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MIDDLESBROUGH v SWINDON TOWN



BARCLAYS

DIVISION TWO

SATURDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 1991

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Arthur Foreman, Nigel Leonard

COLIN'S COLUMN

Patience the key to home success

TODAY we welcome Swindon Town and an opportunity to pick ourselves up from the disappointment of the FA Cup and go all out for three points.

The Football League is our bread and butter and we've got to play as we know we can do to start putting the pressure on the Second Division's front runners again.

We've lost the little bit of cushion that we once had, but we are still fifth in the League table and that's a good position to be in at this stage of the season.

Obviously, there have been some performances recently which have not come up to par, but we've still got the ability and we have to channel it in the right direction.

We were very commanding in the first half against Cambridge and the players did everything I asked of them. We matched Cambridge's workrate and as a result we created enough chances to have turned around two or three goals to the good. But we didn't put the ball in the net and eventually paid the penalty for elementary mistakes.

The players know as much as I do how important it is that we get that result out of our systems as quickly as possible, and they will relish the opportunity to put together a positive team performance with a view to starting to put a new run together.

No doubt they will enjoy the opportunity to meet Swindon today, because Swindon are a footballing side and it will give our players the chance to play football as well. Of course, that does not mean it is an easy game. In fact I rate Swindon as one of the best teams in the division, despite their League position.

They were very unfortunate to be deprived of First Division football this season when they had earned promotion through the play-offs by virtue of a lot of good football.

It was a huge setback, which was bound to have an effect on the Swindon players. As a result they made a poor start this season. But it's remarkable the way in which they have since picked themselves up.

While Swindon will provide us with a testing game, it's one that we want to win and it's one that we can win.

I sense that the players are determined to start winning at Ayresome Park again. In the last two home games we've been very

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tight at the back and never looked like conceding a goal over the whole 180 minutes, which has been very pleasing.

But we will create chances at the other end and we must put them away. Clearly, the key word is patience. It's no good trying to force things and then create errors for ourselves.

We must be patient when we are in possession. At the same time, when Swindon have the ball we must battle hard to take it away from them.

Just how far we go this season is totally up to us, so I want to see the determination and footballing skills which we showed in the first half at the Abbey Stadium used as the role model for the rest of the season.

We are good enough to get back into the thick of the promotion race and we are good enough to put another good run together. But no sides will ever make it easy for us. We have to earn the right to those three points.



COVER STORY

On loan player Colin Walsh, from Charlton, who could make his home debut against Swindon this afternoon.

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Lee's birthday treat

LITTLE Lee Walkington, from Stokesley, held his tenth birthday party at our last home league match. He invited his pals to Ayresome Park, where he has been a regular supporter for the last two seasons along with his dad, Len Walkington.

Lucky Lee was also at the World Cup Final in Italy after winning a competition and took his dad along for the treat! Lee is pictured here with his best pal, Nathan Haslam, who was also ten last month, and Boro full-back Jimmy Phillips.

One for the future

THE CLUB have signed yet another promising prospect from our Centres of Excellence.

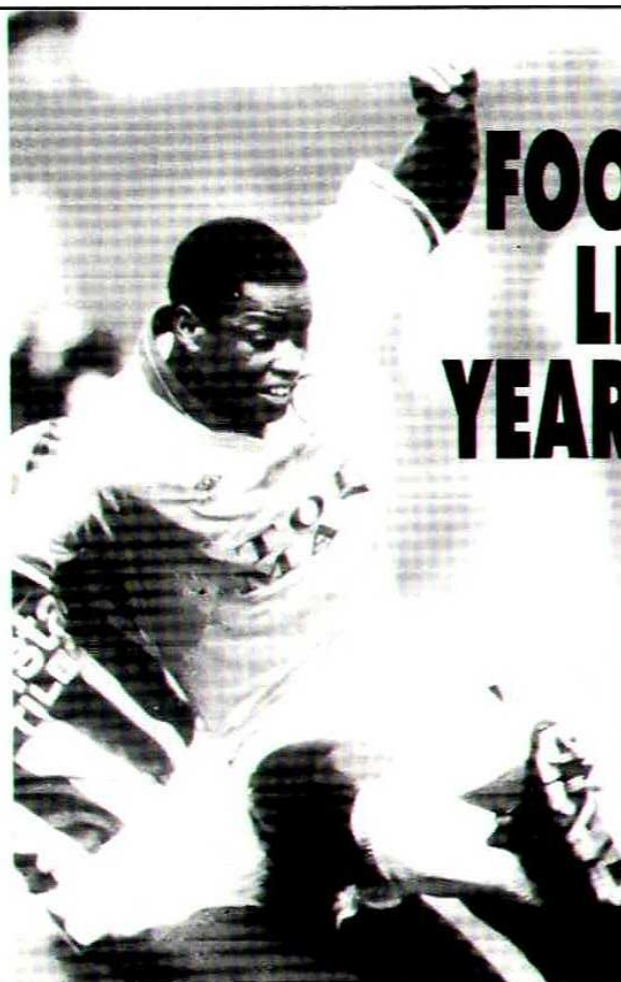
Ross Skingsley, a left winger from Washington, attends Ox Close Comprehensive School and has been coached by our Vince Hutton for the past two years.

Aged 14, Ross has interested several other clubs, including Newcastle United, Sunderland, Ipswich and Sheffield United, but has remained loyal to Boro and we are delighted to have obtained his signature.

Youth Development Officer Ron Bone says: "Ross is a very skilful winger with a lot of potential. He recently attended trials for the National School at Lilleshall."

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**THE
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FOOTBALL
LEAGUE
YEARBOOK
1991**

Edited by Barry J Hugman



**TOP
MAN**

All aboard for the Travel Club special



PICTURED here is a typically enthusiastic bunch of members of that rather special group of fans the Boro Travel Club.

This time, our happy wanderers were just about to embark on their distinctive Transit coach for the long haul to Plymouth and back — currently the longest round trip operated by the Travel Club.

During the '90/91 season, Boro's Travel Club has run supervised luxury coach trips to each and every away game, with as many as six 51-seaters operated to some matches!

Any fan who has been on every trip — and there are some who have — will have covered almost 10,000 miles this season alone.

Coaches normally pick up at the Swan Hotel, Billingham and of course outside Ayresome Park. A

AWAY THE LADS

Travel Club appointed steward accompanies every coach and only registered members of the Boro Travel Club are able to book seats for away trips.

Travel Club membership for the season costs just £1.50 and you must also be a member of the Official Supporters Club before you can join.

The next trip is to Oldham on Saturday, February 9 — at a bargain priced £7.50.

Bookings and membership applications are handled by the Club Shop in Warwick Street and overall responsibility for Travel Club operations is that of our marketing manager, Mitch Hatfield.

the TONY MOWBRAY



Testimonial Year...

THE Boro skipper's testimonial year is going with a swing.

More than 600 fans turned up at his Family Night in the Redcar Leisure Centre, where Boro players were out in force to sign autographs and join the fun. The event raised over £1000.

Next on the agenda is Tony's Sportsmen's Dinner on Sunday, February 24, with Jack Charlton the main speaker. Tickets are already sold out, but another dinner may be held later in the year.

On Thursday, March 7, the fund-raising continues with a Fashion Evening at the Marton Hotel and Country Club, which is being staged by Patrice, of Wolviston. Tickets are £2 each.

VISITORS ON VIEW



MANAGER — OSSIE ARDILES

Born Cordoba, Argentina. Captured the imagination of the soccer world when he and his fellow countryman Ricardo Villa signed for Tottenham following the 1978 World Cup. Spent nearly ten years at White Hart Lane, helping his side lift the F.A. Cup in 1981 and the UEFA Cup three years later. Capped 42 times for his country, Ossi moved on to Queens Park Rangers, after a loan period with Blackburn Rovers, in 1988 and was appointed player-manager at the County Ground in the following summer.

SWINDON TOWN could become the subject of a 'Trivial Pursuit' question — which club spent the shortest time in the First Division of the Football League?

The club's promotion at Wembley on May 28 and demotion to Division Three after a Football League inquiry on June 7 will forever rankle with those who felt that any financial misdemeanours should have incurred financial penalties.

The subsequent re-instatement to the Second Division did little to appease those amongst the 72,873 at that play-off final who had paid to see Sunderland defeated, but still gain a First Division place.

In 1989 Lou Macari departed to West Ham and Swindon made the bold decision to give Ossi Ardiles his first taste of management.

The little Argentinian is hoping that the decision to deprive the club of its First Division status is merely a brief postponement.

Mr Ken Chapman was recently appointed Chairman. He succeeded Gary Herbert, who stepped down after guiding the club through a stormy summer, following the suspension of former chairman Brian Hillier last February.



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SWINDON TOWN



Back row: Liam Dixon (on loan to Happy Valley, Hong Kong), Adie Viveash, Fraser Digby, Nicky Hammond, Steve White, Tony Galvin.

Middle row: Andy Rowland (reserve team coach), Tony Clarke (no longer with club), Dave Hockaday (now Hull City), Tom Jones, Ross MacLaren, Jon Gittens, Fitzroy Simpson, Paul Bodin, Greg Costello (no longer with club), Chic Bates (assistant manager).

Front row: Neil Tomlinson (now Worcester City), Paul Hunt, Steve Foley, David Kerslake, Ossie Ardiles (manager), Colin Calderwood, Alan McLoughlin (now Southampton), Shaun Close, Paul Trollope, Nicky Summerbee.



