League Record: 1888 Founder Member of the Football League; 1893-97 Division 2; 1897-1913 Division 1; 1913-14 Division 2; 1914-20 Division 1; 1920-23 Division 2; 1923-26 Division 1; 1926-30 Division 2; 1930-31 Division 3(S); 1931-35 Division 2; 1935-50 Division 3(S); 1950-58 Division 2; 1958-59 Division 3; 1959-60 Division 4; 1960-64 Division 3; 1964-71 Division 4; 1971-73 Division 3; 1973-81 Division 2; 1981-84 Division 1; 1984 Division 2; 1985—Division 3.

Honours: Football League: Division 1 best season: 3rd, 1890-91, 1900-01; Division 2 — Champions 1896-97, 1913-14, 1922-23; Runners-up 1894-95, 1980-81; Division 3(S) — Champions 1930-31, 1949-50; Runners-up 1936-37; Division 3 — Runners-up 1972-73; Division 4 — Champions 1970-71; Runners-up 1959-60. **FA Cup:** Winners 1893-94; Runners-up 1890-91. **Football League Cup best season:** 5th rd, 1963-64, 1972-73, 1975-76.

Colours: Black and white striped shirts with amber trim, black shorts with amber trim, black stockings. **Change Colours:** Sky blue, amber trim (all).

NOTTS COUNTY OUT OF THE SHADOW OF FOREST



Phil Robinson beats Bolton's Tony Philliskirk to the ball

ALTHOUGH the shadow of Nottingham Forest and Brian Clough looms large over Notts County, the team from Meadow Lane can boast about being the oldest club in the Football League.

Formed in 1862, County were founder members of the League in 1888. They have a colourful history. Characters and personalities of national standing have alleviated the stigma of an honours list which does not match that of their illustrious neighbours.

Since 1888 County have changed Divisions now fewer than 21 times. They hope to make it 22 at Wembley today.

Their 'golden years' as such began towards the end of the last century. In the six years after the formation of the League they reached two FA Cup finals. Their best season was in 1890-91. They finished third in the First Division — a position they have not bettered — and reached their first FA Cup final.

Unfortunately they had to play Blackburn Rovers, at the time the best side in the country, even though County had beaten them 7-1 the week before in a League match! County could not repeat that feat and were beaten 3-1 by Rovers at The Kennington Oval Cricket ground.

Two seasons later they suffered relegation for the first time.

But they were soon back on the glory trail, not in the First Division but

as winners of the FA Cup. In 1894 they became the first Second Division side to win the trophy when they beat Bolton Wanderers 4-1 in front of a crowd of 37,000 at Everton's Goodison Park.

Jimmy Logan scored a hat-trick in the final and is one of only three players to do so in the competition's history. FA Cup glory provided the platform for future success and County returned to the First Division in 1897.

The consistency which followed was due in no small part to Albert Iremonger, their giant goalkeeper who was a rival to Chelsea's legendary No. 1 Billy 'Fatty' Foulkes for the title of football's greatest character.

Iremonger was 6 feet 6 inches tall and weighed 13 stone. Although he had a penchant for arguing with anyone in sight, Iremonger was one of the finest goalkeepers to play for England.

The stories surrounding the volatile Iremonger are part of soccer folklore.

On one occasion when a player was sent off he chased the referee and pleaded with him: "Not to send off the player or there will be nothing left in our pockets by the time we get back to the dressing room."

He would rush from his goal to take throw-ins and once even took a penalty, but with disastrous consequences. His spot kick against Sheffield United hit the bar, the ball

rebounding 40 yards upfield with Iremonger in fast pursuit. He reached the ball before the attacking forward only to lob it a further 70 yards into his own net!

His 601st and last appearance for County — a club record — was equally memorable. The match, on 1 May, 1926, against the newly-crowned League champions Huddersfield Town, proved to be the last game County played in the First Division for 55 years. At least they won 4-2.

Iremonger now has a street named after him near County's ground in Meadow Lane.

Few events in County's chequered history have caused greater comment than the sensational signing of England forward Tommy Lawton from Chelsea in November 1927 for £20,000, a figure which few clubs, let alone those in the Third Division, could afford to pay.

However, the deal paid off for the club and player. County won promotion to the Second Division and Lawton added to his collection of England caps.

Another much-publicised transfer featured Jackie Sewell leaving County for Sheffield Wednesday in March 1951 for the then record fee of £34,500 after scoring nearly 100 League goals for the club.

After a number of near misses County made it back to the First Division in 1981. The architects of that success were former chairman Jack Dunnett, who assumed control in 1968 when County were bottom of the Fourth Division, and Jimmy Sirrell, who had three spells as manager with County.

Their stay in the top grade lasted three seasons during which time they twice finished 15th, before returning to the Second Division in 1984. The following season they slipped into the Third Division.

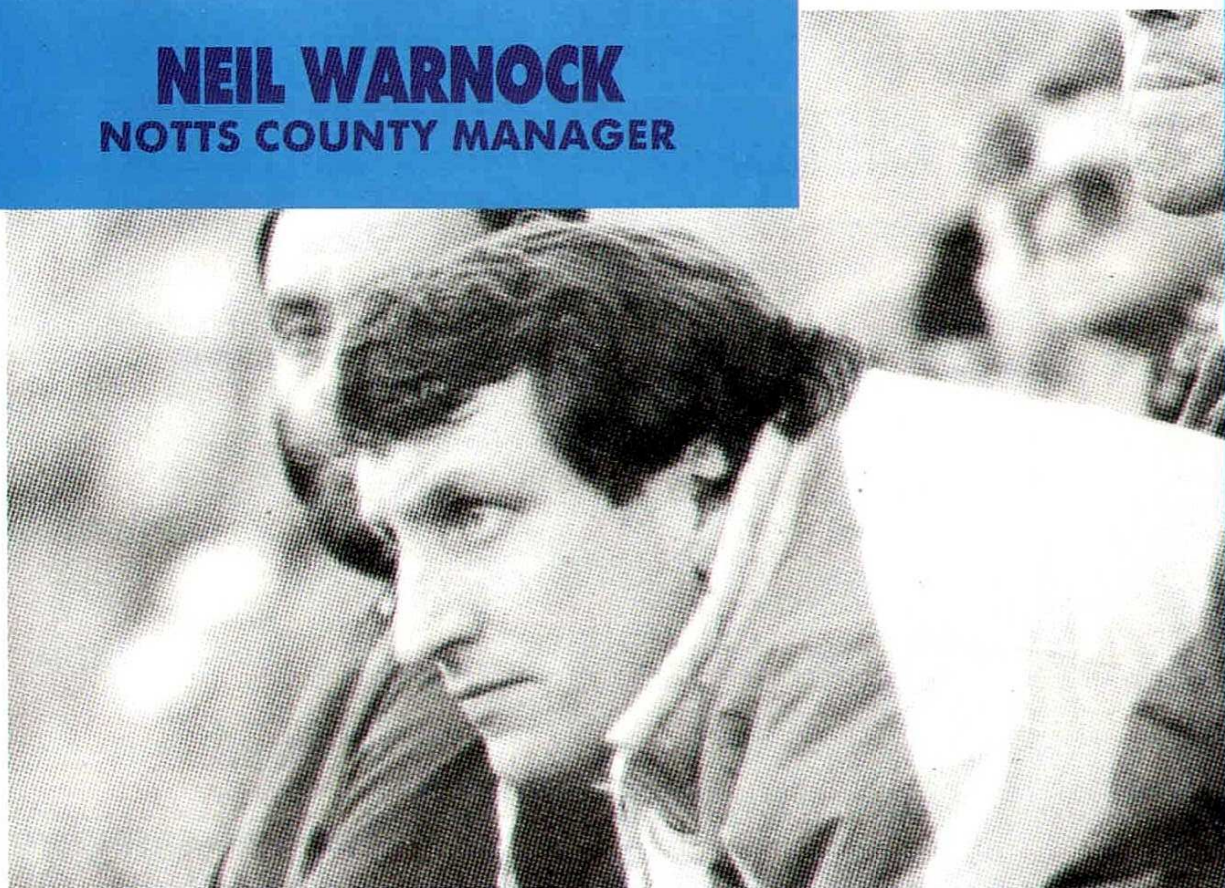
John Barnwell, the former Wolverhampton Wanderers manager, succeeded Sirrell as manager in 1987 only to be replaced by Neil Warnock two years later in January 1989.

From the outset of his first full season in charge Warnock has kept County up with the Third Division leaders. A run of one defeat in 17 games before Christmas lifted them into the top three, but County failed to deny Bristol Rovers and Bristol City the automatic promotion positions.

Rovers, the Third Division champions, even pipped County to another Wembley date this season when they beat them 1-0 on aggregate in the semi-final of the Leyland DAF Cup.

Warnock, though, knows about the pressures of promotion and will brief his team thoroughly before today. As a player he wore the colours of eight clubs, but is better known for steering Scarborough to the GM Vauxhall Conference championship and a place in the Football League in 1987. His experience today will be invaluable.

NEIL WARNOCK
NOTTS COUNTY MANAGER



NOTTS COUNTY

PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS

NOTTS COUNTY FINAL CHOICE



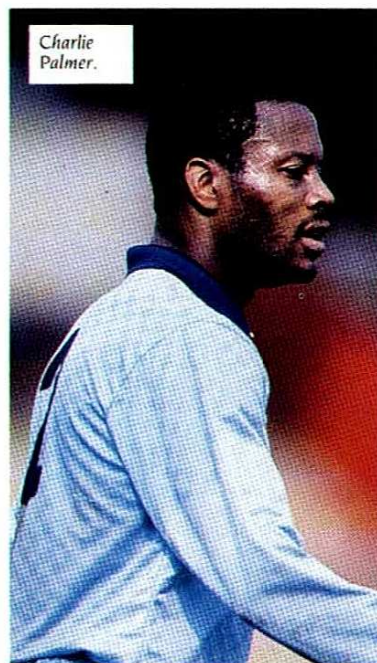
Steve Cherry.

STEVE CHERRY

Derby County as an apprentice. Spent seven years at the Baseball Ground before moving to Walsall and then Plymouth before joining Bury for £70,000 in February 1989. Ever-present this season. Born Nottingham. Age 29.

CHARLIE PALMER

Twenty-six-year-old defender who began as an apprentice with Watford where he played for three seasons before transferring to Derby County. After helping Derby to promotion from Division Three in 1986 he moved to Hull City. Had a loan spell at County before a permanent £25,000 transfer. Born Aylesbury.



Charlie Palmer.

NICKY PLATNAUER

Joined his first League club Bristol Rovers from non-League Bedford Town when Bobby Gould was in charge at Rovers. He followed Gould to Coventry and also played for Birmingham, Reading (loan) and Cardiff before joining County last summer. Born Leicester. Age 28.

CRAIG SHORT

A former winger, he was successfully converted to centre half by ex-Scarborough manager Neil Warnock who is now in charge at County. He signed for Scarborough from non-League Pickering Town but when Warnock left the club Short followed him for a fee of £100,000. Born Bridlington. Age 21.

DEAN YATES

Highly rated central defender who has attracted the interest of several First Division clubs in recent seasons but County have resisted the temptation to sell him. An England Under-21 international, he has been a fixture in the County defence since making his debut at 17 in April 1985. Born Leicester. Age 22.

DONALD O'RIORDAN

Versatile player who is equally effective in midfield or as a sweeper. He turned down the chance to become player-manager at his former club Grimsby Town to join County for £16,000 in July 1988. County are his seventh League club and he has also played in America for Tulsa Roughnecks. A former Republic of Ireland international. Born Dublin. Age 33.

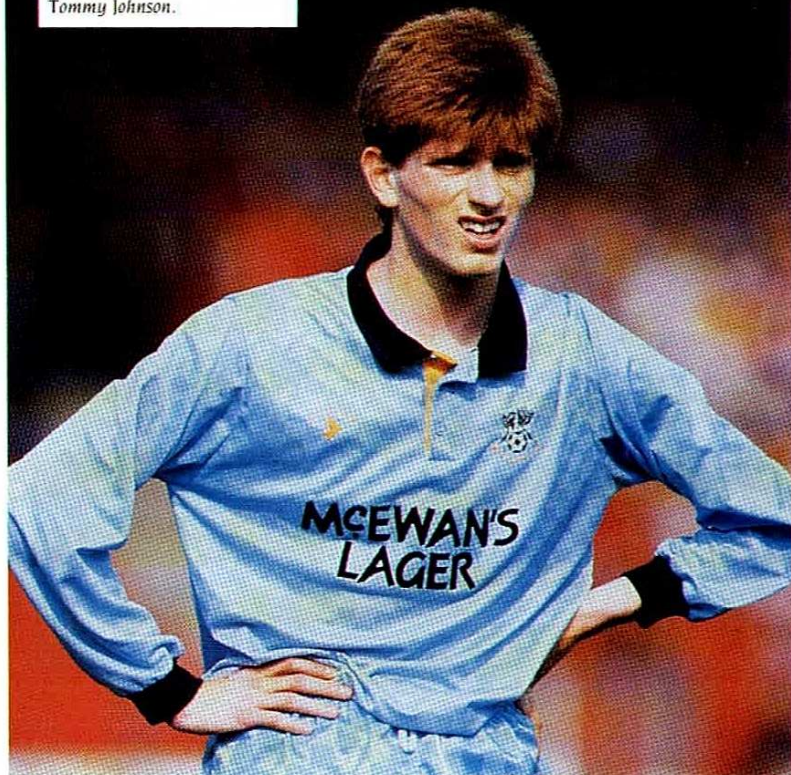
DAVID NORTON

A former England Youth international midfielder, he joined his first club Aston Villa as an apprentice. He progressed through the junior ranks at Villa Park to make his League debut in January 1985 and he made 44 League appearances for Villa before joining County in August 1988. Born Cannock. Age 25.

PHILIP ROBINSON

Stafford-born midfielder who joined County four days before the start of the season from Wolverhampton Wanderers for £67,500. A former Aston Villa apprentice, he made three League appearances for them before his transfer to Wolves. Was part of the Wolves squad which won promotion from Division Four to Division Two in successive seasons. Age 23.

Tommy Johnson.



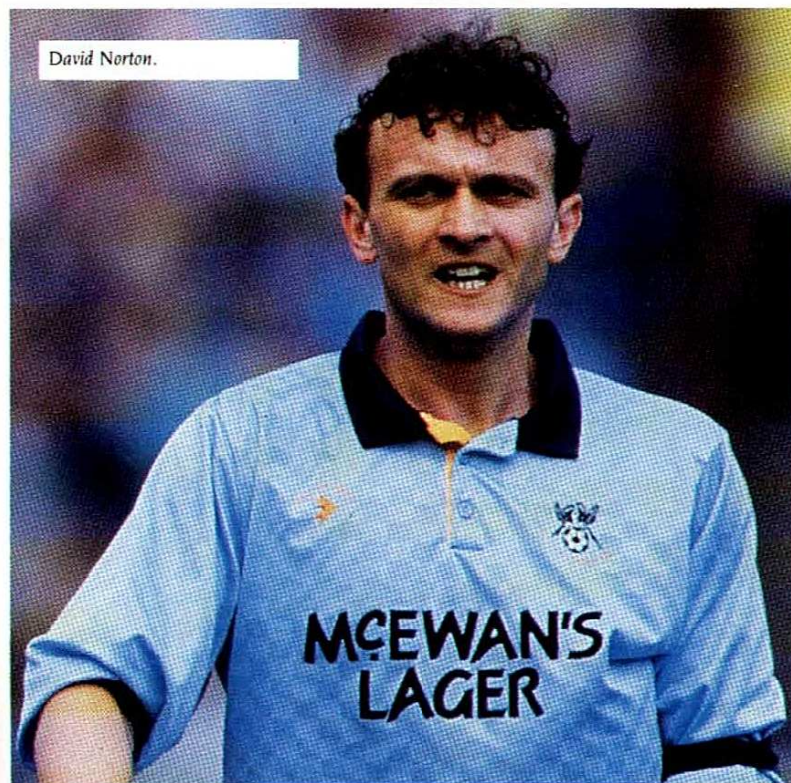
PHILIP TURNER

Midfield player who was valued at £125,000 when he joined County in March 1989 from Leicester City in a £300,000 deal which took Gary Mills to Filbert Street. His first club was Lincoln City, which he joined as an apprentice, and he has also played for Grimsby Town. Born Sheffield. Age 28.

KEVIN BARTLETT

Speedy striker who joined County from West Bromwich Albion for £150,000 in March. A former Portsmouth apprentice, he failed to make the grade at Fratton Park and began playing non-League football for Fareham. He spent four years there before signing for Cardiff, and then Albion. Scored eight goals in County's last 13 League games. Born Portsmouth. Age 27.

David Norton.



