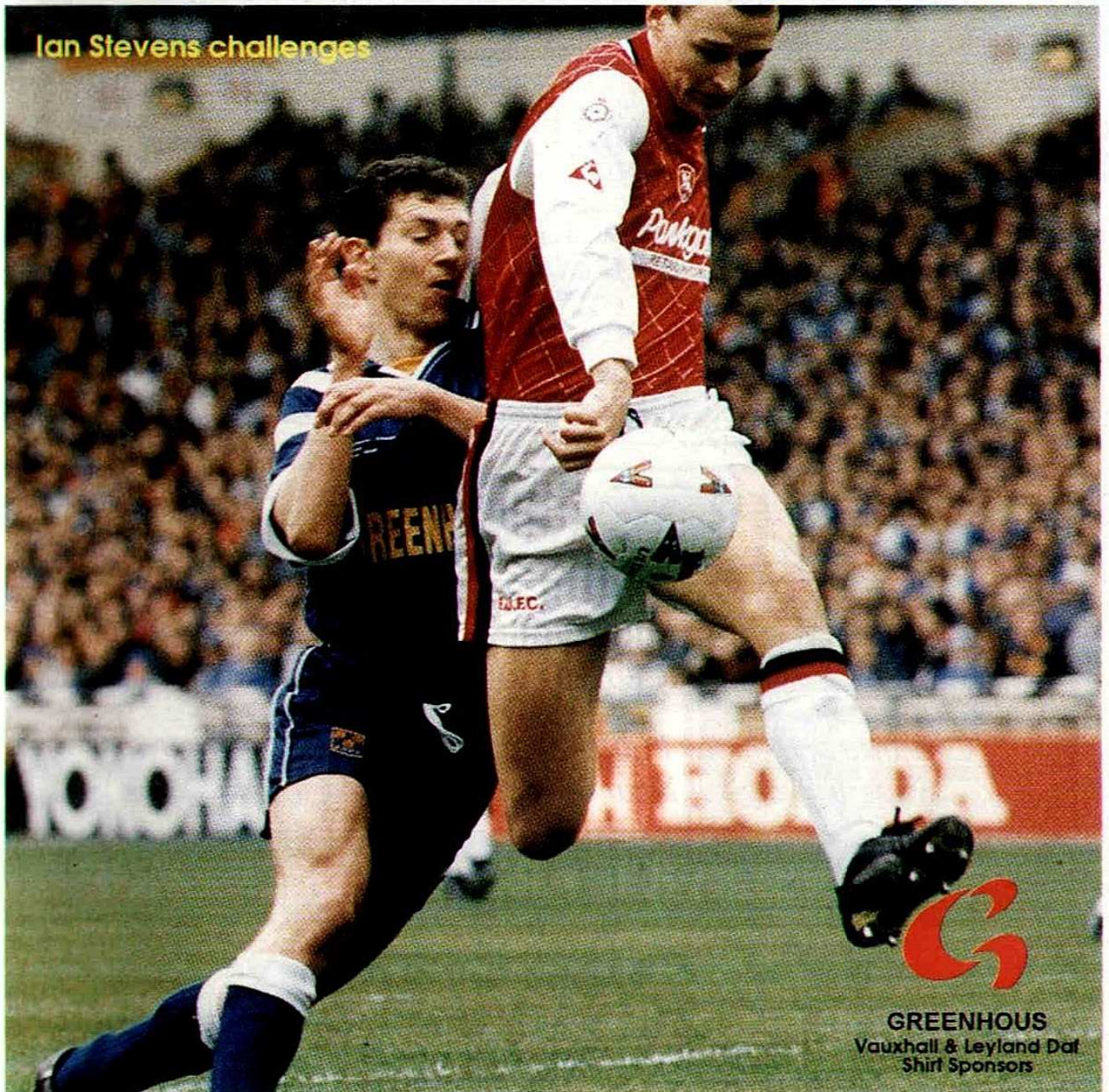


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THE MANAGER

Fred talking



ood afternoon to you all and welcome to our visitors from Swindon Town Football Club.

First of all I would like to congratulate Steve McMahon and his players on achieving promotion back to Division One at the first attempt. Swindon have had a very constant season with a mere handful of defeats and they have never looked like not going up.