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BORO ROLL CALL

Player/birthplace/ Birthdate	Previous Clubs	Career App'nces Goals	1990-91 App'nces Goals
IAN BAIRD Rotherham 1-4-64	Swington, Cardiff, Newcastle Leeds, Portsmouth	271 80 40 9	25 12 11 2
MARK BURKE Solihull 12-2-69	Aston Villa	62 6 10 —	— —
COLIN COOPER Sedgefield 28-2-67		183 6 30 2	25 — 9 —
SIMON COLEMAN Worksop 13-6-68	Mansfield	142 8 26 1	9 — 4 —
GARY HAMILTON Glasgow 27-12-65		229 25 43 3	— —
JOHN HENDRIE Lennoxtown 24-10-63	Coventry, Hereford Bradford, Newcastle, Leeds	287 59 56 16	26 2 10 2
ALAN KERNAGHAN Orley 25-4-67		130 11 49 4	18 — 6 —
PAUL KERR Portsmouth 9-6-64	Aston Villa	144 15 47 8	19 5 8 3
OWEN MCGEE Middlesbrough 29-4-70		17 — 7 —	3 — 3 —
NICKY MOHAN Middlesbrough 6-10-70		28 — 7 —	— —
TONY MOWBRAY Saltburn 22-11-63		317 23 71 4	26 1 11 2
ROBBIE MUSTOE Oxford 28-8-68	Oxford	115 14 17 2	23 2 10 3
GARY PARKINSON Middlesbrough 10-1-68		163 4 43 1	1 — 2 —
JIMMY PHILLIPS Bolton 8-2-66	Bolton, Rangers, Oxford Utd.	223* 10 53 2	25 1 10 —
TREVOR PUTNEY Brentwood 9-4-60	Ipswich, Norwich	218 16 52 3	8 — 3 —
STEPHEN PEARS Brandon 22-1-62	Manchester United	221 — 59 —	25 — 10 —
KEVIN POOLE Bromsgrove 21-7-63	Aston Villa Northampton	65 — 10 —	— — 1 —
MARK PROCTOR Middlesbrough 30-1-61	M'bro, Notts. Forest, Sunderland, Sheff W.	412 43 73 12	8 — 4 —
STUART RIPLEY Middlesbrough 20-11-67		196 19 50 4	20 1 8 —
MARTIN RUSSELL Dublin 27-4-67	Man. Utd, Birmingham, Leicester, Scarborough	73 9 16 2	5 — 2 —
BERNIE SLAVEN Paisley 13-11-60	Morton, Airdrie, Q. of South, Albion Rov.	232* 95 58 24	26 11 10 4
JOHN WARK Glasgow 4-8-57	Ipswich, Liverpool, Ipswich	475 146 101 56	20 1 8 —

First line = League Second line = other competitions. *Not including Scottish games.

SIDE BY SIDE

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION II 1990/91

	Home			Goals			Away			Goals				
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	Gd
West Ham	27	10	4	0	26	7	7	5	1	12	6	60	+25	
Oldham	26	11	3	0	39	13	5	4	3	15	13	55	+28	
Sheff Wed.	26	5	8	0	26	15	8	3	2	23	12	50	+22	
Notts Co.	27	8	3	3	27	21	5	4	4	17	15	46	+8	
Boro	26	5	2	5	15	9	7	3	4	24	16	41	+14	
Brighton	25	7	3	3	26	22	5	1	6	16	23	40	-3	
Millwall	26	5	5	4	24	18	5	3	4	13	13	38	+6	
Wolves	26	6	3	3	26	15	2	9	3	14	17	36	+8	
Barnsley	26	6	4	2	23	10	3	5	6	12	18	36	+7	
Bristol Rovers ..	26	6	4	4	17	13	3	5	4	18	19	36	+3	
Swindon	27	5	4	5	15	14	3	7	3	24	23	35	+2	
Ipswich	27	5	5	3	18	16	3	6	5	17	24	35	-5	
Bristol City	26	7	3	3	26	17	3	1	9	13	26	34	-4	
Port Vale	26	7	1	6	21	16	2	5	5	15	22	33	-2	
Newcastle	26	4	5	3	11	11	4	4	6	17	20	33	-3	
Charlton	27	4	4	5	17	17	3	6	5	19	22	31	-3	
West Brom	26	5	6	3	16	11	2	3	7	15	23	30	-3	
Blackburn	28	4	2	8	12	16	4	3	7	17	22	29	-9	
Plymouth	27	5	7	2	19	12	1	4	8	11	28	29	-10	
Oxford	26	4	5	3	26	24	2	5	7	16	27	28	-9	
Leicester	26	6	3	4	24	22	1	3	9	10	31	27	-19	
Portsmouth	27	4	5	4	20	20	2	2	10	14	28	25	-14	
Watford	27	2	4	7	10	17	3	5	6	12	18	24	-13	
Hull	27	4	5	4	26	23	1	2	11	15	44	22	-26	

Up to Monday 28 January, 1991

LEAGUE TALLY AGAINST SWINDON

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	11	6	2	3	19	10
Away	12	5	2	5	12	14
Total	23	11	4	8	31	24

Highest win: Home, 4-0 (15 Oct 1966). Away, 3-0 (14 Apr 1970).

Heaviest defeat: Home, 0-2 (25 Nov 1972, 11 Nov 1989). Away, 1-4 (4 Mar 1967).

Last win: Home, 1-0 (30 Sep 1986). Away 3-1 (30 Sep 1990).

Last defeat: Home, 0-2 (11 Nov 1989). Away, 0-1 (28 Feb 1987).

Last draw: Home, 0-0 (16 Sep 1969). Away, 1-1 (28 Apr 1990).

First meeting: Home, 1-1 (9 Nov 1963). Away, 0-2 (21 Mar 1964).

Leading League Scorer against Swindon Town: John O'Rourke 4, Bernie Slaven 4.

Compiled by HARRY GLASPER

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STATISTICS



HOME \ AWAY	Barnsley	Blackburn	Brighton	Bristol C	Bristol R	Charlton	Hull	Ipswich	Leicester	Middlesbro'	Millwall	Newcastle	Notts Co	Oldham	Oxford	Plymouth	Portsmouth	Port Vale	Sheff Wed	Swindon	Watford	West Brom	West Ham	Wolves
Barnsley			2-1	2-0				5-1	1-1		1-2			0-1	3-0			1-1	1-1	5-1			1-0	1-1
Blackburn	1-2		1-2	0-1			2-1	0-1	4-1		1-0	0-1	0-1		1-3	0-0		1-1	1-0		0-2			
Brighton	1-0				0-1	3-2	3-1			2-4	0-0					3-2	3-2		0-4	3-3	3-0			1-1
Bristol City		4-2	3-1			0-1	4-1			3-0		1-0		1-2		1-1	4-1		1-1	0-4	3-2		1-1	
Bristol Rov	2-1	1-2		3-2		2-1	1-1		0-0			1-1		2-0	1-0		1-2	2-0	0-1				0-1	1-1
Charlton	2-1	0-0			2-2		2-1		1-2		0-0				3-3	0-1	2-1		0-1	1-2	1-2			
Hull	1-2	3-1						3-3	5-2			2-1	1-2	2-2	3-3			3-2	0-1	1-1		1-1		1-2
Ipswich		2-1	1-3	1-1	2-1	4-4				0-1		2-1	0-0					3-0	0-2	1-1	1-1	1-0		
Leicester		0-3		3-0	3-2			1-2				5-4	2-1					1-1	2-4	2-2		2-1	1-2	1-0
Middlesbro'	1-0	0-1			1-2	1-2	3-0		6-0		2-1		1-0	0-1		0-0			0-2				0-0	
Millwall	4-1			1-2	1-1		3-3	1-1	2-1			0-1		0-0	1-2		2-0		4-2		0-2	4-1	1-1	
Newcastle	0-0	1-0				1-3				0-0	1-2		0-2			2-0	2-1			1-1	1-0	1-1	1-1	
Notts Co.	2-3		2-1	5-2	3-2	2-2	2-1			3-2	0-1				3-1		2-1			0-0		4-3	0-1	1-1
Oldham	2-0	1-1	6-1			1-1		2-0	2-0			1-1	2-1		3-0	5-3	3-1			3-2	4-1			4-1
Oxford			3-0	3-1				2-1	2-2	2-5		0-0	3-3					5-2	2-2	2-4		1-3		1-1
Plymouth				1-0			4-1	0-0	2-0	1-1	3-2	0-1	0-0		2-2						1-1	2-0	0-1	
Portsmouth	0-0	3-2					5-1		3-1	0-3				1-4	1-1	3-1		2-4				1-1	0-1	0-0
Port Vale			0-1	3-2		1-1			2-0	3-1	0-2	0-1	0-1	1-0	1-0	5-1	3-2					1-2		1-2
Sheff Wed						0-0	5-1	2-2				2-2	2-2	2-2		3-0	2-1	1-1		2-1	2-0		1-1	2-2
Swindon		1-1		0-1	0-2	1-1	3-1	1-0		1-3	0-0					1-1	3-0	1-2				2-1	0-1	1-0
Watford	0-0		0-1		1-1		0-1			0-3	1-2		1-3		1-1	2-0	0-1	2-1					0-1	
West Brom	1-1	2-0	1-1	2-1	3-1	1-0		1-2		0-1				0-0	2-0		0-0		1-2		1-1			
West Ham		1-0	2-1			2-1	7-1	3-1	1-0	0-0				2-0	2-0		1-1	0-0			1-0	3-1		1-1
Wolves		2-3	2-3	4-0	1-1	3-0		2-2		1-0	4-1	2-1		2-3		3-1					0-0			

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VISITORS ON VIEW

DAVE BENNETT (Midfielder): Born Manchester. Former F.A. Cup winner with Coventry, signed from Sheffield Wednesday for £50,000 on September 20. Given little chance to display his silky skills, sustaining a double break of his right leg in a League Cup tie at Darlington just five days later. Began his career at Maine Road and also served Cardiff City. Brother to Sunderland defender Gary.