GARY LUND

A former England Under-21 international striker, he signed for County from Lincoln City for £40,000 in June 1987. He joined his first club Grimsby Town when he left school and was there for three seasons before he moved to Lincoln. Born Grimsby. Age 25.

THOMAS JOHNSON

Nineteen-year-old striker who has scored 19 goals this season, his first in League football, including four in the last four games. He joined County on the Youth Training Scheme but was signed on professional forms before the end of the scheme. Signed a three-year contract last summer. Born Gateshead.

MARK DRAPER

A promising midfielder, who, like Johnson, joined County on the Youth Training Scheme and was signed on before completing his stint as a trainee. He made his debut in September 1988 in a Littlewoods Cup tie and he has now made 54 League appearances for County. Born Derby. Age 19.

DEAN THOMAS

Twenty-eight year-old midfielder who signed for County from Northampton Town for £175,000 on transfer deadline day. He was spotted by Wimbledon playing for non-League Nuneaton Borough and signed for the South London club. He has also played in West Germany for Fortuna Dusseldorf and Aaxhen. Born Bedford.

PHIL STANT

Striker who was signed by County from Hereford United for £175,000 in July 1989, after finishing last season as the Fourth Division's top scorer with 28 League goals. Scored six League goals for County this season. Originally with Reading, he left them in 1983 and spent three years in the Army before Hereford paid £600 to buy him out. Born Bolton. Age 27.

GARY CHAPMAN

Twenty-six year-old midfielder who was signed from Bradford City for £15,000 last September and made a dream start when he scored on his debut and followed that up with two goals the following week. He joined Bradford in September 1988 after being spotted playing for non-League Frickley Athletic. Born Leeds.

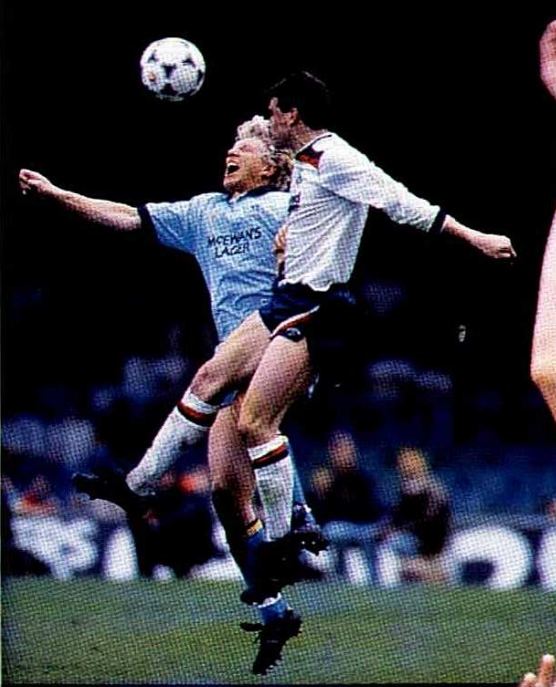
NOTTS COUNTY
SEMIFINAL ACTION



Dean Yates in a duel with Bolton's Stuart Storer

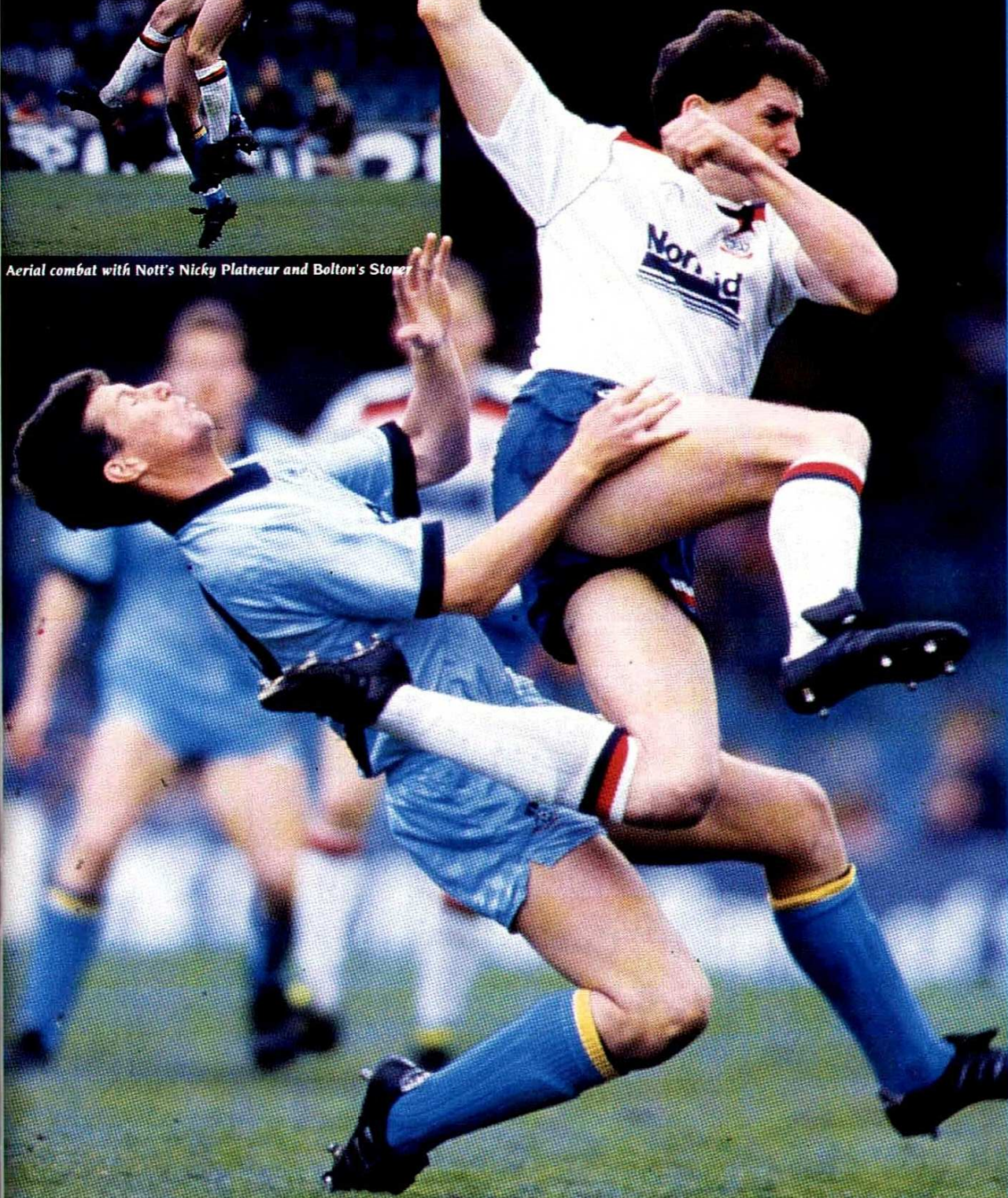


NOTTS COUNTY



County's Phil Turner and Bolton's Mark Couce in a tangle

Aerial combat with Nott's Nicky Platneur and Bolton's Stone





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ROKERMEN DATA-FILE

Roker Park Ground, Sunderland.
Telephone: Sunderland 091 5140332.
Commercial Dept: 091 5672275.

Ground Capacity: 31,887.

Record Attendance: 75,118 v Derby Co, FA Cup 6th rd replay, 8 March, 1933.

Record Receipts: £125,000 v Coventry, Littlewoods 5th round.

Pitch Measurement: 113yd × 74yd.

Chairman: R.S. Murray, FCCA.

Directors: G. Davidson, FCA, G. W. Hodgson.

Associate Directors: J. Donnolly, G.S. Wood.

Manager: Dennis Smith.

General Manager/Secretary: G. Davidson, FCA.

Chief Coach: Viv Busby.

Physio: Steve Smell. **Reserve Coach:** Malcolm Crosby. **Youth Coach:** R. Jones.

Commercial Manager: Alec King.

Year Formed: 1879. **Turned Professional:** 1886. **Ltd Co.:** 1906

Club Nickname: Rokermen.

Previous Grounds: 1879, Blue House Field, Hendon; 1882, Groves Field, Ashbrooke; 1883, Horatio Street; 1884, Abbs Field, Fulwell; 1886, Newcastle Road; 1898, Roker Park.

Previous Name: 1879-80, Sunderland and District Teacher's AFC.

Record League Victory: 9-1 v Newcastle U, Division 1, 5 December 1908 — Roose; Forster, Melton, Daykin, Thomson, Low, Mordue, Hogg (4), Brown, Holley (3), Bridgett (2).

Record Cup Victory: 11-1 v Fairfield, FA Cup, 1st rd, 2 February 1895 — Doig; McNeill, Johnston, Dunlop, McCreadie (1), Wilson, Gillespie (1), Millar (5), Campbell, Hannah (3), Scott (1).

Record Defeat: 0-8 v West Ham U, Division 1, 19 October, 1968 and v Watford, Division 1, 25 September, 1982.

Most League Points (2 for a win): 63, Division 3(N), 1926-27.

Most League Points (3 for a win): 93, Division 3, 1987-88.

Most League Goals: 109, Division 1, 1935-36.

Highest League Scorer in Season: Dave Halliday, 43, Division 1, 1928-29.

Most League Goals in Total Aggregate: Charlie Buchan, 209, 1911-25.

Most Capped Player: Martin Harvey, 34, Northern Ireland.

Most League Appearances: Jim Montgomery, 537, 1962-77.

Record Transfer Fee Received: £275,000 from Manchester C for Dennis Tueart, March 1974, from Manchester U for Chris Turner, August 1985 and from Sheffield W for Mark Proctor, September 1987.

Record Transfer Fee Paid: £450,000 to Hull C for Tony Norman, December 1988.

Football League Record: 1890 Elected to Division 1; 1958-64 Division 2; 1964-70 Division 1; 1970-76 Division 2; 1976-77 Division 1; 1977-80 Division 2; 1980-85 Division 1; 1985-87 Division 2; 1987-88 Division 3; 1988-Division 2.

Honours: Football League: Division 1 — Champions 1891-92, 1892-93, 1894-95, 1901-02, 1912-13, 1935-36; Runners-up 1893-94; 1897-98, 1900-01, 1922-23, 1934-35; Division 2 — Champions 1975-76; Runners-up 1963-64, 1979-80; Division 3 — Champions 1987-88. **FA Cup:** Winners 1937 1973; Runners up 1913. **Football League Cup:** Runners-up 1984-85.

European Competitions: Cup-Winners' Cup: 1973-74.

Colours: Red and white striped shirts, black shorts, red stockings, white turnover. **Change Colours:** Blue Shirts, white shorts, blue stockings white turnover.

Largest non-season ticket membership scheme in Football League over 42,300 members.

PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS

SUNDERLAND

SUNDERLAND—NO STRANGERS TO WEMBLEY

IT was a group of Sunderland teachers who, in 1879, first formed a "futbaal" club that by 1886 was to be known as Sunderland F.C. By then they were ambitious and starting to pay players to come from Scotland and work in the Wearside shipyards and by 1889 the club, having beaten Darlington in the Durham Cup Final, made application to join the Football League.

They polled only two votes on account, apparently, of the fact that they were geographically off the football map. However they had still done better than rivals Sunderland Albion who gained no votes at all and the following year were to gain acceptance "to fill the place of Stoke."

Thus, on September 13th, 1890, Sunderland took their place alongside England's elite when they opened their Football League account with a 2-3 home defeat at the hands of Burnley. Two days later they were to be beaten again on home soil, this time 3-4 by Wolverhampton Wanderers, and by the final whistle of the season they were seventh in the 12 club league.

But it didn't take long for the Wearsiders to make their mark on the football world for in the subsequent campaign Sunderland romped away with the Football League Championship finishing a clear five points ahead of Preston North End and having set a record with 93 goals for and only 36 against.

Darwen were beaten 7-0 and 7-1 (away); Blackburn Rovers crushed 6-1 and Wolves 5-2 and to prove it was no flash in the pan the men from Newcastle Road retained the title the following season in even more emphatic style by netting 100 goals and again conceding just 36; to once more beat Preston into second place only this time by 11 points.

Sunderland were well and truly on the soccer map now and although finishing second to Aston Villa in 1894 they were back for their third championship triumph the following year.

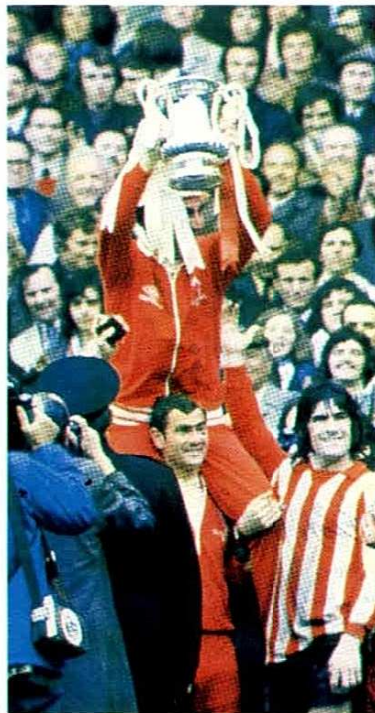
Three more championships were to be added to the roll of honour in 1902, 1913 and 1936, when they netted 109 goals, but since then success in the League has never emulated those marvellous times and in 1958 came relegation to end Sunderland's proud boast of never having played outside Division One as a Football League member. They had set a record of 57 consecutive seasons in the top flight.

The famous Roker Roar of course has been heard in the First Division since then for they were back again in 1964 until 1970 and again in 1976 for a season; then from 1980-85. Now the Rokerites are bidding for a 70th season in Division One and there can

be no greater setting than Wembley for this final push.

For it was here beneath the twin towers that Sunderland enjoyed their greatest hour in the modern game. It was 1973 and Second Division Sunderland were absolute no-hopers in their Cup Final quest against the then mighty Leeds United.

Sunderland had not been to Wembley since 1937 but passionately motivated by track-suited manager Bob Stokoe they were far from overawed and took the lead in the 31st minute. A corner from Hughes was too high for Watson. The ball came back across goal via Halom's knee to Ian Porterfield who cushioned it on the left thigh before volleying himself and Sunderland into the history books.



Bob Stokoe lifts the cup in 1972.

It took a double save, of historic dimension, by goalkeeper Jim Montgomery, who first blocked Cherry's well directed shot then tipped Lorimer's piledriver onto the bar, to maintain Sunderland's lead. But it was Wearside's day and the Cup returned to Roker Park.

Sunderland's first FA Cup Final appearance had been in 1913. Clapton Orient, Manchester City, Swindon, Newcastle United (at the third attempt) and Burnley had duly been dispatched on route and 120,081 flooded the Crystal Palace to see Aston Villa beat a Sunderland side with Holley, Jacky Mordue and Charlie Buchan by one goal.



Action from the '72 Final.

It was Wembley again in 1937. A goal down to Preston at the interval Sunderland responded with goals from Gurney, Raich Carter and Burbanks and for the first time in a long history, the Cup went to Sunderland.

It is a great and proud record that the current players and staff have to try and live up to and many big names have failed to bring the glory days back to the North East. Jimmy Adamson, Alan Durban, Len Ashurst and Laurie McMenemy are amongst those who have tried and now the responsibility is firmly on the shoulder of Denis Smith.

Formerly a solid centre-half with Stoke City, for whom he made over 400 appearances, he cut his managerial teeth at York City where he ended his playing days. There he transformed a struggling outfit into a winning combination running away with the Fourth Division title and winning national acclaim through some heroic cup exploits against Arsenal and Liverpool.

Denis was here at Wembley in 1972 providing stubborn resistance to deny favourites Chelsea the Football League Cup. Stoke City won their first major title that warm afternoon and he hopes to help write another successful chapter here this afternoon.

"I quite enjoyed myself it was a very pleasant day," reflects Denis. "Mind you we have had two Cup Finals already this season in our two semi-final matches against Newcastle."

"You hear about this being the hotbed of soccer up here but until you have actually come and lived it there is no way you can really understand the intensesness. I have to hold two Press conferences a day. Everything in the town seems to centre on football.

"You go out to the shop and little old ladies approach you to say you should have done this or that, or ask why such and such happened. It is a complete way of life up here."

Smith is revelling in the atmosphere and after being named the Third Division Manager of the Year last season is hoping he can show his talent in the First Division next campaign.

COLIN BENSON

DENIS SMITH
SUNDERLAND MANAGER



SUNDERLAND

THE MEN FROM ROKER PARK

TONY NORMAN

Welsh international goalkeeper (5 caps) who joined Sunderland in December 1988 from Hull City in a deal which took Iain Hesford to Boothferry Park. He spent ten seasons with Hull, making more than 370 League appearances including a spell of five seasons without missing a game. Previously with Burnley. Born Mancot. Age 32.