A visit from the champions elect is really the ideal way to bring down the curtain on our home programme, and with the futures of both ourselves and Swindon already determined I hope that we can provide an entertaining spectacle.

It was nice to finally secure our second division status following our 2-1 victory over Brentford last Saturday, but we really should have made sure we were safer much earlier. We really shouldn't have our ourselves under such pressure in the first place. At one stage we were fifth, but the way the Liverpool F.A. Cup tie dragged on didn't help. Our home form has disappointed me and it's proved to be our downfall in many ways. If you look at our away form, apart from last Tuesday's defeat at Oxford United, there are only about five

or six teams that have scored more goals than us, and some of the teams in play-off contention have poorer away records than we have.

I have always mentioned throughout the season and I still do that we are good enough to be in the top ten, and when you are in the top ten you've always got a great chance of grabbing a play-off place. When you compare us to the teams that are in the play-offs it all comes down to consistency, and that aspect has left a little bit to be desired.

We started the season badly then we went really well and during that lively spell of the



suspensions and one or two injuries and all of a sudden you don't know where the next win is going to come from.

So the consistency factor has got to be seriously addressed over the summer. But I feel there have been a lot of plus factors.

And it's certainly been an eventful season with a trip to Wembley. We've played an awful lot of games and the players will appreciate their summer break, and hopefully we will have learnt some lessons come the start of next season.

As ever many thanks for your support throughout the season, it is much appreciated by us all. Have an enjoyable summer, see you in August.

Best Wishes.

Fred Davies.

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PONTINS LEAGUE
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Friday, 10th May

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TOWN NEWS

It has already been said in other pages of today's programme, but this season has certainly been one of memories, good or bad they will remain in many Town fans for years to come. The achievement of getting to Wembley without doubt rates as the highest, although it was sad that we could not lift the trophy, but it has given us appetite to get there again. The fact that we entertained Liverpool here at Gay Meadow also will equally live large in our memories, as will the 11-2 FA Cup victory over non-league Marine and the almost heart-stopping penalty shoot-out with Bristol City on way to that Wembley date, while thrilling, it will not want to be repeated too soon.

To achieve these entertaining games with a long soccer programme, we obviously count on the support of many, and none least of all you the supporters, but there has to be support from local businesses and individuals who give sponsorship and are without doubt essential to the running of a Football Club.

Our Club Shirt Sponsors, Greenhous, with both of their divisions, Vauxhall and Leyland Daf, have given us that superb support this season and are again our main sponsors for next season. We are also thankful of the support Matthew Brown, for the supply of our Beers, Lagers, Wines etc, have given us and that of Hawkstone Park for their support of our Family Enclosure.

The Sponsors of our matches, ground advertising boards, programme advertisers, matchball sponsors and the sponsors of our players kits, are all sincerely thanked for their support of the Club, in fact we now have well over 100 companies who continue to give their support to Shrewsbury Town Football Club and we are looking forward to their continued support next season.

For today's game we welcome as our Match Sponsors, three companies, Hartwell (Shrewsbury) Limited, who supply Jaguar and Nissan vehicles and are based at London Road and Chester Street, here in Shrewsbury, Paul and Diane of the Dog and Pheasant in Severn Street, Shrewsbury and Jones Transport, of Cockshutt, Near Ellesmere. Our Matchball Sponsor is Pearson Print Limited of Craven Arms. We thank them for their support for this last game of the season, and we hope that together with their guests they have an enjoyable afternoon.

May I wish you all a very enjoyable Summer and once again thank you for your support this season.

Very sincerely,

Mike Thomas - Commercial manager.

FOR YOU ENTERTAINMENT THIS AFTERNOON

THE BAND OF THE 5th BATTALION, THE (SHROPSHIRE & HEREFORDSHIRE) LIGHT INFANTRY (VOLUNTEERS).

Both before and at half-time today you will be entertained by the Band of The 5th Battalion The (Shropshire & Hertfordshire) Light Infantry (Volunteers), which we hope you will enjoy.

If you are interested in joining your local regiment as a part-time member, you can obtain information by telephoning 01743 262447.