PAUL BODIN (Defender): Born Cardiff. Attacking left-sided full-back who is now a regular in the Welsh international side, having gained his first cap against Costa Rica in May. Signed for a bargain £25,000 from Newport County in March 1988 and previously with Bath City, where he was top scorer with 16 goals in 1986/87.

COLIN CALDERWOOD (Defender): Born Glasgow. The club captain and one of only two Town players with an 'ever-present' record in 1989/90, but currently an injury casualty. Colin suffered badly torn knee ligaments in only the sixth game of the season. He recommenced training on December 28 and hopefully will be back to full fitness in the near future. Signed from Mansfield Town in 1985, he is the sole survivor from the club's record-breaking Fourth Division championship.

SHAUN CLOSE (Striker): Born Islington, London. A £70,000 signing from AFC Bournemouth in September 1989. With the Shearer-White partnership yielding over fifty goals last season, he was given few opportunities in the first team. It was 13 months before the former Tottenham apprentice hit his first senior goal for Swindon, in a Rumbelows League Cup victory over Darlington. Has made only one appearance, as a substitute, since October.

FRASER DIGBY (Goalkeeper): Born Sheffield. The former England Under-21 keeper missed just one game in 1989/90, the first time he had been absent in over two years. The former Manchester United apprentice, who also spent a loan period with Oldham Athletic, made his League debut for Swindon in September 1986.

STEVE FOLEY (Midfielder): Born Liverpool. Missed the first three months of last season through injury, but was soon buzzing again as the Town fielded an unchanged line-up in 22 successive League and Cup games. A knee injury forced him out again in the spring. Spent four years at Anfield, without making a senior appearance. Signed from Sheffield United for £35,000 in 1987.

TONY GALVIN (Midfielder): Born Huddersfield. The Republic of Ireland international was Ossie Ardiles' first signing for Swindon Town in July 1989. Came on a 'free' transfer from Sheffield Wednesday, who had paid Tottenham £140,000 for him two years earlier. Tony has not appeared in the senior side for almost a year and is currently playing at left-back for the reserves. He has a degree in Russian.

JON GITTENS (Defender): Born Moseley, Birmingham. Recently suspended after enjoying his most consistent spell since arriving from Southampton three years ago — having not been absent from the Town line-up for a year. Scored his first goal of the season at Newcastle on Boxing Day. The Saints spotted him playing for Midland Combination club Paget Rangers in 1985.

RICHARD GREEN (Defender): Born Wolverhampton. Signed for the club on January 3, after a period on trial, following his release on a free transfer from Shrewsbury Town in the close season. He made nearly 150 senior appearances for the Gay Meadow club, where he was previously an apprentice. Named as substitute for Swindon on a number of occasions but yet to be called into action.

NICKY HAMMOND (Goalkeeper): Born Hornchurch, Essex. Made his first senior appearance for Swindon in two and a half years against Darlington in the Rumbelows League Cup, having suffered two broken leg injuries during that time. A former Arsenal apprentice, Nicky was signed on a 'free' transfer from the Highbury club in the 1987 close season.

MICKY HAZARD (Midfielder): Born Sunderland. Ossie Ardiles' most recent addition to his ex-Tottenham stable at the County Ground. Signed from Portsmouth on September 28 for £130,000. Spent eight years at White Hart Lane, during which time he collected both F.A. Cup and UEFA Cup winners' medals, before moving across London to Chelsea for a £300,000 fee in 1985.

TOM JONES (Midfielder): Born Aldershot. Made a speedy recovery from a cartilage operation in the 1989 close season and clearly enjoyed the short ball game favoured by Ossie Ardiles. A former Chelsea apprentice, Tom arrived at Swindon in September 1988 via the circuitous route of Farnborough Town, Weymouth and Aberdeen. Recently switched to the left-back berth in place of the suspended David Kerslake.



NESTOR LORENZO

DAVID KERSLAKE (Midfielder/Defender): Born Stepney, London. Signed for £110,000 from Queens Park Rangers a year ago. David stepped in at right-back and became a firm favourite with the fans with his forceful runs upfield. Represented England at schoolboy, youth and Under-21 levels. He joined the Loftus Road club as an apprentice and made his first team debut in a UEFA Cup tie in 1984.

NESTOR LORENZO (Defender): The Argentinian, who played in the World Cup Final, is Swindon's most recent signing, from Italian club Bari, for a club record fee believed to be around £400,000. Nestor has appeared 25 times for his country and was previously with Argentinos Juniors. He made four appearances while on loan, scoring against Portsmouth on his League debut on November 10.

ROSS MacLAREN (Midfielder/Defender): Born Edinburgh. The other 'ever-present' in the Swindon side last season, along with Colin Calderwood, Ross has assumed the role of skipper in the absence of his fellow Scot. Signed two years ago from Derby, where he won a Second Division championship medal, and previously with Shrewsbury Town and Glasgow Rangers.

DUNCAN SHEARER (Striker): Born Fort William. Joint top scorer with 27 goals last season, Duncan has topped his club's scoring list for a fourth successive season (twice with Huddersfield Town) and leads the way again this term with eleven to the end of December. Signed from the Yorkshire club for £230,000, he was previously released by Chelsea on a 'free' transfer.

FITZROY SIMPSON (Midfielder): Born Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts. A former trainee, he made a 30-second debut as a substitute at Shrewsbury in December 1988. Sent off twice last season, but now seems to have overcome his disciplinary problems. During Swindon's recent injury set-backs he has played up front.

NICKY SUMMERBEE (Striker): Born Altrincham. Yet to start a game for Swindon, he played just 22 minutes of League football in 1989/90 and had been called upon just three times as substitute by the turn of the year this season. Son of the former Town, Manchester City and England forward Mike Summerbee.

ADRIAN VIVEASH (Defender): Born Swindon. Acquitted himself well in Swindon's pre-season friendly with Everton in Dublin, but had to wait until mid-October for his League debut, in the local 'derby' with Bristol Rovers. Injuries and suspensions have since given Adrian the opportunity to claim a regular place and he has acclimatised to Second Division football well.

STEVE WHITE (Striker): Probably the best 'free' transfer signing ever made by Swindon Town, Steve was the other half of the club's 54-goal partnership last season. Previously with Bristol Rovers (twice), Luton Town and Charlton Athletic. He missed the first five weeks of the season with a back injury, sustained during a pre-season tour of Ireland.

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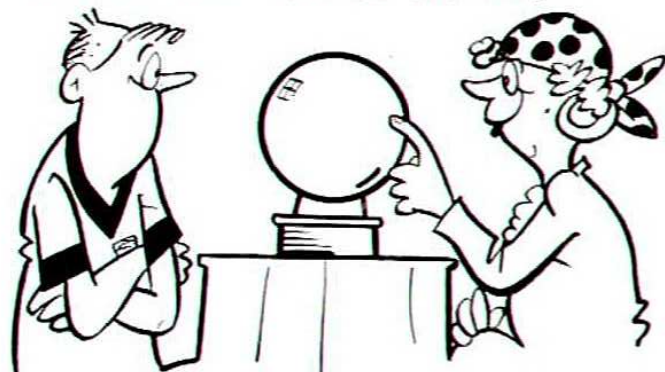
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TODAY'S MASCOT



MATTHEW JAMES SWALES

Matthew comes from Guisborough and is eight this month. He plays soccer for his school team, Northgate. Dad and Matthew are season ticket holders in the North Terrace family enclosure and the boy's favourite players are Tony Mowbray and Stuart Ripley.

ON THE SPOT

The half-time penalty competition is between St Michael's School, Billingham and Warsett, Brotton, in the second round.

St Michael's: Goal, Paul Burliston. Marksmen: Peter Conway, Keith Brown, Michael Pugh, Scott Foster, Paul Paterson. Sub: Nick Barlow. Teacher: Eddie Curran.

Warsett: Keeper: Ian Fishlock. Kickers: Paul Wood, Scott Wood, Craig Nevitt, Martyn Willis, Andrew Winter. Sub: Kevin Davies. Teacher: Martin Stephenson.

ON THE BALL

This afternoon's ball boys are from Friends School at Great Ayton.

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QUICK QUIZ

TWO free tickets for a forthcoming home game will be awarded for the first set of correct answers out of the hat to the following three questions:

1) How many games has Gary Hamilton played for Boro in League and Cup appearances? 2) Who is Swindon Town's top scorer this season? 3) Who scored the only goal of the game when Boro completed the double over Sunderland in February 1981?

Entries on a postcard please to Quick Quiz, Middlesbrough FC, Ayresome Park, Warwick St, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS1 4PB. Winners of the competition in the last two home programmes against Plymouth were Mr. J.C. Moulder, 20 Whitby Avenue, Guisborough, and Jane Craggs, 4 Falstaff Court, Darlington.

PLAYER PROFILE

Hammy's sights on next season

AFTER two years of seemingly endless setbacks, Gary Hamilton could be forgiven for thinking someone up there doesn't like him. But the tenacious midfielder refuses to become downhearted and has set his sights on a first team return next season.

Despite a long series of exploratory operations, visits to consultants and attempted comebacks, Hamilton has not pulled on a first team shirt since the fatal match at Hillsborough that saw Boro relegated to the Second Division on the last day of the 1988-89 season.

But the Scot is determined to make the long wait worthwhile, proclaiming: "If I do make it back, my enthusiasm for the game will be tremendous. There'll be no stopping me."

by

DAVE ALLAN

Hamilton, now 25, was one of the stars of the Boro side that raced to two successive promotion successes, but the club's unfortunate return to Division Two proved even more devastating for the midfielder.

Recalled Hamilton: "I remember my knee got really sore in the January of the First Division season, but I was told it would be OK and it was left until the end of the season.