TIM CARTER

England Youth International goalkeeper who signed for Sunderland from Bristol Rovers on Christmas Eve, 1987. He made his first appearance for the club at Wembley in the Football League's Centenary Tournament. He has performed admirably this season when called upon to deputise for Norman. Born Bristol. Age 22.

GARY OWERS

Versatile player who can play anywhere in midfield or in either full-back position. He made his debut at 18 on the opening day of the 1987-88 season and has been a regular in the first-team since, making 118 League appearances. He was selected for the England Under-20 tour to Brazil in 1988 but withdrew because of injury. Born Newcastle. Age 21.

JOHN KAY

Right-back who was Denis Smith's first signing, from Wimbledon for £40,000, in the summer of 1987 and he was an ever-present in Sunderland's 1988 Third Division Championship winning team. Kay began as an apprentice with Arsenal and has also played for Middlesbrough on loan. Born Sunderland. Age 26.

PAUL HARDYMAN

England Under-21 left-back who signed for Portsmouth for a tribunal fixed fee of £130,000 in June 1989. Scored some vital goals for Sunderland towards the end of the season including the winners against Wolves and Port Vale which took Sunderland into the play-offs. Born Portsmouth. Age 26.

GARY BENNETT

Manchester-born central defender who can also play at right-back or in midfield, he is the only surviving member of Sunderland's 1985 Milk Cup Final team. He began with Manchester City and joined Cardiff on a free transfer. Moved to Sunderland for £65,000 in July 1984. He was captain when Sunderland won the Third Division Championship two seasons ago. Age 26.

MICKY HEATHCOTE

6ft 2in central defender who began with North-East neighbours Middlesbrough but left Ayresome Park without making a first-team appearance. He drifted into non-League football with Spennymoor before signing for Sunderland in August 1987. He has also played on loan at Halifax. Born Kelloe, Durham. Age 24.

REUBEN AGBOOLA

He will be hoping for an early birthday present today as he celebrates his 28th birthday on Wednesday (May 30). Joined his first club Southampton as an apprentice and spent five and a half seasons at the Dell before joining Sunderland in January 1985. Has also played for Charlton on loan. Born Highbury.

JOHN McPHAIL

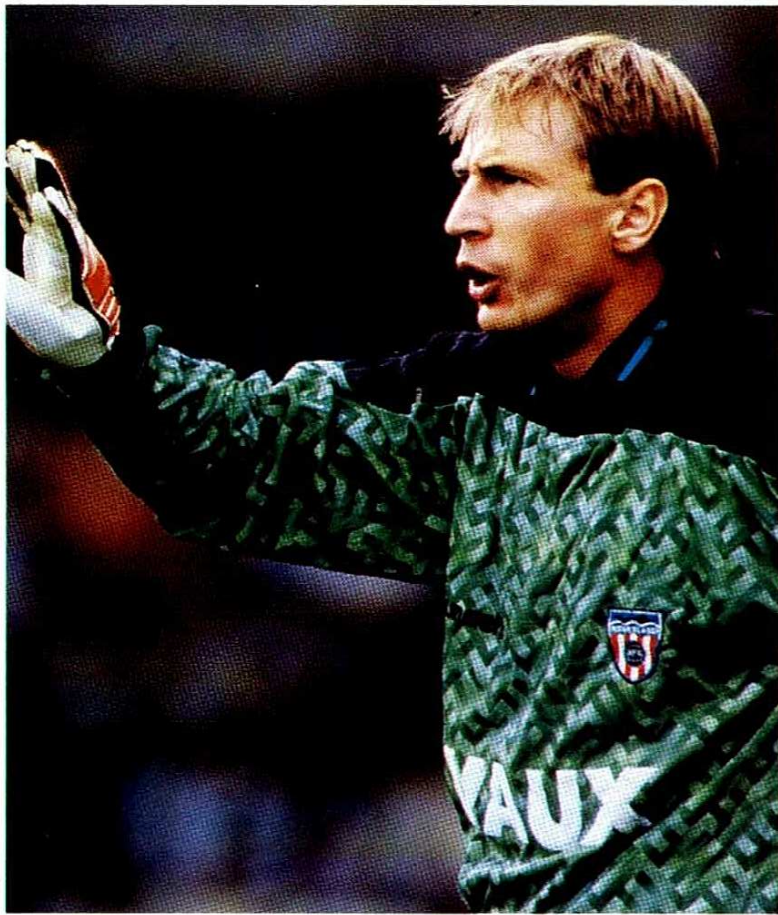
Thirty-four-year-old central defender who moved to Sunderland during the summer of 1987 from Bristol City to join up again with Denis Smith, his former manager at York City. While with Bristol City, he played at Wembley in the 1986 Freight Rover Trophy Final. Previously with Dundee and Sheffield United. Age 34.



Paul Hardyman in action against Newcastle.



Colin Pascoe



Tony Norman



Eric Gates

PAUL BRACEWELL

England international midfielder (3 caps) who is currently in his second spell at Roker Park. Began as an apprentice with Stoke City and spent a season, 1983-84, at Sunderland before joining Everton. Was part of the highly successful Everton team of the mid-80's and played in the FA Cup Final in 1986 and 1989. Missed two entire seasons (1986-88) with an ankle injury. Born Stoke. Age 27.

BRIAN ATKINSON

Promising midfielder, he is another of Sunderland's up and coming youngsters. He made his debut in a victory over Plymouth in April 1989 when he received excellent reviews and has further established himself this season when he has been a regular in the first-team squad. Born Darlington. Age 19.

GORDON ARMSTRONG

Highly rated midfielder who has made 187 League appearances for Sunderland, even though he is only 22, and was ever present during the League campaign. He joined the club as an apprentice and made his debut as a 17-year-old in April 1985. Born Newcastle.

COLIN PASCOE

Welsh international striker (7 caps) who joined Sunderland for £80,000 on transfer deadline day in March 1988 from Swansea City, the club he joined as an apprentice. He made his debut for Swansea in Division One but was part of the team which dropped back into the Fourth Division. Born Port Talbot. Age 25.

MARCO GABBIADINI

Prolific goalscorer who was ever-present in the League this season and scored 22 goals to help Sunderland reach the play-offs. Began as an apprentice with York City, under Denis Smith, and followed his manager to Roker Park in an £80,000 deal in June 1987. He has scored 62 League goals in 117 games for Sunderland and has represented England at Under-20 and Under-21 levels. Born Nottingham. Age 22.

TONY CULLEN

Newcastle-born striker who was with both Nottingham Forest and Newcastle but unable to establish himself at either club and he signed for Sunderland. He made seven League appearances last season and has spent much of this campaign as a substitute. Born Felling. Age 20.

ERIC GATES

He will hoping to end his career on a high note as he retires after today's game. Gates joined Ipswich as an apprentice in 1972 and enjoyed a fabulous spell with them during the early 1980s. He joined Sunderland during the 1985 close season (£175,000) and has made 181 league appearances for the club. He is a former England international (two caps). Born Ferryhill. Age 34.

KIERON BRADY

Exciting attacking midfielder who made his League debut as a substitute last November. He was born in Coatbridge, Scotland, and represented them at Under-16 and Youth levels before discovering he was eligible for the Republic of Ireland, for whom he has played since Under-17. Age 18.

THOMAS HAUSER

West German centre forward who signed for Sunderland from Swiss club Old Boys Basle in February 1989. He had followed his father into Swiss football, where he previously played for FC Basle, and he scored 80 goals in four years in Switzerland. Born Schopfheim. Age 25.

SUNDERLAND

Marco Gabiadini goes past a Newcastle defender.

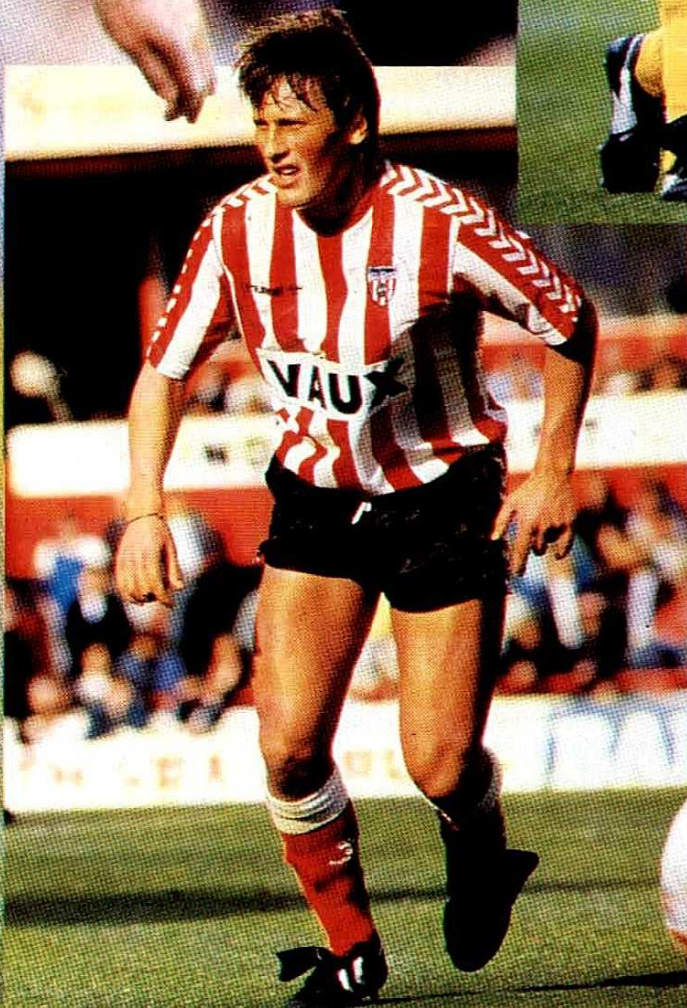


ACTION FROM ROKERS' MEN

Paul Bracewell keeps his eyes on the ball.



Colin Pascoe on the lookout for action.



SUNDERLAND

BARCLAYS LEAGUE BAR

IN ALL THREE MATCHES: SHOULD THE SCORES BE LEVEL AT 90 MINUTES, 30 MINUTES EXTRA TIME WILL BE PLAYED. SHOULD THERE S

DIVISION 4

CAMBRIDGE UNITED

MANAGER: JOHN BECK

Shirts: Amber with black trim. Shorts: Amber with Black trim. Stockings: Amber

JOHN VAUGHAN	DANNY O'SHEA	ANDY FENSOME
ALAN KIMBLE	JOHN TAYLOR	MICHAEL CHEETHAM
COLIN BAILIE	MICHAEL COOK	DION DUBLIN
LIAM DAISH	LEE PHILPOTT	STEVE CLARIDGE
PHIL CHAPPLE	TONY DENNIS	
CHRIS LEADBITTER	MARTIN ROBINSON	

SATURDAY 26 MAY
TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS
SATURDAY — MATCH ONE

REFEREE: G. Courtney (Spennymoor)
LINESMEN: J. S. Cowley (St. Helens)
S. R. Loudon (Middlesbrough)
RESERVE REFEREE: J. A. Moules (Erith, Kent)
BALL BOYS: Cambridge and Chesterfield Schools FA.

DIVISION 3

TRANMERE ROVERS

MANAGER: JOHN KING

Shirts: White. Shorts: White. Stockings: White

ERIC NIXON	DAVE HIGGINS	JIM STEEL
MARK HUGHES	GARY BAURESS	EDDIE BISHOP
STEVE VICKERS	JIM HARVEY	IAN MUIR
TONY THOMAS	NEIL McNAB	DAVID FAIRCLOUGH
STEVE MUNGALL	JOHN MORRISEY	CHRIS MALKIN
MARK McCARRICK	DAVID MARTINDALE	PAUL COLLINGS

SUNDAY 27 MAY
TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS
SUNDAY — MATCH TWO

REFEREE: R. G. Milford (Bristol)
LINESMEN: P. J. Brennan (Benfleet, Essex)
D. R. Palmer (Radstock, Avon)
RESERVE REFEREE: A. W. Ward (London)
BALL BOYS: Nottingham and Wirral Schools FA.

DIVISION 2

SUNDERLAND

MANAGER: DENIS SMITH

Shirts: Mid Blue. Shorts: White with Mid Blue trim. Stockings: Mid Blue with White Top

TONY NORMAN	MICKY HEATHCOTE	COLIN PASCOE
TIM CARTER	REUBEN AGBOOLA	MARCO GABBIADINI
GARY OWERS	JOHN McPHAIL	TONY CULLEN
JOHN KAY	PAUL BRACEWELL	ERIC GATES
PAUL HARDYMAN	BRIAN ATKINSON	KIERON BRADY
GARY BENNETT	GORDON ARMSTRONG	THOMAS HAUSER

MONDAY 28 MAY
TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS
MONDAY — MATCH THREE

REFEREE: J. E. Martin
LINESMEN: J. E. Biddle (Solihull)
J. L. Godfrey (W. Midland Brownhills)
RESERVE REFEREE: A. N. Buksh (Dollis Hill, London)
BALL BOYS: Sunderland and Swindon Schools FA.

GUE BARCLAYS LEAGUE

MINUTES EXTRA TIME WILL BE PLAYED. SHOULD THERE STILL BE NO DECISION, THEN PENALTY KICKS WILL DECIDE THE OUTCOME.

PLAY-OFF FINALS

SATURDAY 26 MAY
TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS
SATURDAY — MATCH ONE

REFEREE: G. Courtney (Spennymoor)
LINESMEN: J. S. Cowley (St. Helens)
S. R. Loudon (Middlesbrough)
RESERVE REFEREE: J. A. Moules (Erith, Kent)
BALL BOYS: Cambridge and Chesterfield
Schools FA.

CHESTERFIELD

MANAGER: PAUL HART

Shirts: Royal Blue with White collar and cuffs. Shorts: White. Stockings: Blue and White hoops

MICK LEONARD	BRYN GUNN	DAVE WALLER
MIKE ALLISON	TONY BRIEN	ANDY MORRIS
JOHN RYAN	SEAN DYCHE	ANDREW ROLPH
NIGEL HART	ADRIAN SHAW	LEE FRANCIS
LEE ROGERS	JOHN CHIEDOZIE	STEVE WILLIAMS
JAMIE HEWITT	CALVIN PLUMMER	

PLAY-OFF FINALS

SUNDAY 27 MAY
TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS
SUNDAY — MATCH TWO

REFEREE: R. G. Milford (Bristol)
LINESMEN: P. J. Brennan (Benfleet, Essex)
D. R. Palmer (Radstock, Avon)
RESERVE REFEREE: A. W. Ward (London)
BALL BOYS: Nottingham and Wirral Schools FA.

NOTTS COUNTY

MANAGER: NEIL WARNOCK

Shirts: Black/White broad stripes, Amber sleeve and neck trim. Shorts: Black. Stockings: Black

STEVE CHERRY	DAVID NORTON	MARK DRAPER
CHARLIE PALMER	PHILIP ROBINSON	DEAN THOMAS
NICKY PLATNAUER	PHILIP TURNER	PHIL STANT
CRAIG SHORT	KEVIN BARTLETT	GARY CHAPMAN
DEAN YATES	GARY LUND	
DONALD O'RIORDAN	THOMAS JOHNSON	

PLAY-OFF FINALS

MONDAY 28 MAY
TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS
MONDAY — MATCH THREE

REFEREE: J. E. Martin
LINESMEN: J. E. Biddle (Solihull)
J. L. Godfrey (W. Midland Brownhills)
RESERVE REFEREE: A. N. Buksh (Dollis Hill,
London)
BALL BOYS: Sunderland and Swindon Schools FA.