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visit to Wembley the Club
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SHREWSBURY TOWN AT WEMBLEY

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MOUNT PLEASANT CORNER THE SCHOOLS' TROPHY

Pictured below are the two teams that took part in the final of the Gay Meadow Schools Trophy before our game last Saturday with Brentford. Mount Pleasant ran out winners over Crowmoor in a very even game. In fact at the completion of full time no goals had been scored, but the score also remained level with both sides having had a corner. Sudden death extra time was the ruling and while no goal was scored Mount Pleasant won as they obtained the first corner in this period. We thank all the teams that took part in the competition and indeed their teachers and parents who have supported the teams throughout. See you next season.



Pictured above is the staff of Hartshorne Motor Group who were our Match Sponsors for the game with Brentford, together with Tommy Lynch who was their Man of the Match



Darren Currie being presented with his Man of the Match Award by our Match Sponsors for the game with Wrexham, Greenhouse Vauxhall.

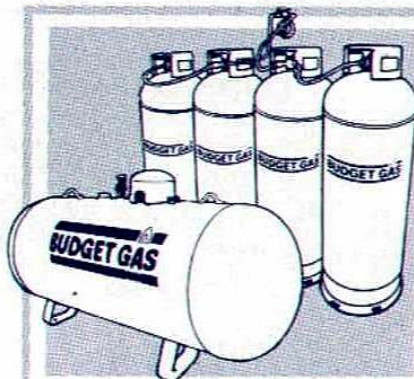


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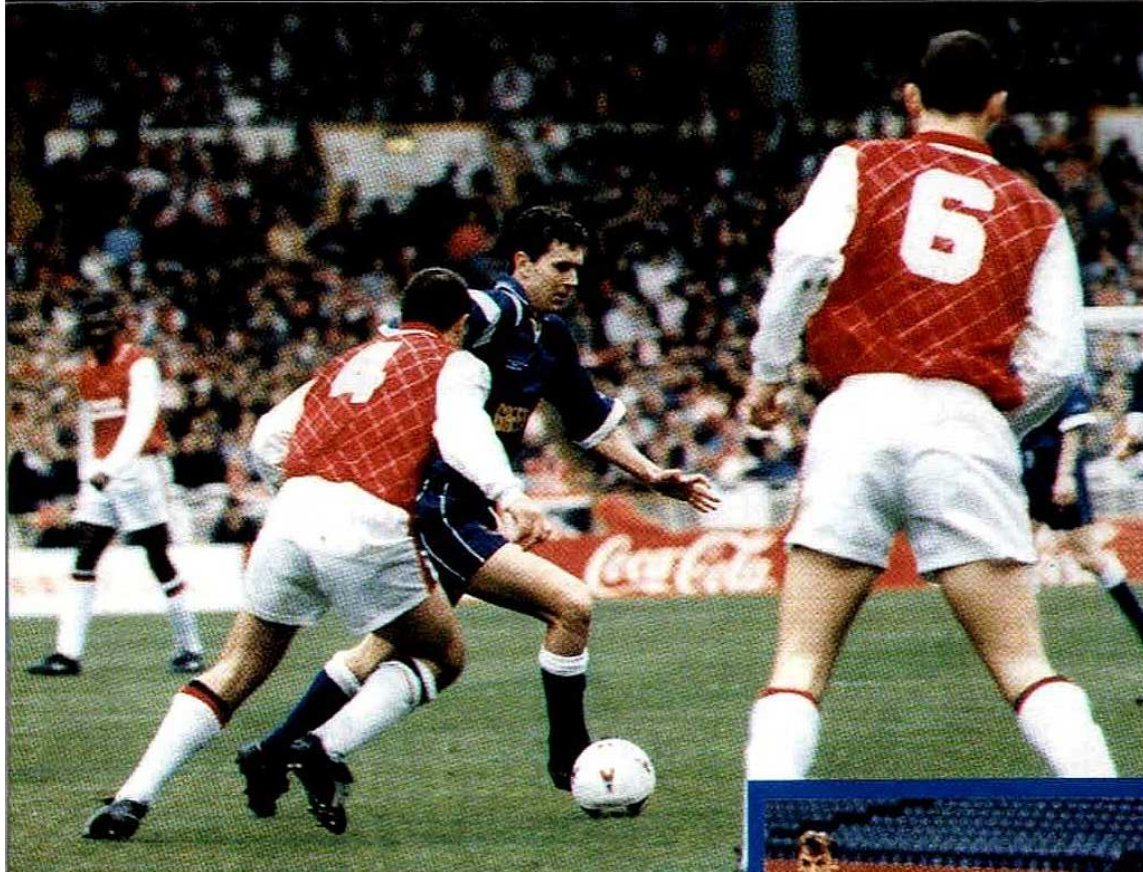