"But when we opened up the knee, we found it was ruptured because I'd continued to play on it," he added. "I'd never have played on it if I'd realised what I was doing, so I do feel I was badly advised by the so-called experts."

That was the start of an injury nightmare for the player, and he sighed: "I was told I'd be back in eight weeks for the start of the new season — well, it's been the longest eight weeks I've ever known."

Indeed, that eight weeks has already become 20 months, following failed comeback attempts both last season and during the current campaign. "I even played three reserve games last season, but then in training I jumped for a ball and when I landed my knee just buckled underneath me.

"This season, I think I tried to rush back too quick and put myself back to square one by playing in a friendly against Gateshead," added Hamilton, who has undergone an operation which involved drilling holes into the bone of his knee.

Now his daily training sessions have been reduced to weight exercises and sit-ups in the club gym, where he normally has the company of fellow long-term injury victims, Nicky Mohan and junior Paul Hanford.

After so long out of the game, he admits it is sometimes hard to remain positive about the future. "Many times lately it has been through my mind that I might never play again. You start to wonder if it's all worthwhile, but when you see the team out there on a Saturday you realise that's why you're doing it.

"I don't want to start thinking about what I'll do if I don't make it. I just try to keep positive and think of all the other players who've pulled through after being



GARY HAMILTON

out a long time.

"Football is my life and it's the only thing I really know how to do," admits Hamilton, who is contracted to the club until 1993 and celebrates his testimonial year next season. "The club have been fantastic to me."

"Hammy," as he is known to team-mates and fans alike, has watched the current Middlesbrough team carefully, but believes they need to add more aggression to their game if the promotion push is to be maintained.

"I think we're good enough to reach the play-offs," he remarked. "But just because we won the play-offs last time doesn't mean we would this time." And he believes there is still time for Newcastle to recover from their poor start to reach the end-of-season deciders.

With regard to the game in the wider sense, Hamilton is quick to jump to the defence of the men who have caused so much controversy in recent months — the referees. "They've got a very hard job and I certainly wouldn't like it," he insists.

He agrees that players should be sent off for committing a so called professional foul, but adds: "I think we should follow the lead of the Americans and have replays on a big video, though there is the risk of making the game into a farce."

GARY'S GUIDELINES

Marital status: Lives with girlfriend Paula. **Children:** Elizabeth (3), twins Gary and Laura (15 months). **Best friends in football:** Stuart Ripley/Colin Cooper. **Toughest opponent:** Stuart McCall (Everton). **Tip for the future:** Paul Hanford/Mark Burke. **Most memorable goal:** The winner against Bradford in the Second Division play-offs in 1988. **Best league ground played on:** Ibrox. **What irritates you in football?** Injuries and cheats. **Best league player in your position:** David Platt (Aston Villa). **Ambition after career:** Coaching. **Select XI of players you have played alongside (including yourself):** Pears, Nattrass, Cooper, Mowbray, Pallister, Ripley, Otto, Hamilton, Bell, Slaven, Stephens. **Who do you admire outside the game?** Steve Davis ("Because he just keeps bouncing back"). **Interests outside the game:** Family, snooker, most other sports. **Pets:** A goldfish called Ernie. **Favourite food:** Anything Paula cooks. **Can you cook?** "Yes, I'm not bad." **Favourite music:** Soul to Soul, Snap. **Favourite film:** Fatal Attraction. **Favourite actor:** Sean Connery/Michael Douglas. **TV.** Cheers, Only Fools & Horses.

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• THE ORIGINAL •



GARY HAMILTON

Midfielder Gary Hamilton was born in Glasgow on December 27 1965, and was spotted as a youngster playing for Eastercraigs youth team. After signing an apprenticeship in 1982, Malcolm Allison gave him his league debut in a 3-1 defeat at Bolton in February 1983. Turned full-time professional in May '83 and won seven Scotland youth caps. Offered a two-year contract by Charlton following Boro's relegation to Division Three but stayed on to help Boro climb into the First Division. After 229 league appearances and 25 goals, he has failed to appear for Boro for the past two seasons due to a troublesome knee injury. Height 5'9". Weight 11st 2lb.

FAROE ISLES 1, AUSTRIA 0.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1990

USA 1, ENGLAND 0.

WORLD CUP FINALS 1950

WEST GERMANY 1 ALGERIA 2

WORLD CUP FINALS 1982

Arbroath 36, Bon Accord 0.

SCOTTISH CUP 1885

ARGENTINA...0 CAMEROON...1

WORLD CUP FINALS 1990

BANGOR 2 - NAPOLI 0

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A to Z OF BORO PLAYERS

WE continue our alphabetical guide to Boro players past and present since the war.

DEREK WILKIE: Central-defender Derek was born in Browney on July 27, 1939, and progressed through Middlesbrough's junior team to sign as a full professional in March, 1957. He made his debut at centre-half in a 1-0 victory over Huddersfield Town at Ayresome Park on November 7, 1959, and retained his place in the next game, a 1-0 defeat away to Ipswich Town, but then was dropped when Alan Peacock was tried at centre-half for three games. The arrival of Ken Thomson from Stoke City meant that Peacock could return to his normal attacking role, but Derek was to play no more first team games that season. He returned to the side in the following season, but only played two games at right-back against Sunderland and Brighton. He was transferred to Hartlepool United in September, 1961, and spent two full seasons at the Victoria Ground, making a total of 74 League appearances.

ALAN WILLEY: Alan, who played for the club mostly as a centre-forward, was born on October 18, 1956 in Houghton-le-Spring and signed as a full professional in September, 1974. He made his debut at centre-forward in the 3-0 home win over Manchester City on September 21, 1974, but he only made a further 6 full League appearances that season, playing 9 games as substitute. He was in the starting line-up at the beginning of the next season, but drifted out of the side because of veteran John Hickton's inclusion in the team. His Middlesbrough career spanned 4 seasons, but he was usually competing with Billy Woof for the centre-forward's shirt and when, in February 1977, he was offered a chance to play in the North American Soccer League with Minnesota Kicks he grabbed the opportunity. Middlesbrough agreed to cancel the player's contract in order that he could try his luck on the North American football circuit.

PETER WILSON: Full-back Peter Wilson was born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne on September 15, 1947, and he was offered a contract by new manager Stan Anderson in April, 1966. He had to wait almost two



ALAN WILLEY

years before he was blooded into the first and he played his only game for us at right-back in a 1-1 draw at Ayresome Park against Charlton Athletic on February 24, 1968. He was freed at the end of the season and signed for Gateshead. The next we heard of Peter was that he had emigrated to Australia and had progressed enough to captain his new adopted country in the World Cup finals.

DENNIS WINDROSS: Inside-right Dennis Windross was born in nearby Guisborough on May 12, 1958, and signed as a full professional, under manager Bob Dennison in May 1956. He only played in 4 games for us, making his debut appearance in a 0-1 defeat at Villa Park on October 17, 1959. He played in 3 consecutive games for us during the following season (scoring his only goal in a 5-0 victory over Southampton at Ayresome Park in early September 1960) before accepting an offer to play on the South coast with Brighton in November, 1960. He again played only one season for his new club. He returned to the North-East when he signed for Darlington in June, 1961, but only played in 25 League games at Feethams. He was transferred to his last League club, Doncaster Rovers, in June 1962, and notched up 51 League games in 2 seasons. At the time of his recent death, Dennis worked at Saltburn Leisure Centre.

Winning debut for Whigham

SWINDON TOWN manager Danny Williams named an unchanged side for the visit from Wiltshire to Teesside on October 14, 1966 — our first season in Division Three.

A familiar face in the Swindon team was the Robbins' captain, former 'Boro player Mel Nurse, who had left Middlesbrough for Swindon in August 1965. Another ex-Boro player in Swindon's ranks was Jimmy Lawton, who had been on our books as an amateur player but had not progressed through to the first team when he was transferred to Darlington in October, 1961.

Middlesbrough manager Stan Anderson had experimented in the last two games by playing centre-half Dickie Rooks, a favourite of the Ayresome Park terraces, at centre-forward, but decided to revert Dickie to his more customary role of centre-half for Swindon's visit.

by HARRY GLASPER

Winger Derrick Downing was poised to make his first appearance of the season, but Anderson had selection worries over Ian Davidson (calf injury) and Bill Gates (ankle injury). Gates recovered and was named as substitute.

The club's new goalkeeper, Willie Whigham had made his Middlesbrough debut in a 2-0 defeat against Watford at Vicarage Road and was set to make his home debut before the critical Middlesbrough fans numbering 8,126.

Many fans had questioned Stan Anderson's decision to add yet another goalkeeper to the club's playing staff. Willie became Middlesbrough's fifth goalie on his £10,000 transfer from Scottish League side Falkirk, joining Des McPartland, Eddie Connachan, Bob Appleby and Maurice Short.

Danny Williams' team plans were disrupted when Swindon's regular right-back Owen Dawson was rushed to hospital with a suspected appendicitis and Newcastle-born Joe Butler took his place.

On the third minute John Hickton, then playing as a full back, slipped the ball through the middle of the park, where John O'Rourke had done well to make up ground. Swindon keeper Tony Hicks ran out to narrow the angle, but O'Rourke slipped the ball past him and into the net. Ten minutes later David Chadwick's long ball through the middle was again quickly brought under



BOSCO JANKOVIC, whose lone goal achieved the first leg of a league double over Sunderland 10 seasons ago.

control by O'Rourke. He held off Joe Butler's tackle and again put the ball past Tony Hicks.

On 25 minutes Jim Irvine charged through with the ball before moving the play with a pass out to Arthur Horsfield. "Big Jim" then moved into position to accept Horsfield's return pass, scoring his second goal of the season and giving Middlesbrough a comfortable 3-0 half-time lead.