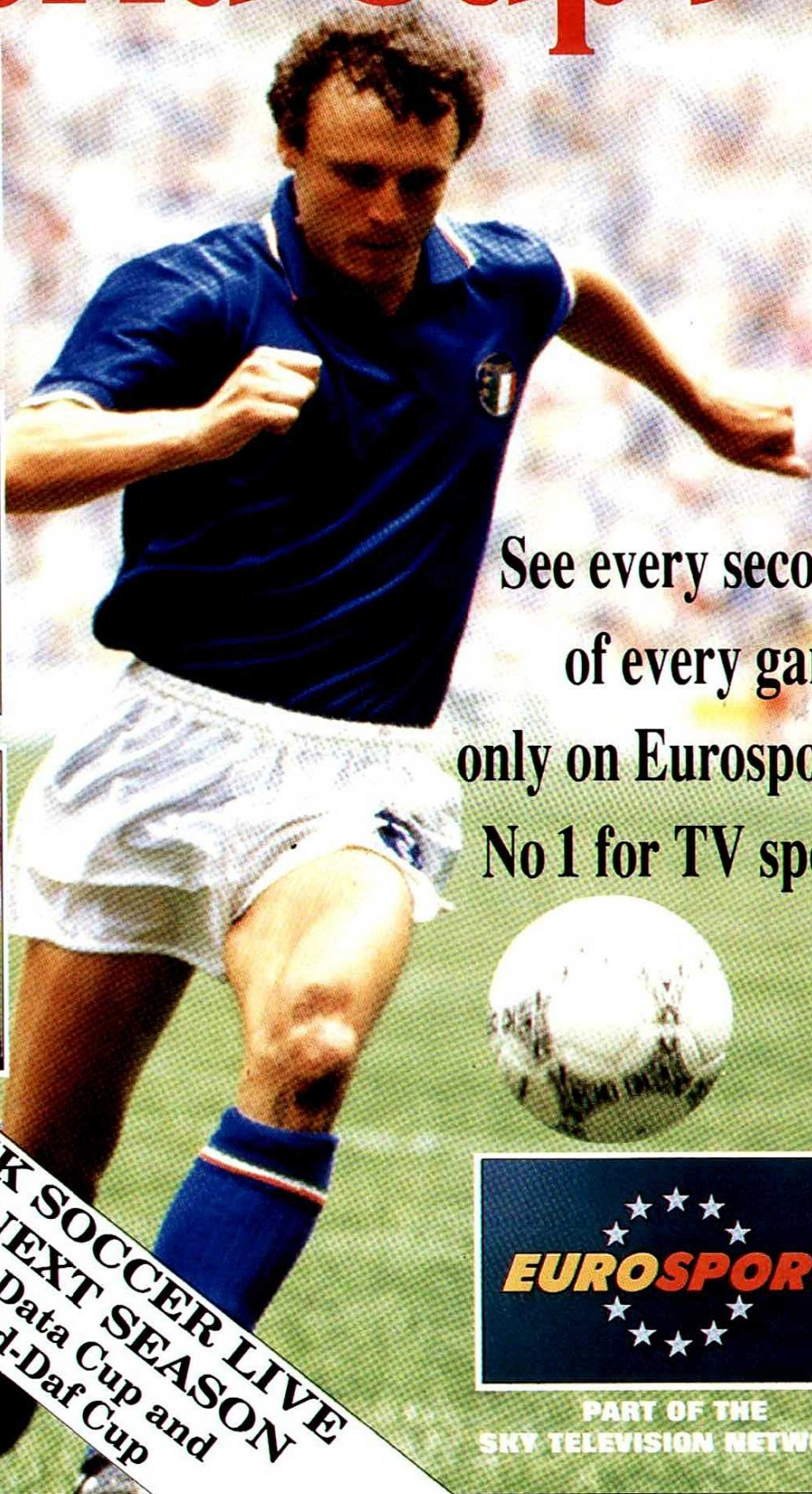
SWINDON TOWN

MANAGER: OSVALDO ARDILES

Shirts: Red with White collar and sleeve bands. Shorts: White. Stockings: Red and White.

FRASER DIGBY	TOMMY JONES	DAVE HOCKADAY
DAVID KERSLAKE	DUNCAN SHEARER	STEVE FOLEY
PAUL BODIN	STEVE WHITE	SHAUN CLOSE
ALAN McLOUGHLIN	ROSS McLAREN	KEVIN DEARDEN
COLIN CALDERWOOD	FITZROY SIMPSON	
JON GITTENS	JOHN CORNWELL	

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SPIREITES DATA-FILE

Recreation Ground, Chesterfield S40 4SX.
Telephone: Chesterfield (0246) 209765.
Commercial Dept.: (0246) 231535.

Ground Capacity: 11,300.

Record Attendance: 30,968 v Newcastle U, Division 2, 7 April, 1939.

Record Receipts: £32,410 v Sheffield U, Division 3, 25 March, 1989.

Pitch Measurements: 112yd × 72yd.

President: His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, MC, DL, JP.

Vice-President: P.C.J.T. Kirkman.

Chairman: B.W. Hubbard. **Vice-Chairman:** J.N. Lea.

Directors: B. Watson, J. Croot, J.A. Plant.

Team Manager: Paul Hart.

Physio: Dave Rushbury. **Assistant Manager:** Chris McMenemy.

Secretary: Bob Pepper. **Commercial Manager:** Jim Brown.

Year Formed: 1866. **Turned Professional:** 1891. **Ltd. Co.:** 1871.

Club Nickname: 'Blues' or 'Spireites'.

Record League Victory: 10-0 Glossop, Division 2, 17 January 1903 — Clutterbuck; Thorpe, Lerper, Haig, Banner, Thacker, Tomlinson (2), Newton (1), Milward (3), Munday (2), Steel (2).

Record Cup Victory: 5-0 v Wath Ath (away), FA Cup, 1st rd, 28 November 1925 — Birch; Saxby, Dennis, Wass, Abbott, Thompson, Fisher (1), Roseboom (1), Cookson (2), Whitfield (1), Hopkinson.

Record Defeat: 0-10 v Gillingham, Division 3, 5 September, 1987.

Most League Points (2 for a win): 64, Division 4, 1969-70.

Most League Points (3 for a win): 91, Division 4, 1984-85.

Most League Goals: 102, Division 3(N), 1930-31.

Highest League Scorer in Season: Jimmy Cookson, 44, Division 3(N), 1925-26.

Most League Goals in Total Aggregate: Ernie Moss, 161, 1969-76, 1979-81 and 1984-86.

Most Capped Player: Walter McMilen, 4(7), Northern Ireland.

Most League Appearance: Dave Blakey, 613, 1948-67.

Record Transfer Fee Received: £200,000 from Wolverhampton W for Alan Birch, August 1981.

Record Transfer Fee Paid: £150,000 to Carlisle U for Phil Bonnyman, March 1980.

Football League Record: 1898 Elected to Division 2; 1909 failed re-election; 1921-31 Division 3(N); 1931-33 Division 2; 1933-36 Division 3(N); 1936-51 Division 2; 1951-58 Division 3(N); 1958-61 Division 3; 1961-70 Division 4; 1970-83 Division 3; 1983-85 Division 4; 1985-89 Division 3; Division 4 1989—.

Honours: Football League: Division 2 best season; 4th, 1946-47; Division 3(N) — Champions 1930-31, 1935-36; Runners-up 1933-34; Division 4 — Champions 1969-70, 1984-85. **FA Cup best season:** 5th rd, 1932-33, 1937-38, 1949-50. **Football League Cup best season:** 4th rd, 1964-65. **Anglo-Scottish Cup:** Winners 1980-81.

Colours: Blue shirts, white shorts, white stockings. **Change Colours:** Red shirts, blue shorts, red stockings.

CHESTERFIELD

CHESTERFIELD — "THE SPIREITES" AT WEMBLEY

CHESTERFIELD'S history reads like a 'Who's Who' of goalkeeping greats. A former No. 1 once said: "When footballers think of Chesterfield, they think of goalkeepers."

The Derbyshire town with the crooked church spire is renowned for its discovery of local-born top-class goalkeepers. Mick Leonard is the present incumbent, the latest member of the Chesterfield goalkeeping dynasty.

Former England internationals Sam Hardy and Gordon Banks head a list which also includes Steve Ogrizovic, John Osborne and Alan Stevenson.

Hardy won 21 International caps between 1907 and 1920, while Banks, England's World Cup-winning goalkeeper in 1966, began his career with Chesterfield and was sold to Leicester City for £6,000 in 1959.

Osborne was transferred to West Bromwich Albion for £10,000 in January 1967 while his successor at the Recreation Ground, Stevenson, joined Burnley for £50,000 five years later. Ogrizovic, Coventry's FA Cup-winning goalkeeper three years ago, was signed by Liverpool in 1977 after making only 16 appearances for Chesterfield.

Bob Wilson, the famed BBC Television soccer pundit and goalkeeper in Arsenal's 1971 double-winning side, and John Lukic, the Arsenal No. 1 in last season's League Championship team, were born in Chesterfield, although they did not play for the club.

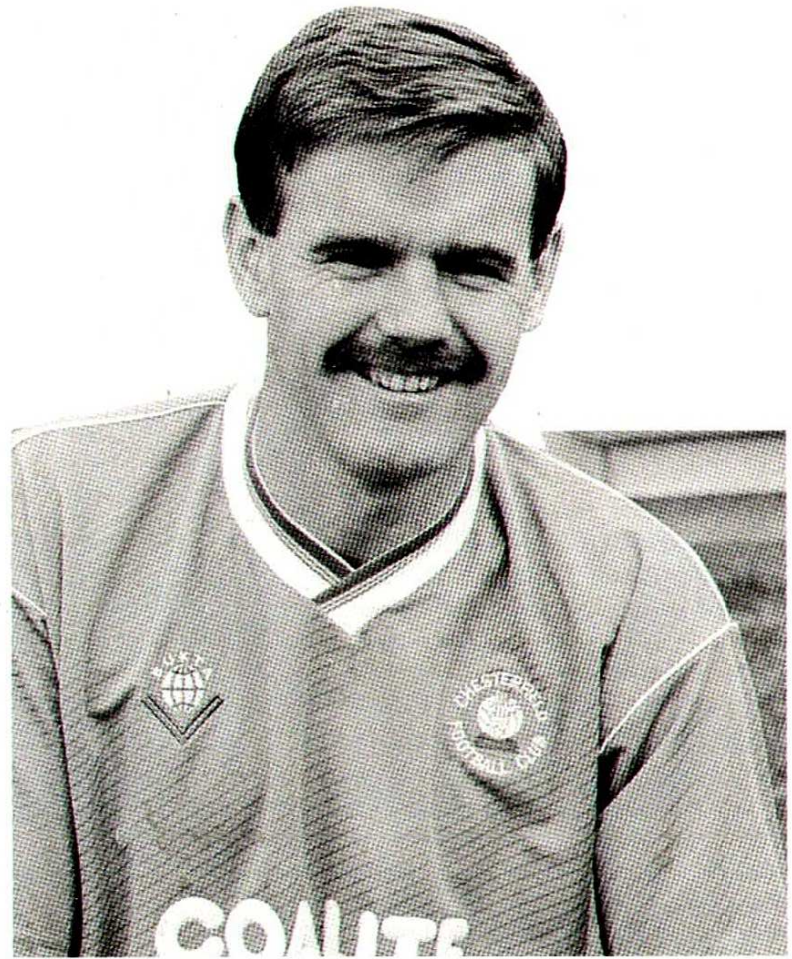
Of the current team only defender Jamie Hewitt was born in Chesterfield. He epitomises the homely spirit evident at Saltergate. He joined the club after leaving school and progressed through the junior ranks to make his League debut in November 1985. Although 22, he has made 167 League appearances for the club.

Hewitt has been a stalwart in defence this season as Chesterfield erased the disappointment of relegation from the Third Division last May.

The push to the play-off final marks a distinct turnaround in fortunes for Paul Hart, the Chesterfield manager. He was appointed in November 1988 in succession to Kevin Randall having previously had experience as player-coach at Notts County.

His baptism in management was one of fire, having to wait for his eighth game for a victory. On his appointment, Chesterfield had won only seven points in their first 13 League games.

The arrival of Hart and his assistant, Chris McMenemy, the son of former Southampton and Sunderland manager Laurie, boosted morale, but five defeats in the last seven games of



Dave Waller, star striker over the past three seasons.

the season sent the club down to the Fourth Division after four years in the Third.

Progress, though, had been made and Chesterfield started the season as the Fourth Division favourites for promotion. Hart disagreed with the bookmakers' assessment — any manager would have done the same — but nearly two years into his stewardship, Chesterfield is certainly a healthier club.

The Spireites, as they are known, failed to take the Fourth Division by storm at the start of the season, but there has been a certain optimism about the place all season.

Hart had a distinguished playing career, starting with Stockport before moves to Blackpool, Leeds United, Nottingham Forest, Sheffield Wednesday, Birmingham and Notts County. He earned a reputation as being a tough and reliable defender — a trait he has carried into management.

The 'star man' in the Chesterfield team is captain and striker Dave Waller. He has been leading scorer in

each of his three seasons with Chesterfield. He scored 22 goals in all competitions last season, including a tremendous run of 11 goals in ten games to equal Jimmy Cookson's 1926 club record of scoring in eight consecutive matches.

The 26-year-old joined Chesterfield from Shrewsbury Town for a bargain £3,000 shortly before the 1987 transfer deadline. He has become one of Chesterfield's most prolific goalscorers in recent years.

Before the play-offs he had scored 18 goals this season. He missed out in the 4-0 play-off semi-final first leg defeat of Stockport. Calvin Plummer stole the individual honours that day with a hat-trick.

Plummer is in his second spell with Chesterfield following a £30,000 transfer from Plymouth Argyle last July, but began his career as an apprentice with Nottingham Forest.

Chesterfield will be looking to him to score the goals which take them back to the Third Division at the first attempt.

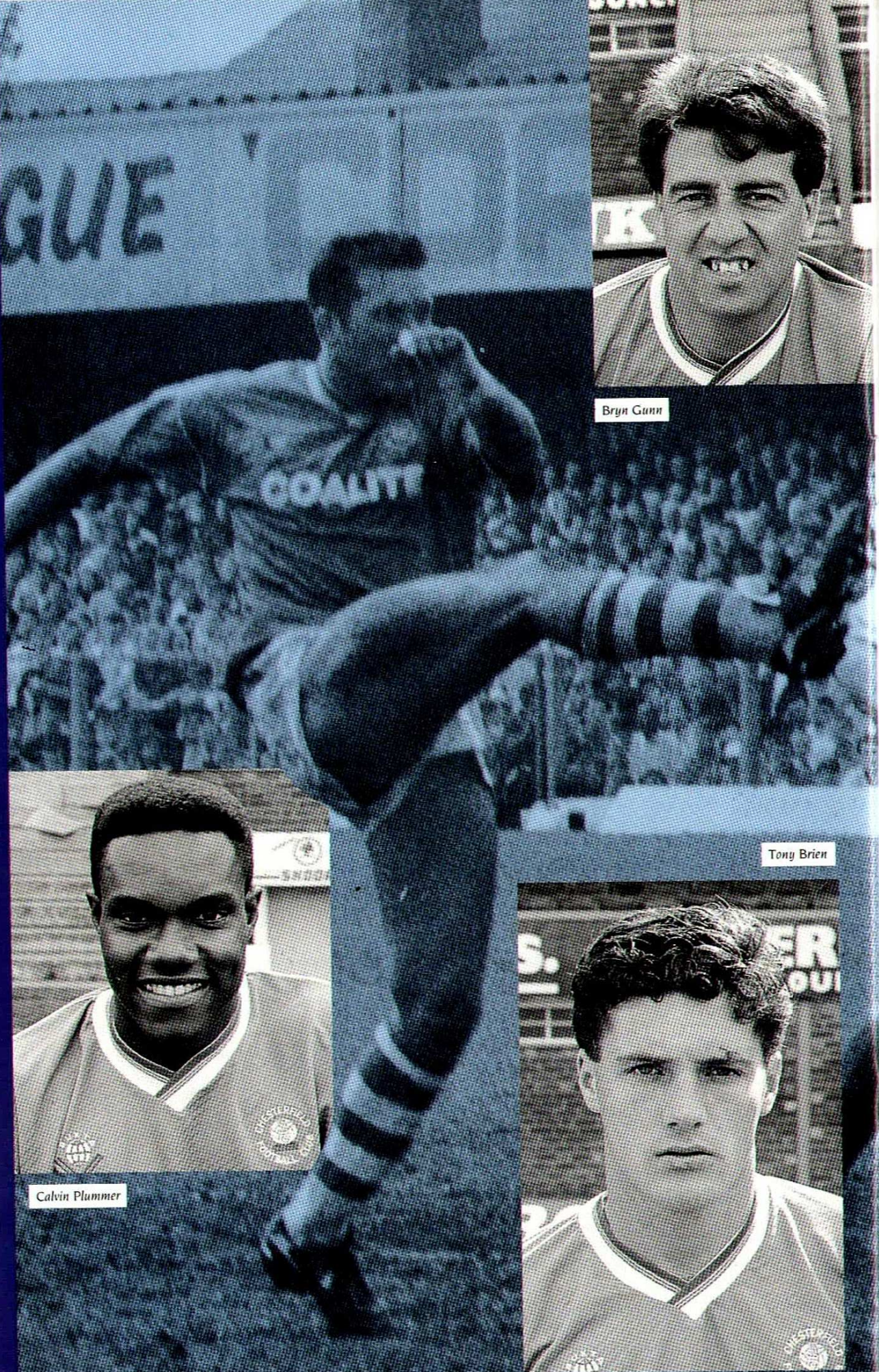
PAUL HART
CHESTERFIELD MANAGER

CHESTERFIELD



PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS

CHESTERFIELD



Брун Сили

Tony Brien

Calvin Plummer

MICK LEONARD

6ft 1in goalkeeper who signed for Chesterfield from Notts County for £20,000 in March 1989. He joined his first League club Halifax Town in July 1976, after being spotted playing for non-League Epsom and Ewell, and he spent three years at Halifax before transferring to Notts County. Born Carshalton. Age 31.