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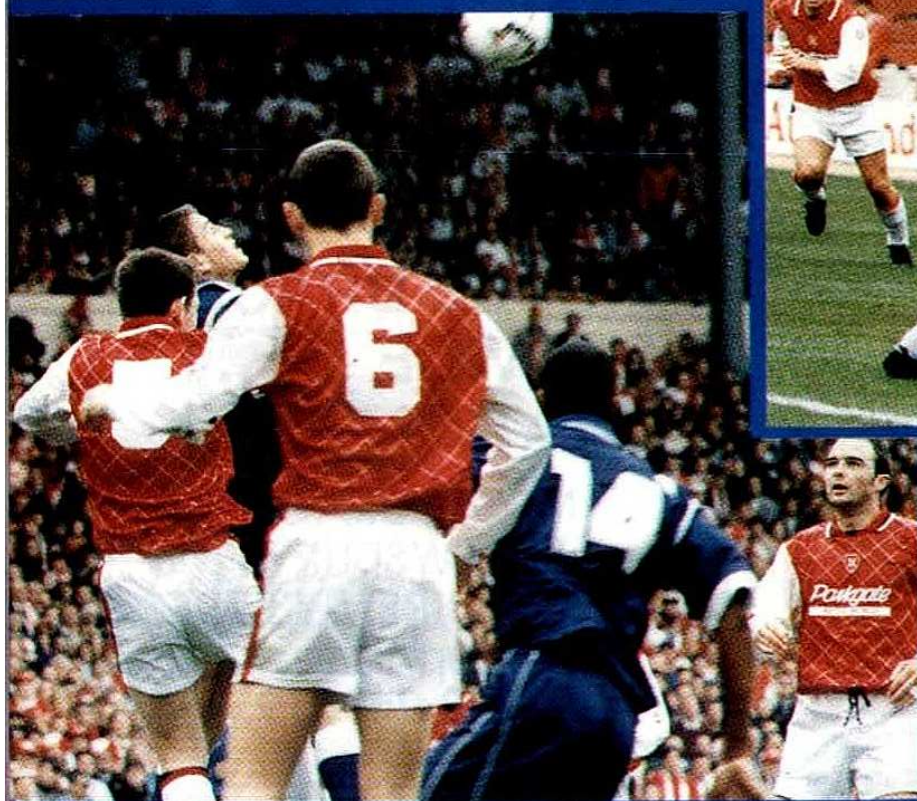
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TOWN

at Wembley



Top: Ian Stevens beats Rotherham's Darren Garner. Middle: Dave Walton climbs high and (right), Austin Berkley shows his skill. Bottom: Dean Spink gives a challenge and, left - Darren Rowbotham. Not the way to get to Wembley, but he enjoys the day.



Welcome to The Champions

SWINDON TOWN

The Robins

For our last home game we welcome the Champions of Division Two, Swindon Town, who have gained promotion at the first attempt after their headlong slide from Premier League to Division Two in the previous two seasons that is now only a memory.

They have certainly had their share of ups and downs in the last thirty years but for well above half a century before that they had been a steady consistent side with a reputation for trying to play good football and avoid controversy, the sort of opponents that it was a pleasure to meet.

Founded in 1881, five years before ourselves Swindon Town first played in the F.A. Cup in 1886, beating Watford Rovers in the first round before going out 7-1 to an amateur club from Slough known as the Swifts. Then in 1894 they became founder-members of the Southern League, losing their first-ever game 9-0 to Millwall Athletic who went on to top the table while Swindon Town finished bottom.