Swindon's hopes of pulling a goal back early in the second half were frustrated when 'Boro scored after four minutes. Derrick Downing broke away down the left flank and John O'Rourke registered his first hat-trick for the club when he deftly headed the ball into the net. That evening, Queens Park Rangers (the Third Division's eventual champions) and Bournemouth led the pack at the top of Division Three.

The teams lined up at Ayresome Park 25 years ago:-

MIDDLESBROUGH: Willie Whigham, John Hickton, Geoff Butler, Billy Horner, Dickie Rooks, Gordon Jones (capt), David Chadwick, Arthur Horsfield, John O'Rourke, Jim Irvine, Derrick Downing. Subs: Bill Gates.

SWINDON TOWN: Tony Hicks, Joe Butler, John Trollope, Keith Morgan, Mel Nurse (capt), Stan Harland, Willie Penman, Dennis Brown, Jimmy Lawton, Roger Smart, Don Rogers.

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10 YEARS AGO

A goal from Yugoslav international Bosco Jankovic was enough to earn us a rare victory at Roker Park in September and the eagerly awaited return fixture took place at Ayresome Park on February 7, 1981. An unchanged Middlesbrough side was cheered on by a partisan crowd of 35,065 and Easington born Graeme Hedley scored the only goal of the game, direct from a free-kick on the edge of the Sunderland box, after 39 minutes. Graeme picked an opportune moment to score his first goal of the season and we achieved the double over our Roker rivals.

20 YEARS AGO

An unchanged Middlesbrough side went nap over Norwich City, scoring five goals without reply, at Ayresome Park on February 6, 1971, our fifth successive home League win. With the game only 5 minutes old Derrick Downing became the first Middlesbrough player to score. John Hickton scored the second nine minutes later, then Hughie McIlmoyle scored on the half hour, the sides crossing over at half-time with Middlesbrough leading 3-0. John Hickton added to his goals tally on 68 minutes before Joe Laidlaw became the last Middlesbrough player to trouble Canaries' keeper Kevin Keelan.

30 YEARS AGO

Middlesbrough centre-forward Brian Clough had scored an away hat-trick at Fratton Park and he continued in the scoring vein for the visit of Leeds United, on February 4, 1961, in front of a crowd of 16,593. Inside-left Alan Peacock netted on 13 minutes, then 20 minutes later Cloughie got in on the act when he added another. The two sides crossed over at half-time with Middlesbrough in total command leading 2-0. "Cloughie" got his second goal of the match and his fifth in two games 12 minutes from full time. The two points kept us in 5th place in the Second Division table.

40 YEARS AGO

After beating Barnsley 2-1 in an Ayresome Park friendly Middlesbrough returned to League duty when a crowd of 46,454 gathered at Old Trafford on February 3, 1951 to watch 7th placed Manchester United take on 2nd placed Boro. Middlesbrough manager David Jack tried experimenting with his team line-up when he switched regular right-back Dicky Robinson to centre-forward. Ronnie Dicks, Robinson's usual partner, switched from left-back to right-back. Gordon Hepple, who had played at inside-left the week before, played at left back. United scored the game's only goal 8 minutes before half-time through England international Stan Pearson.

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Lord Justice Taylor in his Final Report into the Hillsborough Stadium Disaster.

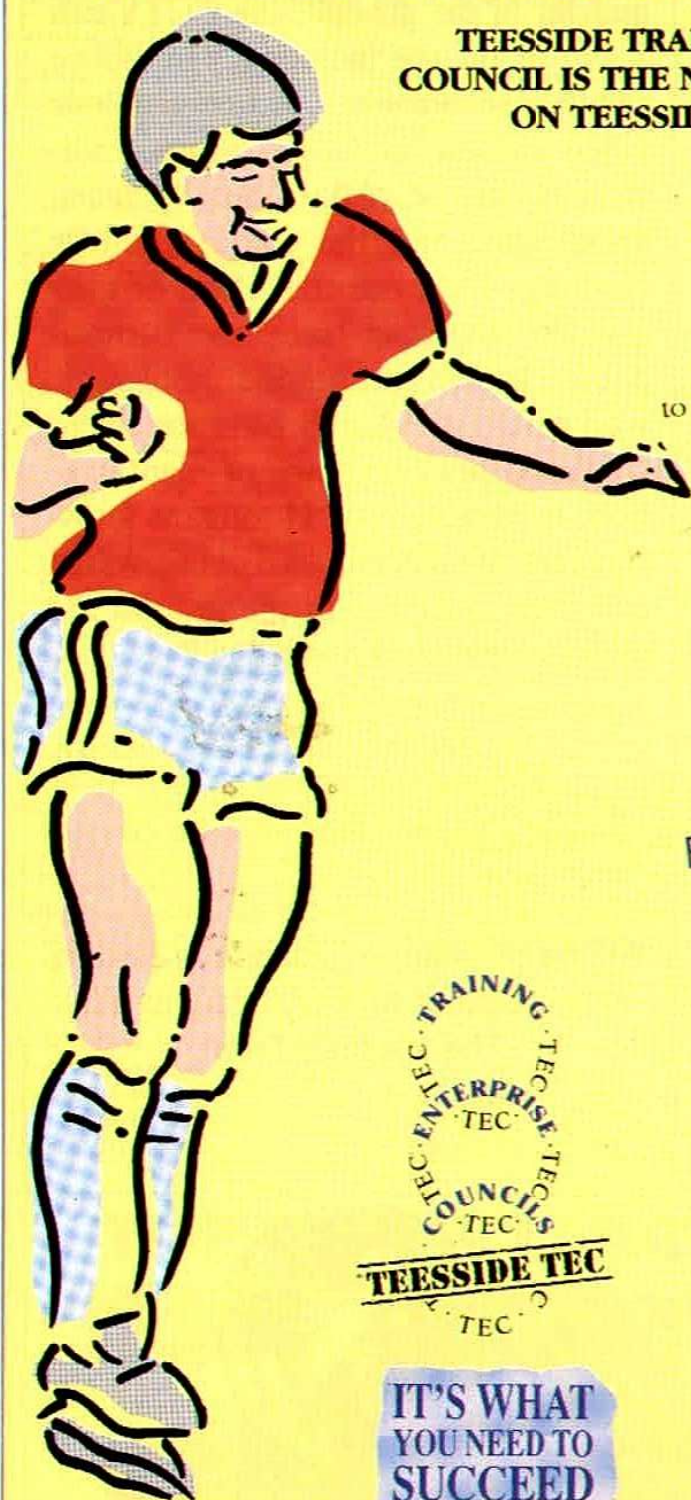
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Let's throw the book at cheats

IT seems a shame that so much time and effort has been wasted by referees and football officials recently discussing the professional foul and its implications.

Some referees are clearly worried about the fact that they have to send off a lot of players if they adhere strictly to Law XII (n). And certain league officials are also cautious about the number of players who have been sent for early baths for having committed these professional fouls. They are no doubt wondering if the raising of so many red cards is good for the game.

Yet I can't for the life of me see what all the fuss is about. The professional foul is one of the most underhand offences which is committed in the modern game. It is downright cheating...it cheats the opposing team and it cheats the spectators.

What right has a player got to expect to get away with bringing down an opponent who seems certain to score? If the ref was to merely give a free kick and take no action against the offender, or even if the offender was booked, then he will have escaped without any suitable punishment.

So it seems totally correct when players are dismissed for professional fouls. The rule is a good one and it's the job of the ref to make sure that it is enforced.

Who cares if more players than ever are being sent off? Let's get the game cleaned up. Only by the strict enforcement of the laws will offending players clean up their act.

Naturally, there is a certain lobby which maintains that the law is a difficult one to enforce properly because it is all down to the individual interpretation of referees.

So what? Aren't all decisions down to what each ref believes he sees. If he believes he has seen a foul, he will give a free kick. If he thinks it was a fair tackle, he will wave play on.

One ref might see it as a foul, the other as a fair tackle. But this swings and roundabouts situation has always been in existence. Some refs are better than others, and a few are a lot better than others.

This does, of course, mean that occasionally players will be sent off for professional fouls which they haven't actually committed. Unfortunately, this is also part of the game. Players are occasionally booked or dismissed when they are innocent of offences.

At the same time, Boro fans have already witnessed a perfect example of a player committing a blatant professional foul and not even being booked this season. West Ham defender Steve Potts grabbed hold of the back of Bernie Slaven's shirt when the Eire international broke clear in the second half of the match at Upton Park.

It wasn't just my opinion that Potts committed a professional foul. The Evening Gazette printed photographic evidence on the following Monday to prove it.

Overall, I'll be delighted if refs will stop worrying about some of the decisions they have to make, and instead concentrate on following the letters of the laws.

They don't have to stop with the professional foul. There are lots of other ways in which the game can be improved.

One thing which infuriates me is when one team has been awarded a free kick, but an opposing player



ERIC PAYLOR
Evening Gazette Chief Sports Writer

deliberately stands in front of the ball to prevent the free kick from being taken. Naturally, this enables all his teammates to move into position to prepare to try to deal with the free kick.

The normal action of a ref is to blow his whistle and stop play while he tells the opposing player to move back ten yards. As play has been stopped, and as the defending team have by this time regrouped, the ref might as well suspend play for a little longer while he books the offender.

But, while laws are laws, refs must have the courage of their own convictions. They won't always get it right, but then nobody's perfect. Better a ref who always tries to make the right decision than one who always gives the home side the benefit of the doubt.



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FAN FARE

IT gives me great pleasure to welcome the Swindon supporters who have made the long trip from Wiltshire although, to be quite honest, I would prefer it if you weren't here at all.