MIKE ALLISON

Chesterfield's reserve goalkeeper, he was signed on a free transfer from non-League Horwich RMI during the last close season. He made his first-team debut against Lincoln City in the Leyland DAF Cup last November. He was originally on Luton Town's books as a youngster. Born Elderslie. Age 24.

JOHN RYAN

An experienced left-back, he joined Chesterfield in June 1989 from Mansfield in an exchange deal which took Steve Prindiville to Mansfield. He joined Oldham Athletic as an apprentice in February 1980 and made his debut 18 months later. Has also played for Newcastle United and Sheffield Wednesday. Born Failsworth. Age 28.

NIGEL HART

Brother of manager Paul, he was signed from Stockport County for £3,000 earlier this season. A defender, he started with Wigan Athletic and has also played for Leicester City, Blackpool, Crewe Alexandra and Bury. He has made 25 League appearances for the club this season. Born Golborne. Age 31.

LEE ROGERS

A former Doncaster Rovers trainee, he was released by the Belle Vue club without making a League appearance. In August 1986 he joined Chesterfield and he made his League debut later that month. Since then he has been a regular member of the first-team and has made more than 130 League appearances. Born Doncaster. Age 23.

JAMIE HEWITT

Chesterfield born defender who joined the club on the Youth Training Scheme after leaving school. He progressed through the junior ranks to make his League debut in November 1985 and even though he is still only 22, he has made 167 League appearances for the club.

BRYN GUNN

A former Nottingham Forest apprentice, he made 131 League appearances for the City Ground club in an 11 year spell before joining Peterborough United in August 1986. After three seasons with Peterborough, he moved to Chesterfield on a free transfer in June 1989. Has played at right-back and in the centre of defence this season. Born Kettering. Age 31.

TONY BRIEN

Dublin born central defender whose impressive performances this season have earned him the supporters' Player of the Year award at Saltergate. He made 16 League appearances for his first club Leicester City before his £90,000 transfer to Chesterfield in December 1988. Age 22.

SEAN DYCHE

Eighteen-year-old midfielder who joined Chesterfield on a month's loan from Nottingham Forest in February and signed permanently at the end of that period. He has settled in well at Saltergate and his battling performances have already made him a favourite with the supporters. Born Kettering.

ADRIAN SHAW

A former Nottingham Forest apprentice, he left the City Ground without making a League appearance to join Halifax Town. A midfielder, he made 100 League appearances for Halifax before joining York but after only two months there he signed for Chesterfield in December 1988. Born Easington. Age 24.

JOHN CHIEDOZIE

A Nigerian international winger, he joined Chesterfield from Notts County in March. He joined his club Orient as an apprentice in 1976 and was there for five seasons before joining County for £450,000. After three seasons, he moved to Tottenham Hotspur for £375,000. He has also played for Derby County. Born Owerri, Nigeria. Age 30.

CALVIN PLUMMER

Currently in his second spell with Chesterfield following a £30,000 transfer from Plymouth Argyle last July. A Nottingham born winger, he began as an apprentice with Forest and he has also played for Derby County and Bamsley. He scored a hat-trick in the semi-final first leg against Stockport County. Age 27.

DAVE WALLER

Chesterfield's top scorer for the third successive season, with 18 League goals, he has proved to be a bargain following his £3,000 transfer from Shrewsbury Town in March 1987. Originally with Crewe Alexandra, he joined them in January 1986 and spent four-and-a-half seasons at Gresty Road before joining Shrewsbury. Born Urmston. Age 26.

ANDY MORRIS

A powerful striker, he is one of the tallest players in the Football League at 6ft 5in. He began with Rotherham in July 1985 making seven League appearances, all as substitute, before signing for Chesterfield in January 1988. Missed only four League games this season. Born Sheffield. Age 22.

ANDREW ROLPH

5ft 6in striker who joined Birmingham City as a trainee. He was unable to force his way into the first team at St Andrews and he left for Chesterfield without making a League appearance. He has been a regular member of the first team squad this season. Born Birmingham. Age 20.

LEE FRANCIS

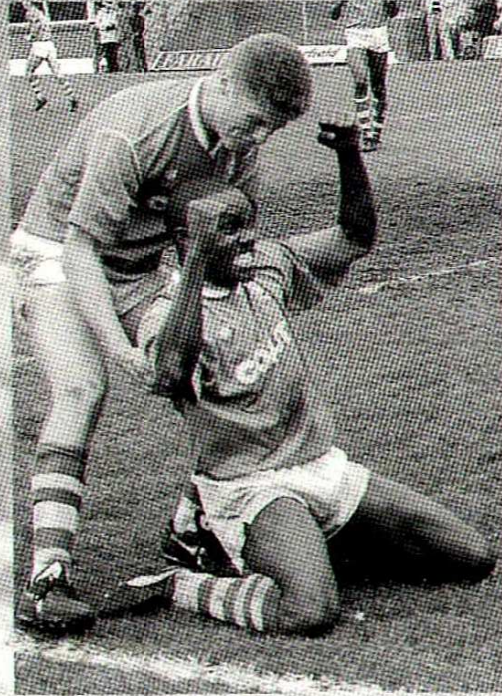
Twenty-year-old defender who is currently on loan from First Division Arsenal. He trained with Arsenal and Tottenham as a youngster but chose to sign schoolboy forms for the Highbury club when he was 14. He made his League debut for Chesterfield in the penultimate game of the season against Scunthorpe. Born Walthamstow.

STEVE WILLIAMS

Nineteen-year-old striker who joined Chesterfield from Mansfield earlier this season following a successful trial period. He joined Mansfield as a schoolboy and spent almost five years at Field Mill. He has made 10 League appearances for Chesterfield this season. Born Mansfield.

PLUMMER UNBLOCKS STOCKPORT DEFENCE

Colin Plummer celebrates with Sean Dyche.



CHESTERFIELD



Plummer celebrates his second goal.



Another goal for Calvin Plummer.

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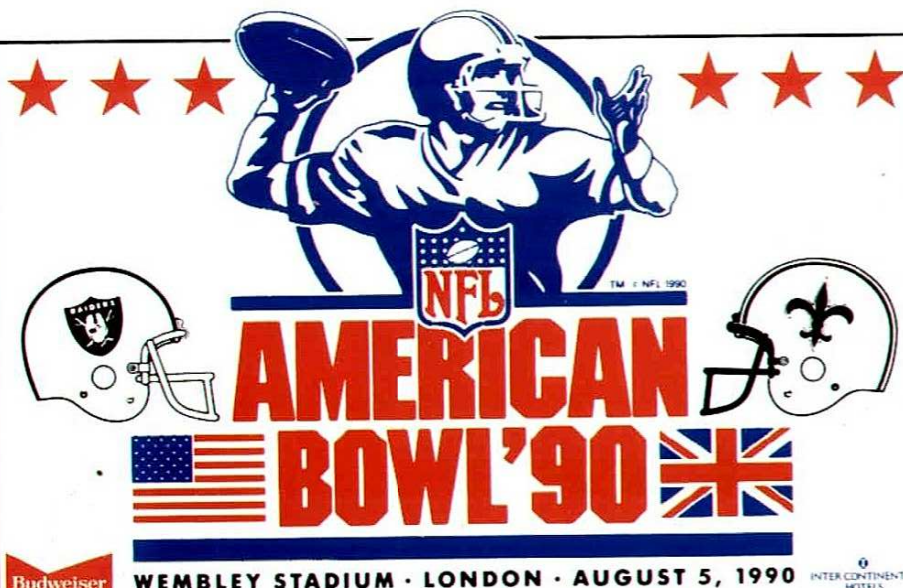
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- V -

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INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT

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THE ROVERS DATA-FILE

Prenton Park, Prenton Road West, Birkenhead.
Telephone: 051-608 3677/4194.

Ground Capacity: 14,200.

Record Attendance: 24,424 v Stoke C, FA Cup 4th round, 5 February 1972.

Record Receipts: £48,597 v Tottenham H., Littlewoods Cup, Round 4, 22 November, 1989.

Pitch Measurement: 112yd × 71yd.

President: H.B. Thomas.

Chairman: P.R. Johnson. **Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive:** F.D. Corfe.

Directors: A.J. Adams, BDS, G.E.H. Jones, LLB, F.J. Williams, J.J. Holsgrove, FCA, G.A. Higham, MSC, TECH, LRSC, M INST, PI.

Manager: John King. **Trainer:** Kenny Jones.

Coach: Ronnie Moore. **Physio:** Alec McClelland. **Reserve Team Manager:** Ray Mathias. **Youth**

Development Officer: Warwick Rimmer.

Secretary: Norman Wilson, FAAI. **Commercial Manager:** Nigel Coates.

Year Formed: 1884. **Turned Professional:** 1911. **Ltd. Co.:** 1911.

Club Nickname: 'The Rovers'.

Previous Name: Belmont AFC 1884-85.

Previous Grounds: 1883 Steeles Field, 1887 Old Prenton Park (Temple Road), 1912 Prenton Park.

Record League Victory: 13-4 v Oldham Ath, Division 3(N), 26 December 1935 — Gray; Platt, Fairhurst, McLaren, Newton, Spencer, Eden, MacDonald (1), Bell (9), Woodward (2), Urmson (1).

Record Cup Victory: 13-0 Oswestery Town, FA Cup, Qualifying Round 1, 10 October, 1914.

Record Defeat: 1-9 v Tottenham H, FA Cup 3rd rd replay, 14 January, 1953.

Most League Points (2 for a win): 60, Division 4, 1964-65.

Most League Points (3 for a win): 80, Division 4, 1988-89.

Most League Goals: 111, Division 3(N), 1930-31.

Highest League Scorer in Season: Bunny Bell, 104, Division 3(N), 1933-34.

Most League Goals in Total Aggregate: Bunny Bell, 104, 1931-36.

Most Capped Player: Albert Gray, 3(24) Wales.

Most League Appearances: Harold Bell, 594, 1946-64 (inc. League record 401 consecutive appearances).

Record Transfer Fee Received: £120,000 from Cardiff C for Ronnie Moore, February 1979.

Record Transfer Fee Paid: £125,000 to Manchester C for Neil McNab, January 1990.

Football League Record: 1921 Original Member of Division 3(N); 1938-39 Division 2; 1946-58 Division 3(N); 1958-61 Division 3; 1961-67 Division 4; 1967-75 Division 3; 1975-76 Division 4; 1976-79 Division 3; 1979-89 Division 4; 1989—Division 3.

Honours: Football League: Division 2 best season: 22nd, 1938-39; Division 3(N) — Champions 1937-38; Promotion to 3rd Division; 1966-67, 1975-76; Division 4 — Runners-up 1988-89. **FA Cup best season:** 5th rd, 1967-68. **Football League Cup best season:** 4th rd, 1961, 1982, 1989. **Welsh Cup:** Winners 1935. Runners-up 1934.

Colours: All white. **Change Colours:** Claret shirts sky blue sleeves, sky blue shorts, sky blue stockings.

TRANMERE ROVERS

2nd DIVISION A GAME AWAY FOR ROVERS

TRANMERE ROVERS have lived in the shadow of their illustrious Merseyside neighbours, Liverpool and Everton, for their entire history. But this season, the Prenton Park club has grabbed the headlines in its own right.

They are at Wembley for the second weekend in a row, having last week contested the Leyland Daf Trophy Final with Third Division champions Bristol Rovers.

Tranmere are bidding to reach the Second Division for only the second time in their history and on the previous occasion, 1938-39, they were relegated after just one season.

Tranmere's achievement in reaching the Leyland Daf Final is a good indication of their ability to win one-off matches, such as today's. They also enjoyed a good run in the Littlewoods Cup, beating Second Division Ipswich Town and First Division Millwall before falling in a replay to Tottenham Hotspur.

But the powerful London club certainly knew they had been in a game against Tranmere. Indeed, Tranmere, having come back from one goal down to lead 2-1 in the first game, were only denied victory by an unfortunate own goal from Dave Higgins.

In the replay at White Hart Lane Tranmere were beaten 4-0, but their fluent style of football won them many admirers.

Tranmere's impressive League form this season, they were in the top six for almost the whole season, has brought them to Wembley for today's play-off final and put them on the threshold of promotion for the second year running.

Their decision to play many of their home matches on Friday night, to avoid losing supporters to Liverpool and Everton, has led to them being featured regularly on ITV's Saint and Greavsie show and given them nationwide exposure.

Coventry-born striker Ian Muir is one of the players who has starred for Rovers this season and he has written himself into the Prenton Park record books.

He scored 23 League goals, to finish as the club's top scorer for the fourth year running, and he is now Tranmere's all-time leading scorer.

At the other end, goalkeeper Eric Nixon has been in fine form, while mid-season signing Neil McNab has provided the experience and know-how to steer Tranmere through the tense final few weeks of the season.

However, all of this success is far removed from Tranmere's humble beginnings.

Tranmere were founded in 1883 by



(Top) Jim Steel impressive against Spurs and indeed throughout the season up front for Rovers. (Above) Captain Jim Harvey and team will hope to celebrate again after their final Play-off match.

members of two Birkenhead cricket teams, Belmont and Lyndhurst Wanderers. Their early years were spent playing friendlies until in 1891, they joined the Birkenhead and District League.

A new ground was found and crowds of 1,000 were commonplace. But in 1898 the club almost folded when its organisers split following a disagreement. Fortunately, a group of loyal supporters held an emergency meeting and the club was saved.

Success followed and Tranmere won the coveted Liverpool Shield four times in seven years between 1898 and 1905. By now the club was flourishing and in 1906 they became members of the Lancashire Alliance, and later the Lancashire Combination.

Liverpool and Everton were the major footballing forces on Merseyside but in 1909 Tranmere won the Liverpool County Challenge Cup, a competition in which both their famous neighbours took part.

Following World War I, Tranmere gained entry into the Central League and, in 1921, after two successful seasons, they were invited to become one of the original members of the Football League's Third Division (North).

By now the club had moved to Prenton Park and their first League match attracted a crowd of 5,000 to see Tranmere beat Crewe Alexandra 4-1. Tranmere finished 18th out of 20 in their first season but three years

later they were forced to seek re-election after finishing second from bottom.

The vote went in their favour and the club battled on in Division Three (North) until finally winning the Championship in 1937-38, a season in which their average attendance was 10,000.

But after just one season in Division Two they were relegated and today represents the closest they have been to the Second Division since. They were one of the original members of the newly formed Third Division in 1958 and have spent the past 32 years in the lower divisions.

Much of the club's recent success must be attributed to manager John King, now in his second spell in charge at Prenton Park. He originally took over in 1975, when Ron Yeats was sacked, and in his first season the club were promoted to Division Three.

But two seasons later they were relegated and at the end of the 1979-80 season, when Rovers finished 15th in Division Four, King was sacked. He joined Rochdale as a coach and also managed Northwich, twice taking them to Wembley in the FA Trophy, winning once, and Caernarfon, before returning to Tranmere in April 1987.

Last season, promotion to the Third Division was gained and King is now just one match away from leading Tranmere to promotion for the second successive season.

JOHN KING
TRANMERE ROVERS MANAGER



TRANMERE ROVERS

PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS

ON DUTY FOR "THE ROVERS"

ERIC NIXON

Goalkeeper signed from Manchester City for £60,000 in July 1988. While at Manchester City, in 1986-87, he was loaned to four clubs, becoming the first player to appear in all four divisions of the Football League in one season. Was an ever-present in the League for Tranmere this season. Born Manchester. Age 28.

MARK HUGHES

This much-travelled defender cost a bargain £3,000 from Bristol City in 1985 and is now approaching 200 League appearances for the club. A former Welsh youth international, he has also played for Bristol Rovers, Torquay United and Swansea City. Born Port Talbot. Age 28.



Eric Nixon.

STEVE VICKERS

A defender, he was signed by Tranmere in 1984 after being spotted playing for non-league Spennymoor United. He has played more than 160 League games for the club and is regarded by many observers as one of the best central defenders in the lower divisions. Born Bishop Auckland. Age 22.

TONY THOMAS

Versatile Liverpool-born player who is equally at home in defence or midfield. Made his League debut last season in February 1989 against Peterborough, aged 17, and has earned himself a regular place in the first-team this season. Age 19.



Mark Hughes.

STEVE MUNGALL

Tranmere's longest-serving player, he was signed during manager John King's first spell at Prenton Park on a free transfer from Scottish club Motherwell in July 1979 and has made more than 350 League appearances for the club. A defender, last season was his testimonial year. Born Bells-hill. Age 32.

MARK McCARRICK

Much-travelled defender signed from non-League Runcorn in August 1987. Joined his first League club Birmingham City from Witton Albion and he has also played for Lincoln, Crewe and Finnish club Koparit. Born Liverpool. Age 28.