They moved to their present County Ground in 1896 and after a number of seasons as an average Southern League team they really came good in the early years of this century. In 1910 they beat Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester City en route to an F.A. Cup semi-final and were runners-up to Brighton & Hove Albion in the Southern League. In 1911 they topped the Southern League for the

first time, pipping Northampton Town by a clear five points and then in 1912 they became the last Southern League club to play in an F.A. Cup semi-final when they put out West Ham United and Everton and going out to Barnsley after a replay.

Those were the days of Len Skiller in goal and strikers Bob Jefferson, Harold Fleming, Freddie Wheatcroft, Archie Brown and Sammy Lamb and Swindon Town won the Southern

fourth they chalked up a 9-1 win over Luton Town.

In general Swindon Town finished in the top half of the table in the 1920's and in 1926/27 when they finished fifth striker Harry Morris got 48 goals. In a remarkable 1929/30 they slipped just below midtable and after putting Manchester United out of the F.A. Cup crashed 10-1 to Manchester City in a fourth round replay.

1933 saw them surviving their first



Back row - left to right: Wayne Allison; Paul Boden; Shaun Taylor; Fraser Digby; Mark Seagraves; Andy Thomson; Peter Thorne. Middle row: Ian Culverhouse; Kevin Horlock; Jason Drysdale; Stephen Finney; Dean Hooper; Mark Robinson; Luc Nijholt (no longer with the club); Ty Gooden; Edwin Murray. Front row: Martin Ling; Wayne O'Sullivan; Andy Rowland (First team coach); Steve McMahon (Player/Manager); Ross MacLaren (Reserve team coach); Jonathan Trigg (Physio); Jamie Pitman; Ben Worrall.

League title again in 1914, this time pipping second place Crystal Palace on goal average.

Like most of the other Southern League clubs of the time they became founder-members of the new Division Three in 1920. This became Division Three(South) a year later and though they finished that first season no higher than

re-election application alongside Newport County and they had to survive two more in successive seasons 1955/56/57, the first alongside Crystal Palace and the next alongside Norwich City. They rallied to finish in fourth spot however in 1957/58 and so they were allocated to the new Division Three in the re-organisation of the

Continued over.....

FRASER DIGBY

Goalkeeper. Joined Manchester United from school as an apprentice twelve years ago. Fraser did not make the first team at Old Trafford and had loan spells at Oldham Athletic and at Swindon Town before joining Swindon Town on a permanent basis in September 1986. Has now made over 400 first team appearances for Swindon Town although he did return to Manchester United for a loan spell during season 1992/93. Signed a new contract in November 1995 to take him through to 1998 which will include a testimonial year.

PAUL BODIN

Defender. Welsh International now in his second spell at the County Ground. Paul was initially signed from the now defunct Newport County for £25,000 in March 1988. Three years later he was transferred to Crystal Palace for a fee of £550,000 but was unable to command a place at Selhurst Park and just ten months later he returned to Swindon Town. Spent the end of last season out with a back injury.

SHAUN TAYLOR

Defender. An ever present in the team again last season for the second consecutive year. Shaun was signed from Exeter City in July 1991 for £200,000. He came into professional football late signing for The Grecians from Western League Bideford Town at the age of 23. He played 233 first team games for Exeter City before he joined Swindon Town.

GARY THORNE

Defender. Another first year professional who is a product of John Trollope's Youth Team. Gary made his Swindon Town debut coming on as a substitute in the Auto Windscreens Shield tie at Torquay United in October 1995 having made some impressive performances in the Reserves in the early part of the season.

MARK SEAGRAVES

Defender. Big strong central defender signed from Bolton Wanderers for £100,000 in June 1995. Mark forms a solid defensive partnership with Shaun Taylor. A former Liverpool apprentice, Mark had a loan spell with Norwich City before a £100,000 move to Manchester City in 1986. In 1990 he moved to Burnden Park but was unable to command a place in last seasons side who gained promotion to the Premiership.

WAYNE O'SULLIVAN

Defender. Full back Wayne made his debut for Swindon Town in an Anglo-Italian Cup tie against Oxford United at The Manor Ground in September 1992. A former trainee with Swindon Town he made his League debut as substitute in the first game of the 1994/95 season at home to Port Vale and started a League game for the first time in the following 1-0 home win over Watford. Has since progressed and become a regular first team member and was selected for the Eire Under 21 squad to play Latvia in Galway in October 1995.