If supporters were treated as the most important people in the football industry, Swindon Town would now be playing in the First Division and not Sunderland.

Having seen their team convincingly win through the play-offs to confirm their right to be in Division One, the prize was snatched away from them just a few days later. Swindon's fans had not misbehaved, neither had there been any misdeeds on the pitch.

There was much comment that Manchester United and Arsenal losing points after their on-pitch

Why punish supporters?

brawl earlier this season was the first step down a slippery slope that would lead to titles being resolved in the courts and committee rooms, not on the park.

Whilst I agree that the League's sanction was misguided, it was a much smaller step than last summer's events. Swindon's League standing was punished for activities that took place off the pitch.

If there were discrepancies between payments Swindon made to players and the club's returns to the Inland Revenue,

Her Majesty's Inspector of Taxes can take action. However, it was wrong for the innocent employees of the club, and its blameless supporters, to be punished.

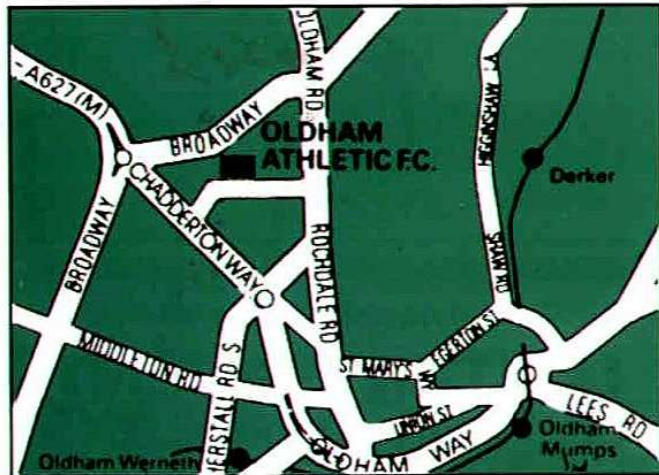
I have heard it argued that Swindon gained an unfair advantage by employing players they could not otherwise have afforded. This view would only stand up if all the clubs had the same amount of money and the old maximum wage structure still existed. If a club is fortunate to have a millionaire backer that enables it to offer higher salaries than another club with identical crowds, good luck to it.

Good Luck, Swindon. I hope you make it to Division One this year, along with Boro!

ANDY HYAMS

Supporters Club Secretary

AWAY WITH THE LADS

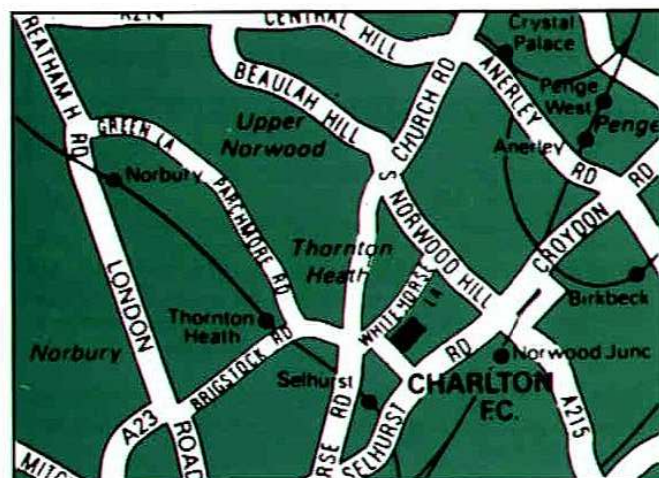


Our next two away games are at Oldham Athletic on February 9th and Charlton Athletic on February 23rd.

For car travellers to Oldham the best route is the M62. Leave at Junction 20 onto the A627 and follow the directions into the town centre. At a roundabout, where the Broadway crosses your route, take the first exit left, then first right into a car park with 800 spaces. Street parking is also permitted. Visiting fans are housed in Lockers Stand where there are facilities for the disabled by prior arrangement, and the Rochdale Road End. The nearest railway station is Oldham Werneth to the south of the town.

TRAVEL CLUB: The coach for Oldham will be leaving the Swan Hotel, Billingham at 10.15 a.m. and Ayresome Park at 10.30 a.m. The price is £7.50.

TRAVEL CLUB: The coach for Charlton will be leaving the Swan Hotel, Billingham at 7.30 a.m. and Ayresome Park at 7.30 a.m. The price is £14.00.



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***FAN MAIL** is your column. Let's have your views or queries, but we are not into knocking the players or manager. Write to Fan Mail, Middlesbrough FC, Ayresome Park, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS1 4PB. Two free tickets will be the prize for the Star Letter chosen by the Editor.

I consider the support of a football club to be likened to a marriage, requiring loyalty, perseverance and renewed commitment — a bond often forged in childhood, enduring well into one's old-age.

We all, at times, express undue criticism of a particular club, without being fully aware of all the circumstances. I, like many of my contemporaries, have often been guilty in this respect. I believe that many of our frustrations stem from Boro's history of inconsistency. A continual lack of faith in their own ability, has been the paramount cause of this condition.

We must, as supporters, endeavour to hold faith with 'our' team, in the hope that stability can be finally attained. We then may successfully achieve a lasting return to the

premier division of the Football League.

Alan Knox
94 Haythrop Drive
Middlesbrough

★ Your faith and hope earns the charity of two free tickets.

I WAS appalled to hear the abuse Colin Todd had to endure when leaving the dug-out following Boro's goalless draw in the League match against Plymouth. If these people have the impudence to describe themselves as "true" Boro fans, then God help us all. The trouble with the barrackers is that they can't take the bitter with the sweet. Fickle? You ain't kidding!

Kenny Surtees
Middlesbrough

I FEEL I must highlight the refereeing injustice which Middlesbrough have suffered in their recent home games. As a former referee, I failed to see

why the respective referees did not dismiss players within the first 20 minutes of both the Blackburn and Plymouth games. During the Blackburn game, the full-back should have been dismissed for the continual fouling of John Hendrie, and the goalkeeper should have been dismissed in the early part of the Plymouth Cup game for a professional foul against Ian Baird who looked like scoring. Had justice been done the results may have been a little different.

A. Patterson
Eaglescliffe

I WOULD like to thank the police force and Middlesbrough stewards for their excellent efforts in handling Plymouth Argyle fans.

Nothing seemed too much trouble and turned what could have been a drag of a journey there and back into an enjoyable encounter — one we look forward to repeating.

A. Glanville
1 Claremont St, Plymouth

GREAT GIFTS ... FROM THE BORO CLUB SHOP



You'll find a great range of top-value gifts at the Boro Club Shop.

Situated in Warwick Street, outside the main entrance to Ayresome Park, Boro's own Shop offers the widest selection of Boro Sportswear, Leisurewear, gifts and souvenirs for Boro fans of all ages.

We're open 9.30am to 5pm, Mondays to Fridays and 9.30am to 2.45pm on Saturday matchdays (9.30-noon all other Saturdays) and for a short time after Saturday matches.

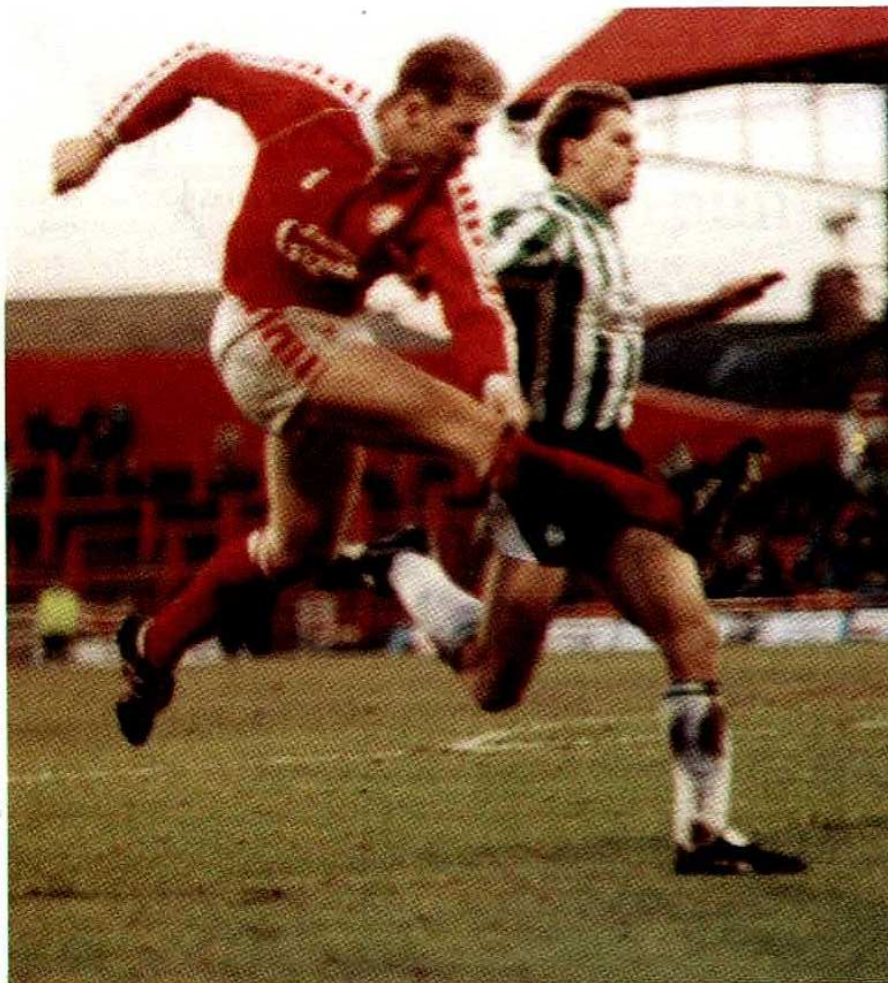
We take cash or Access and Visa cards and a mail order service is also available.