DAVE HIGGINS

Defender now in his second spell at Tranmere. Originally with non-League side Eagle, he joined Tranmere in August 1983. After 30 first-team appearances, he was given a free transfer, moving to South Liverpool. Later played for Caernarfon, before returning to Tranmere in July, 1987. Born Liverpool. Age 28.

GARY BAURESS

Nineteen-year-old central defender who made his League debut for Tranmere in their 2-1 win over Brentford on the last day of the League season. Originally with Everton, he moved to Prenton Park in July 1988 as an apprentice. Born Liverpool.



Steve Vickers.



Neil McNab.

JIM HARVEY

Club captain and Tranmere's free-kick expert. Originally with Arsenal, where he spent three years without making a first-team appearance, he also had spells at Hereford United, Bristol City and Wrexham (loan) before joining Tranmere in a £25,000 transfer in October 1987. Born Lurgan. Age 32.

NEIL McNAB

Thirty-two-year-old midfielder who became Tranmere's record signing when he joined from Manchester City for £125,000 last January. Originally with Scottish club Morton, he has played for Tottenham Hotspur, Bolton, Brighton and Leeds and has also represented Scotland at Under-21 level. Born Greenock.

JOHN MORRISEY

Liverpool-born winger, John followed his father, John senior, to Everton, but left Goodison Park to join Wolverhampton Wanderers after making only one appearance. A former England youth international, he cost Tranmere £8,000 in October 1985. Age 25.



Jim Steel.

DAVID MARTINDALE

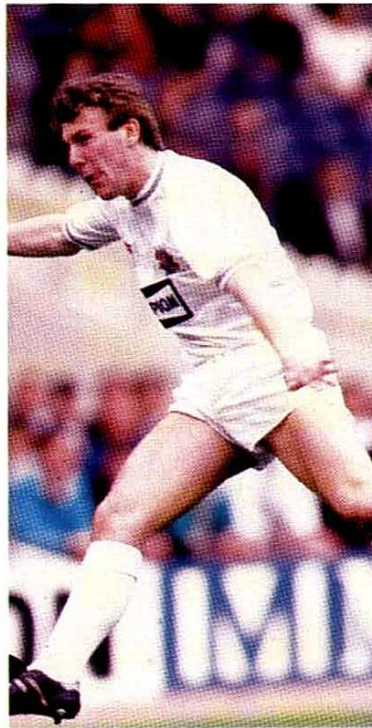
Midfielder who followed manager John King from non-League Caernarfon when he was signed for £1,500 in July 1987. Started as an apprentice with Liverpool but he did not make a first-team appearance and moved into non-League football with Southport and Runcorn. Born Liverpool. Age 26.

JIM STEEL

6ft 3in centre forward signed from Wrexham for £50,000 in October 1987. Began with Oldham, for whom he made more than 100 League appearances before signing for Port Vale and then Wrexham. He has now scored 108 League goals in his career, including five this season. Born Dumfries. Age 30.

EDDIE BISHOP

Liverpool-born midfielder who joined Tranmere from GM Vauxhall Conference side Runcorn in March 1988. Spent several seasons in non-League football with Altrincham and Northwich Victoria during which time he worked as a soft-toy maker and a painter. Age 28.



Ian Muir.

IAN MUIR

Tranmere's all-time record scorer, he headed the club's scoring charts again this season with 23 League goals. One of the best finds in modern football — he joined Tranmere from Brighton in July 1985 on a free transfer. A former QPR apprentice, he also had spells with Birmingham. Born Coventry. Age 27.

DAVID FAIRCLOUGH

Striker who earned the tag of 'Super-sub' during a highly successful spell with Liverpool during the late 1970s and early 1980s. He won a host of domestic and European honours with Liverpool before joining Lucerne, in Switzerland. Has also played for Norwich, Oldham and Beveren (Belgium). Joined Tranmere in June 1989. Born Liverpool. Age 33.

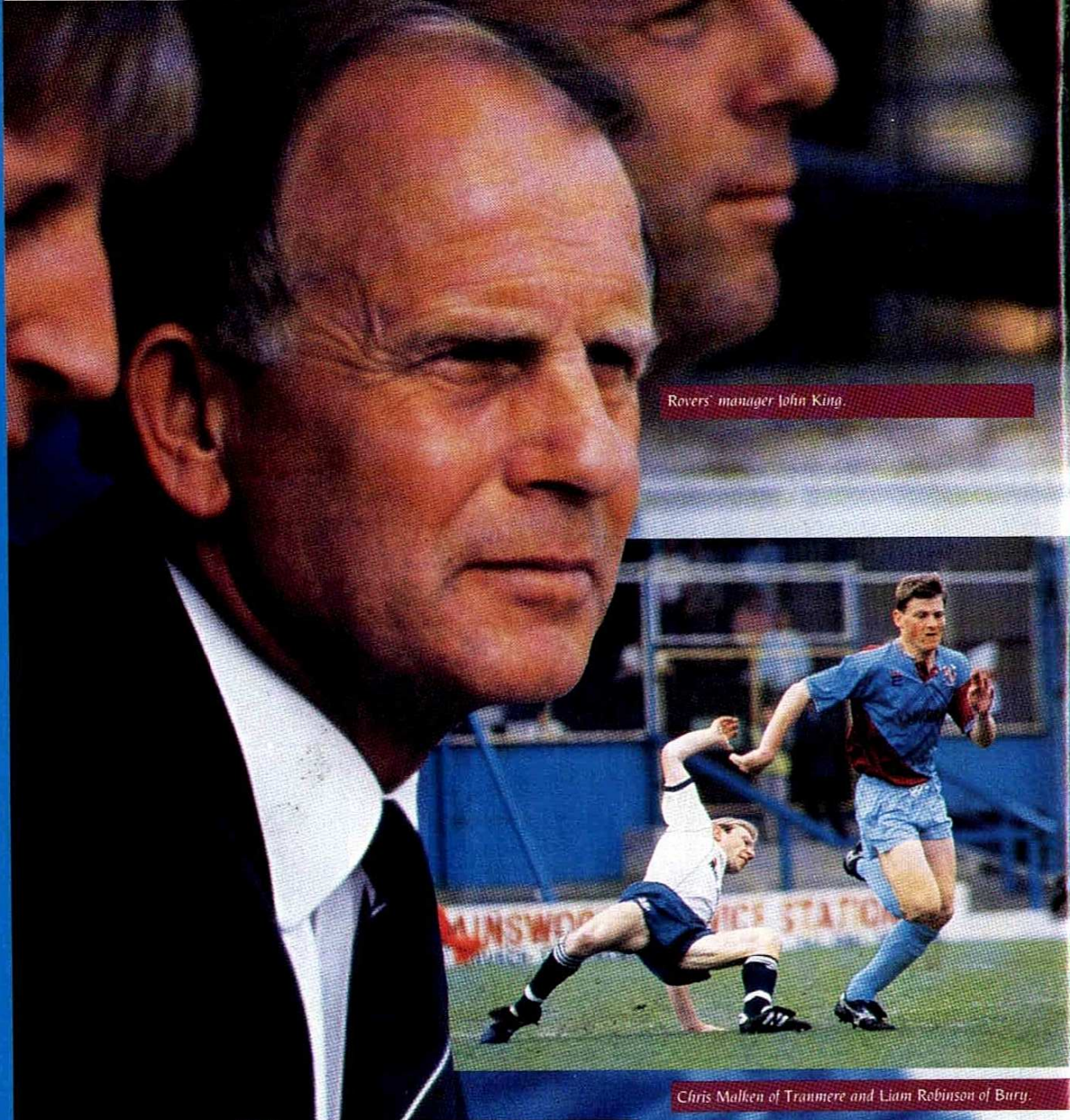
CHRIS MALKIN

Twenty-two-year-old forward who, in August 1988, swapped a career in the International Division of Barclays Bank for one in the Barclays League! Tranmere's second highest scorer in the League this season with 17 goals. Born Bebington. Age 22.

PAUL COLLINGS

6ft 2in understudy goalkeeper. Signed from non-League Ellesmere Port and Neston in 1988, he has been restricted to just one League appearance by the consistency of Eric Nixon. Born Liverpool. Age 21.

TRANMERE ROVERS



Rovers' manager John King.



Chris Malken of Tranmere and Liam Robinson of Bury.

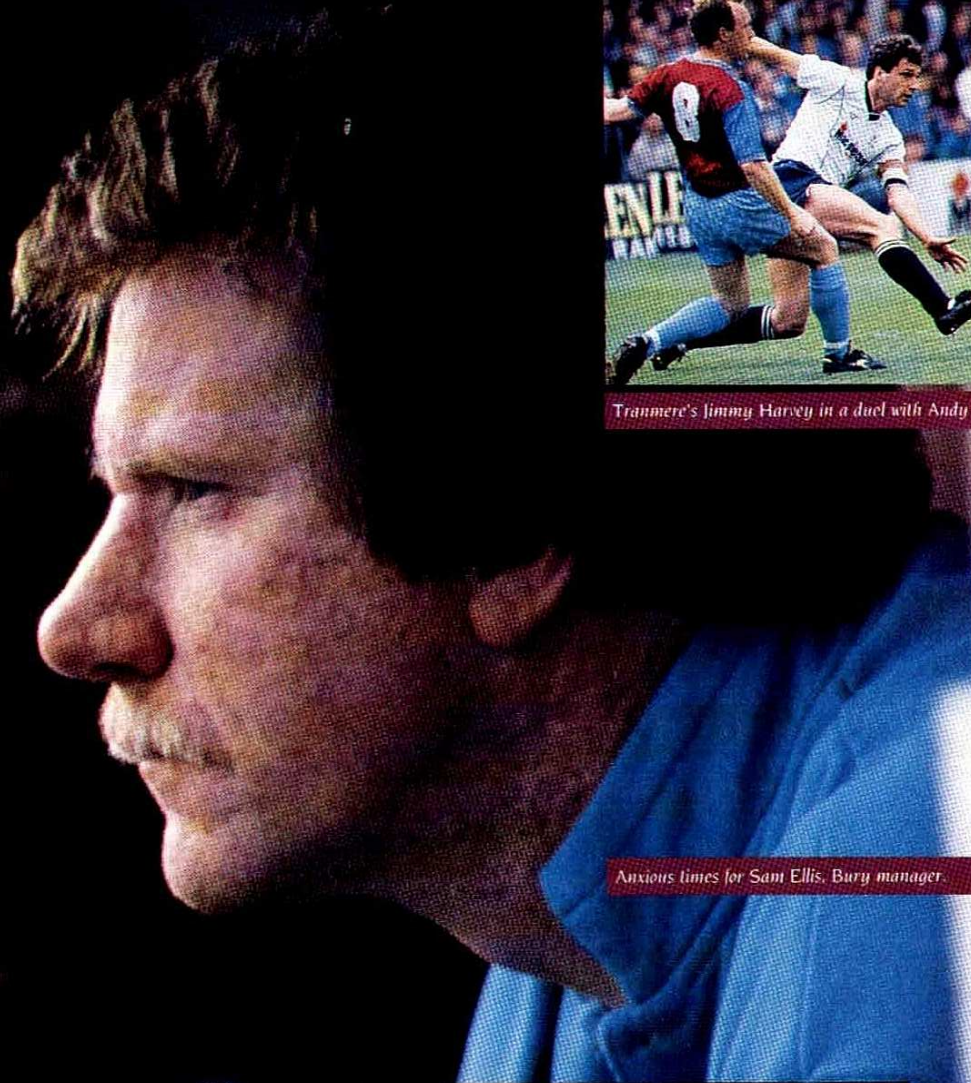


Liam Robinson heads away.

TRANMERE v BURY SEMI-FINAL ACTION



Tranmere's Jimmy Harvey in a duel with Andy Hill of Bury.

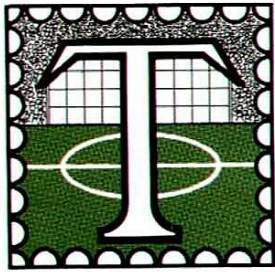


Anxious times for Sam Ellis, Bury manager.



David Lee of Bury tangles with Steve Mungall of Tranmere.

TRANMERE ROVERS



The new Football Trust 1990 has been created to help football at all levels and especially to meet the requirements of Lord Justice Taylor's final report.



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ROBINS DATA-FILE

County Ground, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 2ED.
Telephone: Swindon (0793) 642984.
Fax: 642984 (9am-5pm) or 36170 x35 (after 5pm).

Ground Capacity: 16,153.

Record Attendance: 32,000 v Arsenal, FA Cup 3rd rd, 15 Jan 1972.

Record Receipts: £56,024 v Tottenham H, FA Cup 4th rd, 26 Jan, 1980.

Pitch Measurements: 114yd × 72yd.

President: C.J. Green.

Chairman: G. Herbert. **Vice-Chairman:** C Howard.

Executive Directors: G. Herbert, C. Howard, N. Arkell, L. Smart.

Non-Executive Directors: D. Alderton, R. Kearsley, R. Mattick, JP.

Company Secretary: P. Mattick, JP.

Manager: Ossie Ardiles. **Asst. Manager:** Chic Bates.

Club Secretary: Miss L. Maberly.

Coach: Andy Rowland. **Physio:** Kevin Morris.

Stadium Manager/Safety Officer: G. Warren.

Youth Team Manager: John Trollope.

Commercial Manager: Doug Buswell.

Club Nickname: 'Robins'.

Year Formed: 1881 *(see Foundation). **Turned Professional:** 1894. **Ltd. Co.:** 1894.

Previous Ground: 1881-96, The Croft.

Record League Victory: 9-1 v Luton T, Division 3(S), 28 August 1920 — Nash; Kay, Macconachie, Langford, Hawley, Wareing, Jefferson (1), Fleming (4), Rogers, Batty (2), Davies (1), (1og).

Record Cup Victory: 10-1 v Farnham U Breweries (away), FA Cup, 1st rd (replay), 28 November 1925 — Nash; Dickenson, Weston, Archer, Bew, Adey, Denyer (2), Wall (1), Richardson (4), Johnson (3), Davies.

Record Defeat: 1-10 v Manchester C, FA Cup 4th rd replay, 25 Jan 1930.

Most League Points (2 for a win): 64, Division 3, 1968-69.

Most League Points (3 for a win): 102, Division 4, 1985-86 (League record).

Most League Goals: 100, Division 3(S), 1926-27.

Highest League Scorer in Season: Harry Morris, 47, Division 3(S), 1926-27.

Most League Goals in Total Aggregate: Harry Morris, 216, 1926-33.

Most Capped Player: Rod Thomas, 30(50), Wales.

Most League Appearances: John Trollope, 770, 1960-80.

Record Transfer Fee Received: £400,000 Phil King from Sheffield Wednesday, November 1989.

Record Transfer Fee Paid: £230,000 to Huddersfield T for Duncan Shearer, June 1988.

Football League Record: 1920 Original Member of Division 3; 1921-58 Division 3(S); 1958-63 Division 3; 1963-65 Division 2; 1965-69 Division 3; 1969-74 Division 2; 1974-82 Division 3; 1982-86 Division 4; 1986-87 Division 3; 1987—Division 2.

Honours: Football League: Division 2 best season; 5th, 1969-70; Division 3 — Runners-up 1962-63, 1968-69; Division 4 — Champions 1985-86 (with record 102 points). **FA Cup:** Semi-finals 1910, 1912.

Football League Cup: Winners 1968-69. **Anglo-Italian Cup:** Winners 1970.

Colours: Red shirts, white shorts, red socks. **Change Colours:** White with black trim.

SWINDON TOWN

FINAL STAGE TO DIVISION ONE

SWINDON TOWN return to Wembley today for the first time in 21 years hoping to repeat the glory of yesteryear.

On their previous trip to the Twin Towers, when they were still a Third Division side, they defeated First Division Arsenal to win the League Cup.

The Swindon hero that day was Don Rogers, who sealed victory for the Wiltshire club with two splendidly executed goals — one in each period of extra-time — as their illustrious opponents began to tire.

Rogers' second goal, and Swindon's third, seconds before the end, epitomised the confidence that Swindon had demonstrated throughout the game.

He raced on to a long ball from Roger Smart and took the ball on towards goal. With goalkeeper Bob Wilson to beat he stopped, dummied and walked the ball round Wilson before stroking it into an empty net to earn Swindon one of the most famous Cup Final victories of all time.

The prize for triumph today is not a silver trophy but something that most people in football consider even more precious — promotion to the First Division.

Swindon have never been in the top flight but there is no doubt that their fluent brand of passing football would be welcomed by opposition teams and supporters alike.

Some of their football this season has been a joy to watch and along with Oldham, who were unlucky to finish season with nothing more than great respect, they were widely regarded as the best footballing team in the division.