FRANK TALIA

Goalkeeper. Blackburn Rovers signed Frank from Sunshine George Cross in August 1992 and spent some time on loan at Hartlepool. United that season making 15 appearances. Unable to break into the first team at Ewood Park, Frank signed for Swindon Town in November 1995 having spent a month on loan earlier in the season.

ALEX SMITH

Defender. Signed on a free transfer from Everton in January 1996 where he was a former trainee. While he had not played in the

following summer.

In 1963 they won promotion to the old Division Two for the first time and seemingly boundless talent was unearthed in that period with longthrow specialist Bobby Woodruff and striker Ernie Hunt moving on to Wolves and flying winger Mike Summerbee to Manchester City. Others like Peter Noble, Roger Smart and Don Rogers stayed on to be part of the side that won the League Cup and promotion in the same season of 1968/69 after they had slipped back down again in 1965.

In 1970 they reached the last eight of the F.A. Cup, going down to Leeds United, winning the Anglo-Italian Cup in the same season. Then came a period of decline with relegation to Division Three in 1974 and to Division Four for the first time in 1982. They bounced back up again in 1986 and on the crest of a wave went up again via the playoffs in 1987 to land back in Division Two.

Still they went on but in 1990 despite earning a place in the old Division One by beating Sunderland in the final of the playoffs they could not take it up because of alleged financial irregularities. They continued to battle away however and in 1993 they earned a place in what was by this time the Premier League, beating Leicester City 4-3 in the finals of the playoffs and this time they were allowed to be promoted.

It seemed all in vain when they were relegated in both 1994 and 1995 to land back in Division Two, but happily this season has seen another upturn.

LAST SEASON

Despite slipping out of the Premier League in the previous season Swindon Town kicked off last season in good heart and in the first three months were in the top five. They also put together a magnificent Coca Cola Cup run, beating Charlton Athletic, Brighton & Hove Albion, Millwall and Derby County to reach the semi-final.

In this they beat Bolton Wanderers 2-1 at the County Ground only to lose 3-1 at Burnden Park after being level at halftime. By that time however their League position had declined alarmingly and though hopes were raised by a 5-2 win at West Bromwich Albion in mid-March they won only two more games after that and they were six points short of safety in the final reckoning.

Striker Jan Fjortoft got 26 goals before his move to Middlesbrough in March while Peter Thorne who came from Blackburn Rovers in February got 11. Midfielder Mark Robinson missed only six games and fellow midfielder Joey Beauchamp and goalkeeper Fraser Digby missed just seven. As things have turned out however the most significant thing to happen during the season however was the appointment of Steve McMahon to succeed John Gorman as manager in November for although it did not show in the results last season he turned the club round in such a way that they have looked a completely different side from the one relegated.

THIS SEASON

They kicked off this season with a 1-0 away win over, the now bottom club, Hull City and this was followed by a 1-2 defeat at Cambridge United in the Coca Cola Cup which was overturned the following week with a 2-0 home win that had followed a 3-0 home victory over York City. They remained undefeated for some games afterwards, with Carlisle United defeated 1-0 away, Oxford United sharing two goals at home as did Chesterfield in their next home game, after they had defeated Brentford 2-0 at Griffin Park at the beginning of September. Then came two 4-1 wins At home over Bradford City and away at Bristol Rovers.

Their first defeat came in the Coca Cola Cup when they entertained Blackburn Rovers going down by the odd goal of five and then lost 0-2 in the return leg. In the meantime they beat Rotherham United 1-0 at the County Ground, but experienced their first setback in the League at Wrexham losing 3-4 which was just prior to losing at Blackburn.

They came back to winning ways in their first League game in October by beating Bristol City 2-0 at home and this was followed by a 3-1 win at Brighton. However they seemed to have a little bit of a jinx against bottom

CHARACTERS

DANNY WILLIAMS

Danny was manager of Swindon Town during that remarkable spell of success in the 1960's and he in fact went back for a second and less successful spell in the 1970's.

Born in Rotherham in 1924 he played for Silverwood Colliery before moving to Rotherham in the war and making his League debut in 1946. That was at a time when Rotherham United were one of the leading clubs in Division Three(North) but with only one club going up from each section of Division Three at the time they were runners-up on three occasions before finally winning promotion to Division Two in 1951.