As well as the authentic Skill Leisurewear Boro Replica Strips—in red or blue—we stock an exciting range of exclusive Shell Suits, Track Suits, Polo Shirts, Shirts, T-Shirts, Towels, Scarves, Videos, Car Stickers plus much, much more!

If you're looking for something a little bit different, how about a set of the new Boro Cuff-Links at just £7.99.



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Telephone (0642) 826664



So near and yet so far

THREE action shots from our last home match against Plymouth Argyle which show how close Boro came to breaking the deadlock.



Left: Iain Baird bangs in a piledriver from inside the box.

Right: Paul Kerr goes the closest to scoring, with Argyle keeper Dave Walter helpless on the deck.



Below: Keeper Dave Walter again in great form as he punches clear with Tony Mowbray battling away.



AYRESOME ACTION



NEXT AT AYRESOME

PORT VALE
TUESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY, 7.30 p.m.

FORMER Middlesbrough defender Dean Glover is wondering how many of his old team-mates will be in action when he returns to Ayresome Park with Port Vale.

"A lot of players have moved on in two years," says Dean. "But Ayresome Park is still close to my heart. I always check on the Boro's results."

"I signed a new contract for Port Vale just before Christmas. Talks had been going on for quite a while, and I am now under contract for another three years. I would like us to make the play-offs, but we are having an indifferent season."

"Sometimes we play well and lose, at other times we struggle and collect three points. We have often struggled at home, similar to Middlesbrough."

Port Vale beat Middlesbrough before their own fans in the early part of the season. Darren



Beckford was a goalscoring hero — or villain in the eyes of Middlesbrough fans — with a double strike.

Glover said the former Manchester City player is brilliant at set-pieces and superb in the air. Beckford hit 21 goals last season and has been on target regularly this season.

Relegation-fighting Queens Park Rangers were linked with him last month. Nottingham Forest and Sheffield Wednesday were among his previous admirers. QPR made Beckford a target after failing to sign Norwich City striker Robert Fleck.

Robbie Earle is a highly-rated midfield player, apart from being the longest serving member of the side. He scored the all-important goal that won promotion to the Second Division two years ago.

North Shields-born Ray Walker is the skipper. He has made well over 200 appearances. Like Glover, he also began his career at Aston Villa. Walker won an FA Youth Cup medal, and England youth recognition, at Villa Park.

RAY ROBERTSON
The Northern Echo

TICKET TIDINGS

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

OLDHAM ATHLETIC v BORO

SATURDAY 9th FEBRUARY — KICK OFF 3.00 P.M.

ALL TICKET MATCH

The whole of the ticket allocation for Boro supporters has been received and is on general sale at the Ticket Office in Ayresome Park Road during normal office hours. There will be no tickets on sale at the ground on matchday, nor will there be entry by cash at the turnstiles.

PLEASE DO NOT TRAVEL WITHOUT A TICKET

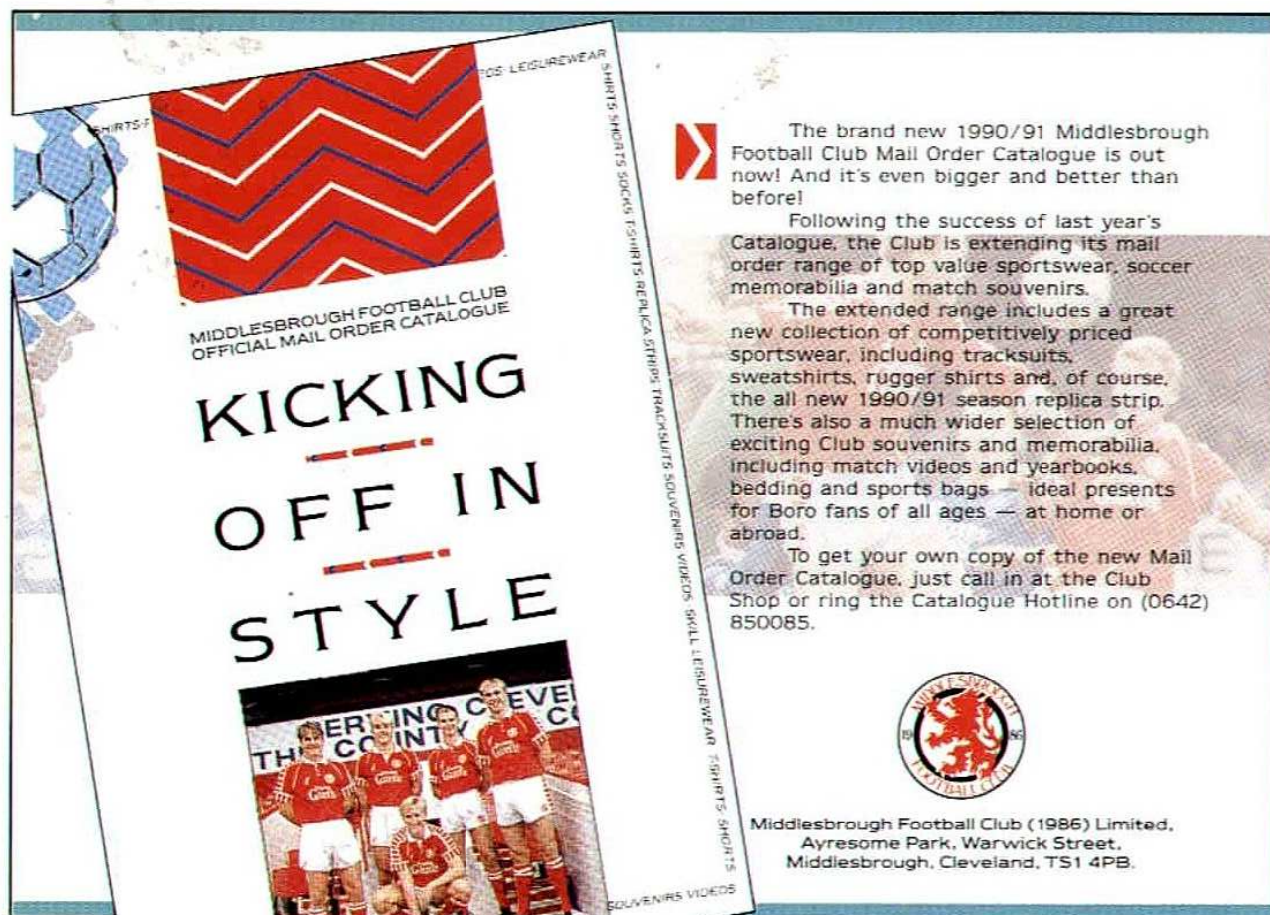
BORO v PORT VALE

TUESDAY 12th FEBRUARY — KICK OFF 7.30 P.M.

The established entrance arrangements will apply. Advance tickets available for membership pass holders up to 5.00 p.m. on Tuesday 12th February.

Next Home Reserves Match is on Tuesday 20th February:

BORO RESERVES v BLACKPOOL RESERVES



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Following the success of last year's Catalogue, the Club is extending its mail order range of top value sportswear, soccer memorabilia and match souvenirs.

The extended range includes a great new collection of competitively priced sportswear, including tracksuits, sweatshirts, rugby shirts and, of course, the all new 1990/91 season replica strip. There's also a much wider selection of exciting Club souvenirs and memorabilia, including match videos and yearbooks, bedding and sports bags — ideal presents for Boro fans of all ages — at home or abroad.

To get your own copy of the new Mail Order Catalogue, just call in at the Club Shop or ring the Catalogue Hotline on (0642) 850085.

MIDDLESBROUGH FOOTBALL CLUB

Middlesbrough Football Club (1986) Limited,
Ayresome Park, Warwick Street,
Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS1 4PB.

IN RESERVE — JUNIORS

OUR Reserve team has suffered two defeats in their last two matches, but the performance certainly in the latter of the two showed promise from a lot of youngsters.

The 2-1 defeat at Blackpool was particularly disappointing, however. Lee Tucker put Middlesbrough into the lead with a well taken goal in the first half, but the team fell away in the second. Admittedly the pitch was poor. Just four days previously, Blackpool and Tottenham Hotspur had slugged out an FA Cup match in dreadful conditions and the pitch just had not recovered in time. Still it was the same for both sides. Goalkeeper Michael Devine pulled off some good saves.

It was a much better all round performance, if not result, against Oldham a week later. We were beaten 4-3 at Ayresome, but the match was one of individual triumph for a lad starting a reserve team game for the first time. Nicky Peverill, a prolific scorer for the Juniors this season, has played twice as a substitute for the reserves this season. Against Oldham he was in from the kick-off and scored a hat-trick of well taken goals.

The first came after 18 minutes. Ian Arnold, who also had a super game, shot from the edge of the area. Oldham goalkeeper, John Keeley, couldn't hold the effort and Peverill followed up to slide home from the edge of the six yard box. A minute later Oldham were level when Norman Kelley followed in from close range after a shot from the edge of the six yard box was too strong for Kevin Poole to hold. A penalty in the 33rd minute, after Lee Crosby was judged to have pushed Greg Wilson, put the visitors into the lead when Gary Williams converted.

A minute into the restart Ian Thompstone cracked one in from the edge of the box, but Boro reduced the arrears after 71 minutes. Mark Proctor picked out Arnold on the overlap and his first time ball into the middle was despatched with the minimum of fuss by Peverill into the top corner. Oldham were reduced to ten men when Wayne Heseltine was sent off

for hauling down Peverill on the edge of the box, but then increased their lead when Paul Moulden ex-Bournemouth and Manchester City striker - followed in a headed effort which was too strong for Poole to hold. A minute from time, Peverill completed his hat-trick. A neat back heel from Arnold sent the Oldham defence the wrong way and the 17-year-old striker shot into the roof of the net from a yard inside the area.