Their total of 79 League goals was the second best in the division, level with Champions Leeds United, and one behind Newcastle United. No team in the First Division, not even Liverpool, could match that.

Duncan Shearer, with 20 League goals, and Steve White with 18, were the main scorers but they received tremendous support from midfielder Alan McLoughlin who scored 12 goals. His form earned him a call-up to the Republic of Ireland squad.

England Under-21 goalkeeper Fraser Digby was typically steady while defender David Kerlake, bought from Queens Park Rangers for only £110,000, proved to be an exceptional signing.

Swindon were founded in 1881 by the Rev. William Pitt, who was the

captain of the Spartans. The first game was played in November of that year against St Mark's Young Men's Friendly Society.

The game finished in a 2-2 draw and the two sides decided to join forces and Swindon Town Football Club was born.

In 1894, the club turned professional and they became founder members of the Southern League. Two years later, they moved to their present home, the County Ground.

They remained in the Southern League until 1920 when they became founder members of the Football League's Division Three (South). The early years in the League proved difficult and Swindon finished bottom in their first season.

In 1958, Swindon joined the newly formed Division Three and five years later they achieved their first notable League success. Under the management of Bert Head they finished as runner-up in the Third Division and were duly promoted to Division two.

Sadly, their stay in that division was short lived, just two seasons before they again found themselves in Division Three.

That was in 1965 and no-one in the town could possibly have imagined the astonishing success story that would unfold four years later, in 1969.

Beating Arsenal in the League Cup Final in March earned the club their first major trophy. But as well as that success, Swindon also won promotion, finishing second in Division Three.

The following year, 1970, Swindon won the Anglo-Italian Cup, beating AS Roma in a two-legged final to complete a remarkable treble and close one of the most enthralling chapters in the club's history.

Swindon were relegated in 1974 and spent eight years in the Third Division before falling into Division Four for the first time.

But in 1986, under Lou Macari, Swindon's dramatic rise began. They were Fourth Division Champions, taking the title with a new record points total of 102, and the following season, the champagne was flowing again as Swindon toasted promotion to Division Two.

And now the club stand 90 minutes away from the First Division for the first time.

The man in charge now is former Argentinian international Osvaldo Ardiles, who knows all about the big match atmosphere, having been a member of his county's World Cup winning team in 1978.

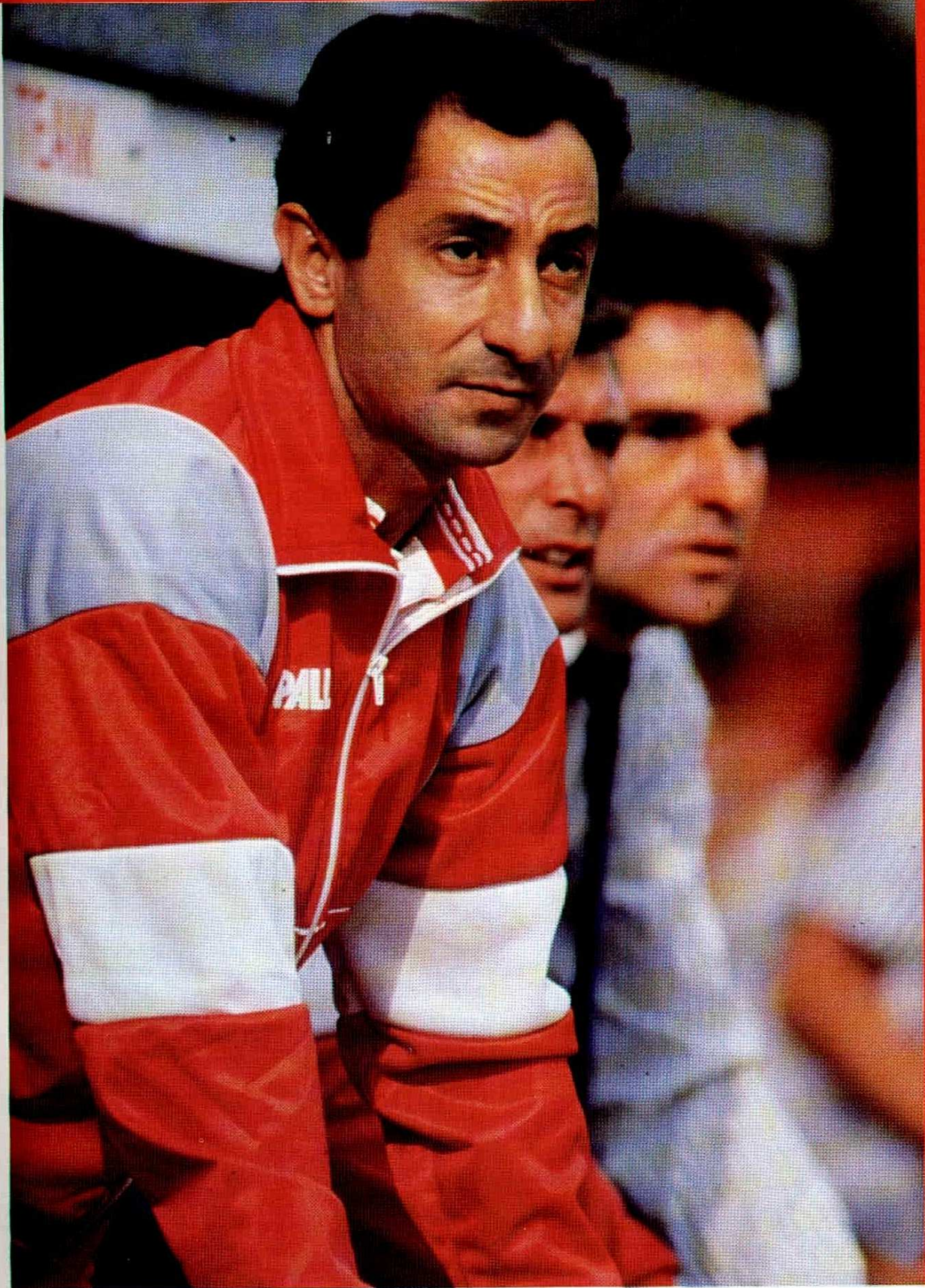
He made his name in this country with Tottenham Hotspur. On his arrival from Argentina, in 1978, he announced that his ambition was to play in the FA Cup Final at Wembley and he achieved that dream three years later.

He has also played for Paris St Germain in France, Blackburn Rovers and QPR before joining Swindon as player-manager last July.

Promotion has been a hard fought struggle as this confrontation between Steve Foley (Swindon) and John Millar (Blackburn R.) proves.



OSVALDO ARDILES
SWINDON TOWN MANAGER



SWINDON TOWN

PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS ● PLAY-OFFS

SWINDON TOWN PROMOTION SQUAD

FRASER DIGBY

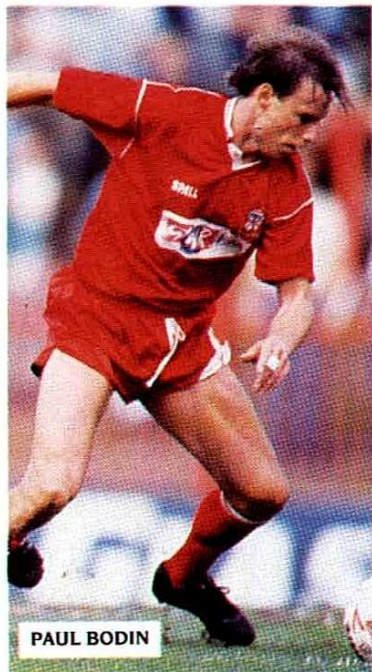
England Under-21 goalkeeper who has been an ever-present in the League for Swindon this season. Started with Manchester United, where he spent two years without making a first-team appearance. Had loan periods with Oldham and Swindon before a permanent move to the County Ground for £32,500 in December 1986. Born Sheffield. Age 23.

DAVID KERSLAKE

He has been successfully converted from midfield to full-back by manager Ossie Ardiles after a £110,000 move from Queens Park Rangers last November. An England Under-21 international, he was restricted to 58 League appearances in six years at QPR before his transfer. Born London. Age 23.

PAUL BODIN

Twenty-five year-old full-back. Originally with Cardiff, he played for non-League Bath City before returning to his native Wales with Newport. Joined Swindon just a month — and six matches — later in a £25,000 transfer. Born Cardiff.



PAUL BODIN

ALAN McLOUGHLIN

Midfielder and another former Manchester United apprentice. Did not make a first-team appearance in two seasons at Old Trafford before he joined Swindon on a free transfer in August 1986. Made his international debut for the Republic of Ireland when he was capped at 'B' level against England in Cork last March. Born Manchester. Age 23.

COLIN CALDERWOOD

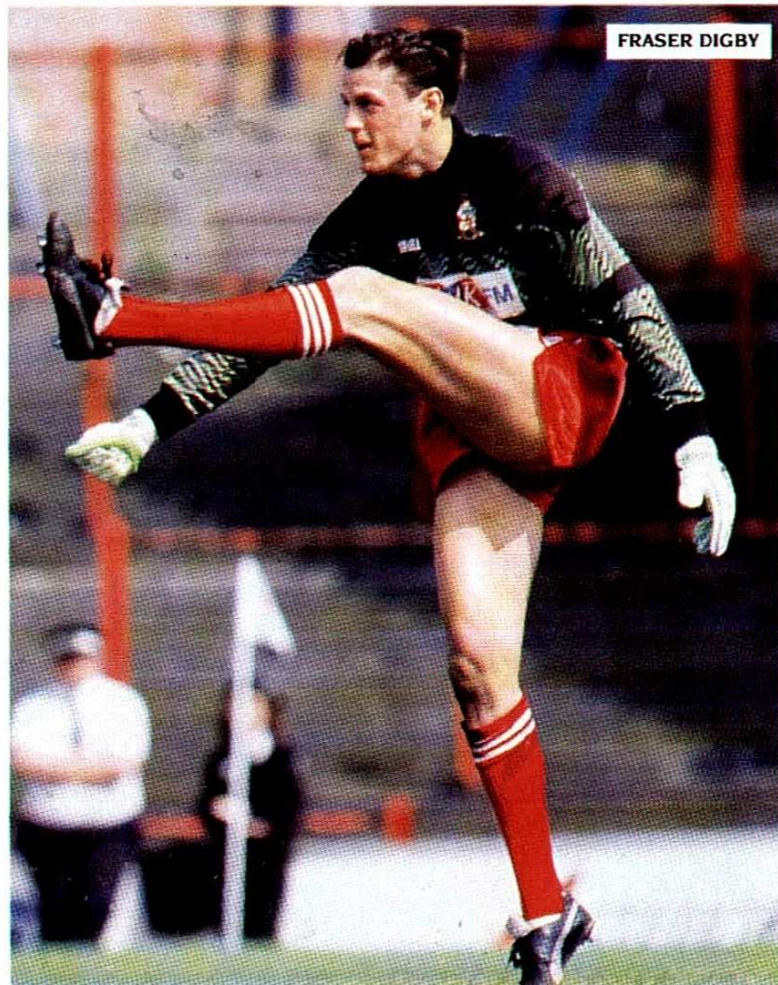
Club captain who has played a leading role in Swindon's rise up the Football League. A £27,500 signing from Mansfield in June 1985, he has made more than 250 appearances for Swindon and was a member of the side that won promotion from the Fourth Division to the Second in successive seasons between 1985-87. Born Stranraer. Age 30.

TOMMY JONES

A former Chelsea apprentice, this midfielder was discovered by Aberdeen playing for non-League Weymouth and signed for £30,000 in April 1987. Moved to Swindon for £30,000 in September 1988 after 31 appearances for the Pittodrie club. Recently completed 100 senior appearances for Swindon. Born Aldershot. Age 25.

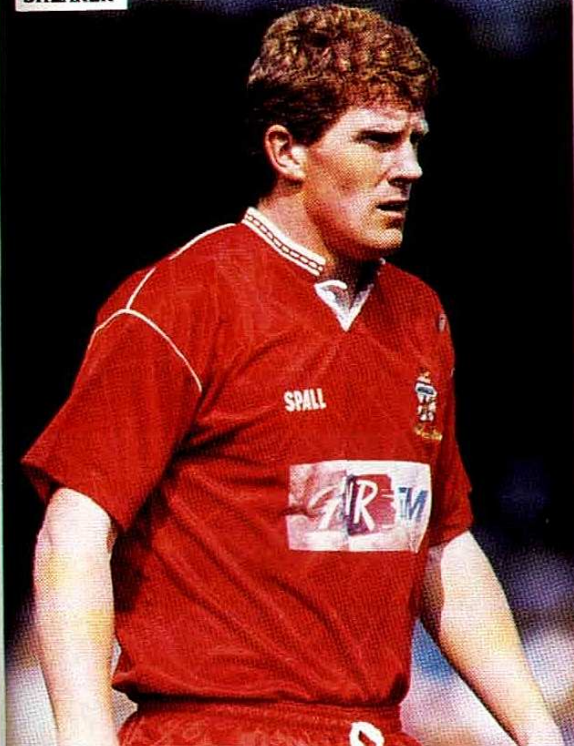
JON GITTENS

Central defender signed from Southampton for £45,000 in July 1987. Joined Southampton in 1986 after he was discovered playing for non-League Paget Rangers. Made just 18 appearances in one and a half seasons for the South Coast club before his transfer. Born Mosely. Age 26.



FRASER DIGBY

DUNCAN SHEARER



DUNCAN SHEARER

Swindon's record signing (£250,000 from Huddersfield in June 1988), he was their top League scorer this season with 20 goals. Originally with Scottish amateur side Inverness Clach, he began his Football League career with Chelsea, moving to Huddersfield in March 1986. Born Fort William. Age 27.

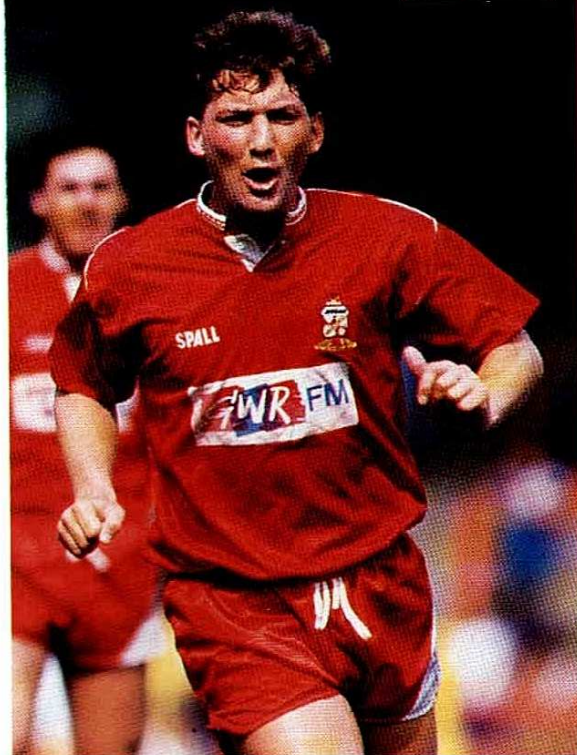
STEVE WHITE

Signed on a free transfer from Bristol Rovers in June 1986, he has formed a prolific striking partnership with Duncan Shearer over the past two seasons. Began career with Bristol Rovers and played for Luton Town, Charlton Athletic and Lincoln City (loan), before returning to Rovers in 1983. Has scored 17 League goals this season. Born Chipping Sodbury. Age 31.

ROSS MacLAREN

Joined Swindon for £150,000 in July 1988 after being a regular first-team midfielder with Derby County for four seasons. Made more than 130 appearances for the Baseball Ground club and was a member of their Second Division Championship winning side in 1987. Previously with Rangers and Huddersfield. Born Edinburgh. Age 28.

STEVE FOLEY



STEVE FOLEY

Midfielder who began his career with home-town club Liverpool, where he spent four seasons without making a League appearance. Made his debut while on loan with Fulham in December 1983. Moved to Grimsby Town and then Sheffield United for the 1985-86 season before signing for Swindon in a £35,000 transfer in July 1987. Age 27.

SHAUN CLOSE

Striker signed from Bournemouth for £75,000 last September. Began his career at Tottenham Hotspur where he played with manager Ossie Ardiles. Was limited to just nine League appearances in four seasons at White Hart Lane and, after a successful loan period, he joined Bournemouth for £70,000 in February 1988. Born Islington. Age 23.

KEVIN DEARDEN

The reserve goalkeeper, he joined Swindon last April on loan until the end of the season from Tottenham Hotspur, and made his debut for the club in the 2-1 win at Bournemouth a week later. Spent a loan period with Cambridge United last season (15 League appearances), but has yet to play a first-team game for Spurs. Born Luton. Age 20.