Danny had played up front in his early days but most of his 459 games for the Millers were in the number six shirt as an old-fashioned wing half. That was where he was playing in 1954/55 when the Millers were pipped only on goal average by Birmingham City for a place in the old First Division.

After hanging up his boots in 1960 Danny had a spell as Rotherham coach before succeeding Tom Johnston as manager in 1962. During his three years in charge the Millers stayed as a Second Division club but then after being succeeded by Jackie Mansell in 1965 he intended to concentrate on his sport's outfitters shop but was headhunted by Swindon Town who were looking for a successor to Bert Head who had moved on to Bury.

Danny enjoyed great success at Swindon Town who under his management knocked West Ham United out of the F.A. Cup and took Nottingham Forest to two replays. Then in 1968/69 they were generally reckoned to be one of the finest Third Division teams ever when they romped to promotion and won the League Cup, beating Arsenal in extra time at Wembley. At this point he moved on to Sheffield Wednesday, one of the clubs that his Swindon Town side had played well against in the F.A. Cup.

Neither at Wednesday nor Mansfield Town where Danny moved to two years later did things go well for Danny and he returned to Swindon Town in 1974 in succession to Les Allen.

In this second spell at the County Ground he had mixed experiences, just missing out on promotion in 1974/75 immediately after relegation but they didn't come so near in the next three seasons and Danny handed over to Bobby Smith and stayed for a time as his assistant.

In the eighties he moved back to his native South Yorkshire, leaving football behind, but he is still part of Swindon Town's history and their current highly successful side has been likened to the side that Danny managed over 25 years ago.

of the table clubs as they visited Torquay United in the Auto Windscreens Shield and could only draw 1-1 but came back to form by beating Crewe Alexandra 2-1 at home and Notts County 3-1 away before visiting Bournemouth and drawing 0-0. A draw was the next result also, at home against Blackpool, 1-1, and they then beat Colchester United in the Auto Windscreens Shield 2-0 and still at home beat Cambridge United 4-1 in the FA Cup at the start of November.

Away to Stockport County the game ended in another 1-1 draw but then came two defeats at the County Ground. The first was our 1-0 win over them, which has been their only home League defeat this term, this was then followed by another 0-1 scoreline when Hereford United beat them in the second round of the Auto Windscreens Shield, but they then beat Cardiff City in the second round of the FA Cup 2-0, again at home.

December saw them beat Rotherham United 2-0 away, draw at Walsall 0-0 and at home against Wycombe Wanderers, before beating Woking 2-0 in the third round of the FA Cup at the start of this year.

A 3-0 win over Swansea City at the County Ground was followed by a 0-2 defeat at York City and then two home wins followed over Hull City, 3-0, and Carlisle United 2-1.

February continued well for them beating Swansea City at the Vetch Field 1-0 and in quick succession beating Oldham Athletic 1-0 in the FA Cup round four and drawing with Southampton 1-1 in the fifth round, both at home. These were followed by two more home games, a 2-2 draw with Brentford and a 2-1 win over Bristol Rovers, but on the last day of the

Premiership Alex has played in Everton's European Cup Winners Cup campaign this season.

MARK ROBINSON

Defender. Signed as an apprentice for West Bromwich Albion on leaving school in June 1985 and made his Football League debut against Sheffield Wednesday on 22nd April 1986. Surprisingly he was not offered a contract at the end of his apprenticeship and was picked up by Barnsley but had to wait until 1989 before earning an extended run in the first team. In March 1993 he was transferred to Newcastle United for £450,000 but injury and the vast squad at St. James' Park prevented Mark from getting an extended first team run. In July 1994 he moved to Wiltshire for a then Swindon Town club record of £600,000.

EDWIN MURRAY

Defender. Came to Swindon Town as an Associated Schoolboy in 1988 before progressing through the ranks signing as a professional in 1991. Recently broke into the first team following an injury to Paul Bodin.

MARTIN LING

Midfield. A former Exeter City apprentice, Martin is another in his second spell at The County Ground. He initially signed for £325,000 in July 1986 but just 93 days later he was on the move to Southend United where he made 138 League appearances, scoring 31 goals. While at Roots Hall he spent some time on loan at Mansfield Town and indeed here at the County Ground. In the summer of 1991 Glen Hoddle acquired his services for a mere £15,000.