TEAM. vs Blackpool. Devine, Parkinson, Crosby, Sunley, Green, Burke, Putney, Russell, Arnold, Tucker (Anderson), Fletcher.

vs Oldham Athletic. Poole, McGee, Green, Proctor, Crosby, Napier, Keavney, Arnold, Peverill, Russell, Tucker. Subs unused, Ferguson, Waller.

It is with regret that we have decided to release five of our younger players. The contracts of Andrew Fletcher, Lee Roxby, Mark Sunley, Mark Nesbitt and Dale Anderson will not be renewed in the summer and all clubs have been notified of their availability.

It has been decided to release the lads as soon as they can get fixed up, in order to avoid the summer congestion. We will do everything to help them. We have also decided to release Tom Statham. His contract's due to expire in the summer of 1992, but he is free to leave in his own time.

Our Juniors have had a relatively inactive time of late. They drew one all at home with Leeds United at ICI Wilton's ground with both goals coming from Boro. Nicky Peverill scored for the Boro, while Stephen Napier scored an own goal.

FEBRUARY FIXTURES

PONTINS LEAGUE: Wed 6th v West Brom (A) 7.00 p.m.; Wed 13th v Grimsby Town (A) 7.00 p.m.; Wed 20th v Blackpool (H) 7.00 p.m.; Wed 27th v Scunthorpe (H) 7.00 p.m.

NORTHERN INT: Sat 9th v Sheffield Utd (A) 11.00 a.m.; Tues 12th v Bradford City (H) 12.00 noon; Sat 16th v Sunderland (H) 11.00 a.m.; Sat 23rd v Hartlepool (A) 11.00 a.m.

JUNIOR REDS

A WARM welcome to any young Swindon supporters who may be with us this afternoon. We hope you enjoy your time with us.

Our thanks are extended to Stuart Ripley, who went along to our Middlesbrough meeting recently. Stuart is a committed family man these days, but always finds time to pop along to entertain the members.

It was a lively meeting with an above average attendance and I think most people enjoyed themselves. The meeting, as a result of such a large turnout, ran a little late and did not finish until nine o'clock. Apologies to those who had to wait for their offspring later than they would have liked, but they were enjoying themselves.

The date of our next meeting at Middlesbrough is on Wednesday, February 20th. Before that, our Redcar members will get together on Thursday, 7th February, at the Redcar Youth Club with a 7.00 p.m. start.

Our inter branch five-a-side tournament for this season will be held on Sunday, 17th March with teams from all our branches taking part in what is usually one of the best days of our season.

The prize for this week's quiz will be a pair of seat tickets for a Boro match. Answers please to the address at the foot of the page. 1. With which club did Colin Walsh start his career? 2. What was the score when the Boro played at the County Ground this season? 3. What is the nickname of Millwall? 4. Which club plays its home matches at the Vetch Field?

Up the Boro, GORDON

Correspondence to Alastair Brownlee or Gordon Cox, c/o BBC Radio Cleveland, Broadcasting House, Newport Road, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS1 5DG.



MIDDLESBROUGH

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STAR PLAYER



The Evening Gazette's Man of the Match against Plymouth in our last home league game was Ian Baird. He will receive his awards this afternoon along with Andrea Head, from Thornaby, whose name was first out of the hat to agree with the Gazette's selection.

BO

Date & Opponents	Score	Gate	Pos.	
AUGUST				
25 West Ham United	0-0	20,725	—	Pears
28 Tranmere R (RLC 1L)	1-1	10,612	—	Pears
SEPTEMBER				
1 Plymouth Argyle	1-1	6,626	17th	Pears
3 Tranmere R (RLC 2L)	2-1	6,135	—	Pears
8 Notts County	1-0	17,380	11th	Pears
15 Swindon Town	3-1	9,127	7th	Pears
17 Port Vale	1-3	7,880	8th	Pears
22 Oldham Athletic	0-1	19,363	15th	Pears
25 Newcastle LC 2R 1L	2-0	15,042	—	Pears
29 Leicester City	6-0	16,178	9th	Pears
OCTOBER				
3 Newcastle Utd	0-0	17,063	11th	Pears
6 Watford	3-0	8,057	8th	Pears
10 Newcastle LC 2R 2L	0-1	12,778	—	Pears
13 Millwall	2-1	20,277	6th	Pears
20 Bristol Rovers	1-2	18,589	7th	Pears
23 Wolverhampton W	0-1	17,285	8th	Pears
27 Brighton	4-2	7,532	7th	Pears
30 Norwich (RLC 3R)	2-0	17,024	—	Pears
NOVEMBER				
3 Barnsley	1-0	18,470	5th	Pears
6 West Brom	1-0	10,521	4th	Pears
10 Charlton Athletic	1-2	17,998	4th	Pears
17 Portsmouth *	3-0	8,433	4th	Pears
20 Hull (Zen Cup 1R)	3-1	8,926	—	Pears
24 Oxford United	5-2	5,262	4th	Pears
28 Aston Villa RLC 4R	2-3	17,317	—	Pears
DECEMBER				
1 Hull City	3-0	17,024	3rd	Pears
15 West Ham United	0-0	23,705	4th	Pears
19 Man City 2C 2R	1-2	6,406	—	Pears
22 Blackburn Rovers	0-1	17,206	4th	Pears
26 Ipswich Town	1-0	12,505	3rd	Pears
29 Bristol City	0-3	14,023	4th	Pears
JANUARY				
1 Sheffield Wed	0-2	22,869	5th	Pears
5 Plymouth FAC R3	0-0	13,042	—	Pears
12 Plymouth Argyle	0-0	14,198	5th	Pears
14 Plymouth FAC R3 R	2-1	6,956	—	Pears
19 Notts County	2-3	9,323	5th	Pears
26 Cambridge FAC R4	0-2	9,531	—	Pears
FEBRUARY				
2 Swindon Town	—	—	—	Pears
9 Oldham Athletic	—	—	—	Pears
12 Port Vale	—	—	—	Pears
19 West Brom	—	—	—	Pears
23 Charlton Athletic	—	—	—	Pears
26 Portsmouth	—	—	—	Pears
MARCH				
2 Hull City	—	—	—	Pears
9 Oxford United	—	—	—	Pears
12 Newcastle United	—	—	—	Pears
16 Leicester City	—	—	—	Pears
20 Millwall	—	—	—	Pears
23 Watford	—	—	—	Pears
30 Ipswich Town	—	—	—	Pears
APRIL				
1 Blackburn Rovers	—	—	—	Pears
6 Bristol City	—	—	—	Pears
13 Sheffield Wed	—	—	—	Pears
20 Bristol Rovers	—	—	—	Pears
27 Wolverhampton W	—	—	—	Pears
MAY				
4 Brighton	—	—	—	Pears
11 Barnsley	—	—	—	Pears

BORO v WEST BROM

will now be at
Ayresome Park on
Tuesday, 19th
February, 1991
(7.30 p.m.)

BORO v PORTSMOUTH

Tuesday, 26th
February, 1991
(7.30 p.m.)

Home matches in heavy type * Player substituted • Goal

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14
Pears	Cooper	Phillips	Mowbray	Kernaghan	Wark	Slaven	Mustoe	Baird	Proctor	Hendrie	Ripley/McGee		
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PONTINS LEAGUE — DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barnsley	18	13	5	0	47	16	44
West Brom ...	18	12	5	1	39	13	41
Bradford City ..	18	12	2	4	44	23	38
Burnley	18	8	6	4	35	30	30
Bolton	16	8	5	3	31	17	29
Hull	18	8	4	6	28	28	28
Port Vale	19	8	2	9	37	40	26
Stoke City	18	7	5	6	26	31	26
York City	16	7	4	5	30	23	25
Oldham	18	6	4	8	37	40	22
Preston	19	6	3	10	41	40	21
Middlesbrough	18	5	5	8	27	34	20
Mansfield	18	4	6	8	28	33	18
Notts County ..	16	5	3	8	18	24	18
Blackpool	19	5	3	11	35	47	18
Wigan	18	5	1	12	35	56	16
Scunthorpe ...	17	3	4	10	18	32	13
Grimsby Town ..	18	4	1	13	10	39	13

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MATCH FAX



SWINDON

	Steve Pears	HALF TIME SCORE		Fraser Digby	
	Gary Parkinson	FULL TIME SCORE		David Kerslake	
	Jimmy Phillips	SCORERS		Paul Bodin	
	Tony Mowbray			Nestor Lorenzo	
	John Wark			Micky Hazard	
	Trevor Putney	BOOKINGS		Jon Gittings	
	Bernie Slaven			Tom Jones	
	Robbie Mustoe			Steve White	
	Ian Baird	SENDING OFFS		Duncan Shearer	
	Stuart Ripley			Steve Foley	
	John Hendrie	CORNERS		Ross McLaren	
	Colin Walsh			Adrian Viveash	
	Mark Proctor	ATTENDANCE		Nicky Summerbee	

HALF TIME SCOREBOARD & MATCH OFFICIALS

Charlton v Brighton
 Ipswich v Millwall
 Newcastle v Port Vale
 Oxford Utd v Oldham
 Portsmouth v Notts Co
 Watford v Sheff Wed
 Wolves v West Ham
 York v Darlington

Referee: Mr Stephen Lodge (Barnsley). He is a local government officer aged 37 and began refereeing in 1970. After three years on the League Linesmen's List, Steve was appointed a League referee. His interests include cricket and competitive squash and he keeps fit by running.

Linesmen: Mr. G.I. Grandidge (red flag), Mr. M.A. Riley (yellow).

Fourth official: Mr. G.B. Frankland.