FITZROY SIMPSON

Twenty-year-old midfielder. He signed for Swindon as an apprentice and progressed through the ranks, making his debut in December 1988. Now approaching 50 senior appearances for the club. Born Trowbridge.

JOHN CORNWELL

Versatile player who is equally comfortable in midfield or at centre-half. Spent six seasons with his first club Leyton Orient, making 202 League appearances, before moving to Newcastle United in July 1987. Moved to Swindon for £80,000 in December 1988. Born Bethnal Green. Age 25.

DAVE HOCKADAY

The longest-serving player at the County Ground, he has been a member of the Swindon team that has risen from the Fourth Division with more than 250 appearances to his credit. Spent eight seasons at his first-club Blackpool, moving to Swindon in August 1983. A full-back. Born Billingham. Age 32.

SWINDON TOWN

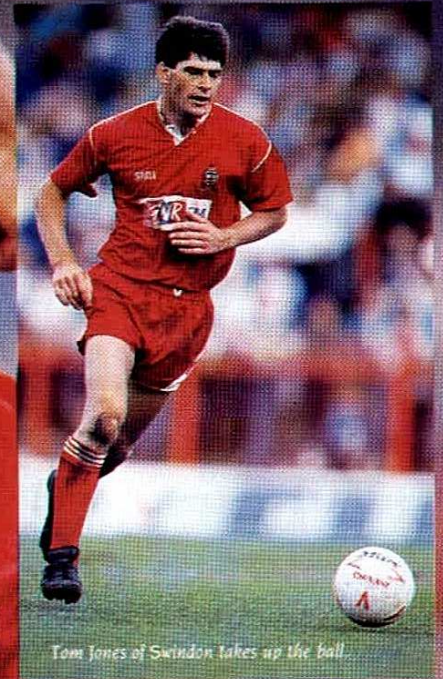
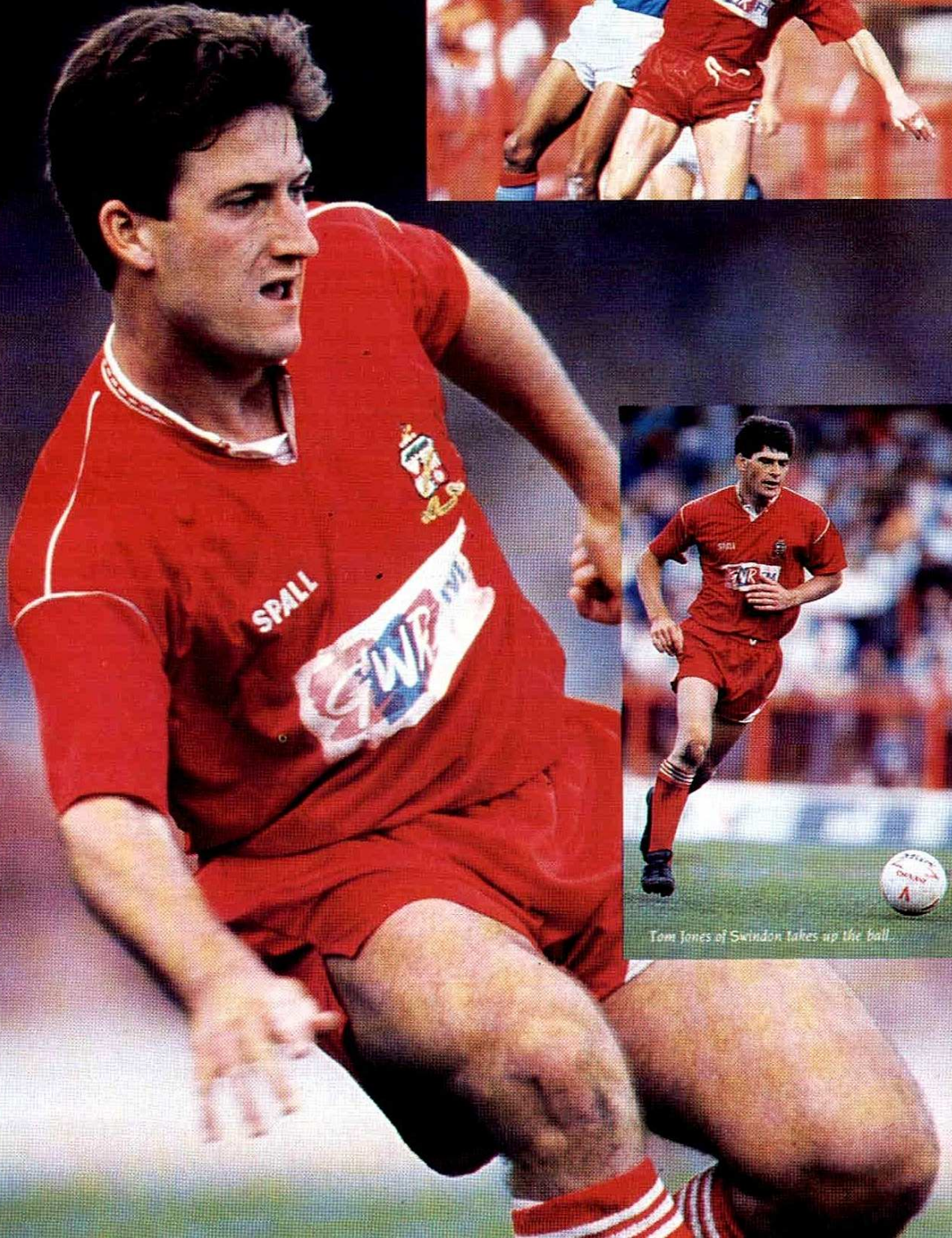
SWINDON TOWN

THE PLAY-OFFS 1st LEG: SEMI-FINAL

Paul Bodin of Swindon gets ahead of Blackburn's Howard Gayle



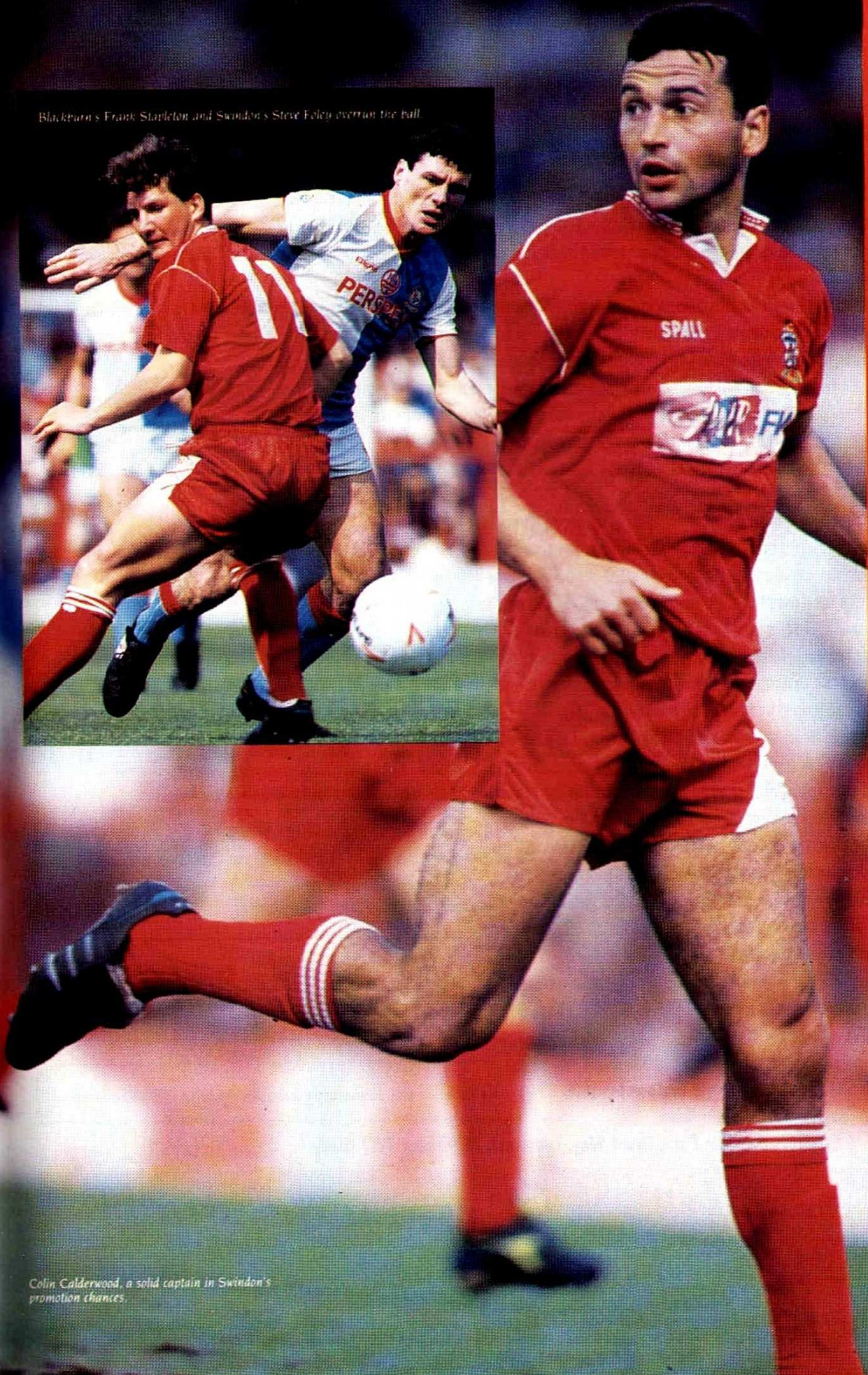
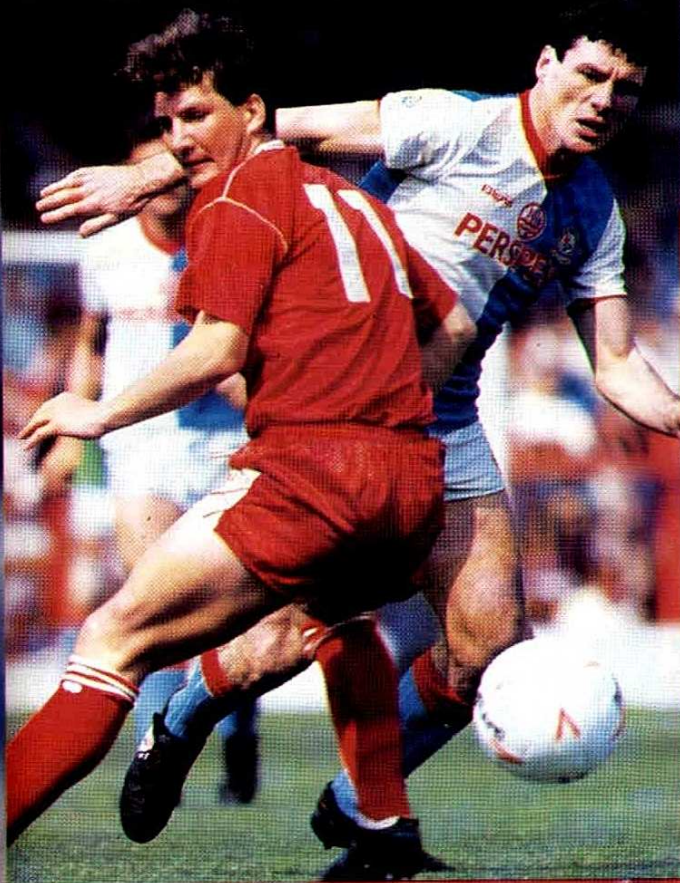
David Kerslake of Swindon Town
in a laid back mood



Tom Jones of Swindon takes up the ball

SWINDON TOWN

Blackburn's Frank Stapleton and Swindon's Steve Foley overrun the ball.



Colin Calderwood, a solid captain in Swindon's promotion chances.



BOBBY ROBSON

BE A WINNER... AND REACH FOR THE SKY



BY TONY FLOOD

BOBBY ROBSON reckons that soccer fans will be on to a winner if they follow England in the World Cup - on satellite television channel Eurosport!

England manager Robson told me that the projection Eurosport is giving the World Cup and Sky is offering domestic competitions is adding a new dimension for British soccer fans. His views are echoed by Ossie Ardiles and Denis Smith, managers of Second Division play-off finalists Swindon and Sunderland.

Ossie, a World Cup hero with Argentina, said, "It's great that Eurosport are showing all 52 matches from Italy. I've got to fancy Brazil, but there is no reason why England cannot go all the way. It's a question of believing in themselves - that is the secret of our success at Swindon."

Smith comments: "Before the World Cup takes centre stage, with Eurosport featuring the likes of Diego Maradona, Marco van Basten and Gianluca Vialli, Sunderland and Swindon can grab some glory. We've got three potential superstars ourselves in Marco Gabbiadini, Gordon Armstrong and Gary Owers - and Swindon have got a few, too. But I believe we can put one over on Ossie and his lads as we did in the first game of the season - and return to the First Division as a major force."

Those without a Sky dish have already missed out on live coverage of Mike Tyson's sensational defeat and England's controversial Test series against the West Indies. But you can jump on the satellite bandwagon by applying for a dish in time to watch Eurosport provide the most comprehensive coverage of the World Cup ever seen on British television - or get one FREE for a year by winning the competition on this page.

As Bobby Robson pointed out: "Eurosport, as an all-sport satellite television channel, is giving a comprehensive coverage of the World Cup teams and has already helped to introduce British fans to many exciting stars who will be competing in Italy.

"Our domestic soccer must benefit from the increased exposure being given to our national game. Sky - whose network includes Eurosport - have covered the Leyland DAF Cup Final and the exploits of Chelsea and Middlesbrough in the Zenith Cup to add a new dimension for British soccer fans."

If YOU win this Sky competition you can tune in to Sky movies, Sky's entertainments and news channels as well as a sporting bonanza of top class events with Eurosport, which brings you 16 hours of sport a day including a massive 300 hours of World Cup soccer. It's all brought to you by the Astra satellite which also beams MTV for pop music and The Children's Channel.

*The winner will receive a complete package of programmes, equipment and installation of a satellite dish **FREE FOR ONE YEAR**. There will be runners-up prizes of 20 T-shirts.*

To enter simply answer the questions correctly, fill in the form and send to: **Sky/Eurosport World Cup competition,**

Tony Flood, Sky Television,

6 Centuars Business Park, Grant Way, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 5QD.



T E L E V I S I O N

ENTRY FORM

1. Which channel on the Sky network brings you 16 hours of sport a day?

2. How many World Cup hours does it provide?

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

The first correct entry drawn after the closing date of June 1st 1990 will be the winner.

Telephone the SKY HOTLINE on 0506 460000 and get the details of how you can subscribe to Sky in time for the World Cup.

The winner must have a working TV installation. If, through no fault of Sky, the winner is unable to have a satellite dish installed, the prize goes to the next correct entry. Employers of this publication, their families and anyone connected with the competition are not eligible to enter. The decision of Tony Flood, Eurosport's controller of Information, is final and no correspondence will be entered into.



Official Sponsors of Swindon Town Football Club

Full details of match tomorrow on 97.2FM

QUIZ - 25 FREE WATCHES TO BE WON!

LORUS SPORTS FOR WINNERS


LORUS
QUARTZ

Rugged sports watches by Lorus are pressure-tested to 100m and therefore are swimproof and suitable for snorkelling and shallow diving. Other features include alarm, luminous hands, calendar and hourly time signals. Each watch can double up as a 60-minute stopwatch accurate to 1/100 seconds.

Prices range from £27.99 to £34.99 from jewellers throughout the U.K. However under a special deal with LORUS Watches, Wembley Stadium will be giving 25 watches as prizes in our special quiz competition. Listed below are 10 football questions.



- 1.** Which club won the 4th Division Play-Off last season?
- 2.** Who did they beat?
- 3.** Which was the first club to win the Fourth Division Title?
- 4.** Which club was the last to win the 3rd Division North Title?
- 5.** Which two clubs have won the Second Division Championship the most times?
- 6.** Which was the first team to win the Football League Cup at Wembley?
- 7.** Which club plays at Edgeley Park?
- 8.** Which club has the nickname "The Cottagers" ?
- 9.** Who were the losing Littlewoods Cup Finalists last year?
- 10.** Which current First Division Clubs ground has the lowest capacity?

The first 25 correct solutions drawn from our mailbag on Wednesday 9th June will receive a top range LORUS watch.

Answers should be sent to: The Editor,
Wembley Stadium Ltd
Wembley, Middlesex, HA9 ODW.

The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Wembley would like to take this opportunity to thank LORUS for their kind donations and we would like to remind you that you can buy LORUS watches from jewellers throughout the UK.

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The world's most famous venue of legends, Wembley Stadium, now offers exclusive Executive Suites for the top sporting and entertainment attractions.

**IT'S NO GOOD
SHOUTING
AT THE REF!**



YOU'RE

BETTER OFF

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