LEE COLLINS

Midfield. Signed in November 1995 for a fee of £15,000 from Scottish Division Three side Albion Rovers after impressing in trial games for Swindon Town reserves. Made his first team debut in the Auto Windscreens Shield defeat by Hereford United at the County Ground at the end of November.

TY GOODEN

Midfield. Released by Wycombe Wanderers at the end of season 1992/93 when they were elected to the Football League. Ty was signed by John Gorman in December 1993 after a successful trial period at the County Ground. He made his Premiership debut as substitute in the draw against West Ham United in March 1994.

JASON DRYSDALE

Defender. A former Youth International, Jason signed in at the County Ground on transfer deadline day, 23rd March 1995 for a fee of £340,000 from Newcastle United. A former trainee with Watford where he won an F.A. Youth Cup winners medal, Jason made 160 appearances for the Hornets, scoring 13 goals once he signed professional forms in September 1988. A fee of £425,000 in August 1994 took him to Newcastle United but after less than seven months at St. James' Park, Jason joined Swindon Town having not been able to command a first team place.

PAUL ALLEN

Midfield. One of the renowned footballing Allen family, Paul was signed by Swindon Town on a free transfer in October 1995 having been released from Southampton. Previously with West Ham United with whom he signed as an apprentice in August 1979 and went on to make 197 appearances, scoring 11 goals. In June 1985 a £400,000 move took him across London to White Hart Lane where he made 377 appearances for Spurs scoring 28 goals. In September 1993 he transferred to Southampton for a fee of £550,000 but with the departure of manager

month they went down 0-2 at Southampton in the replay of the fifth round of the FA Cup.

Since then they have had only one reverse, winning six of their thirteen games which started with a 2-1 win at Wycombe Wanderers and then a 1-1 draw with Walsall at home followed by another draw, 0-0, at Burnley but lost 0-3 away at neighbours Oxford United who also look like getting promotion this season. Another home win, over Peterborough United 2-0 and a 0-0 draw brought March to an end.

April has seen a 3-2 home win over Brighton and a 1-0 defeat of Notts County and then a third at Crewe Alexandra 2-0. Three draws then followed with a 2-2 against Bournemouth and 0-0 with Burnley both at the County Ground and then the top of the table clash at Blackpool which ended 1-1 before Tuesday's Championship clincher with their 3-1 win at Chesterfield.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

DIVISION THREE (SOUTH)

1951/52
Shrewsbury 0 Swindon 1
Swindon 1 Shrewsbury 2
1952/53
Shrewsbury 2 Swindon 1
Swindon 2 Shrewsbury 2
1953/54
Shrewsbury 1 Swindon 0
Swindon 2 Shrewsbury 1
1954/55
Shrewsbury 7 Swindon 0
Swindon 2 Shrewsbury 1
1955/56
Shrewsbury 1 Swindon 1
Swindon 2 Shrewsbury 1
1956/57
Shrewsbury 7 Swindon 3
Swindon 1 Shrewsbury 2
1957/58
Shrewsbury 1 Swindon 3
Swindon 1 Shrewsbury 0

DIVISION THREE

1959/60
Shrewsbury 3 Swindon 0
Swindon 4 Shrewsbury 2
1960/61
Shrewsbury 1 Swindon 1
Swindon 2 Shrewsbury 2
1961/62
Shrewsbury 1 Swindon 3
Swindon 1 Shrewsbury 2
1962/63
Shrewsbury 1 Swindon 2
Swindon 1 Shrewsbury 0
1965/66
Shrewsbury 1 Swindon 1
Swindon 0 Shrewsbury 0
1966/67
Shrewsbury 3 Swindon 1
Swindon 2 Shrewsbury 2

1967/68
Shrewsbury 0 Swindon 1
Swindon 0 Shrewsbury 0
1968/69
Shrewsbury 1 Swindon 1
Swindon 3 Shrewsbury 0
1975/76
Shrewsbury 3 Swindon 0
Swindon 3 Shrewsbury 0
1976/77
Shrewsbury 2 Swindon 2
Swindon 1 Shrewsbury 0
1977/78
Shrewsbury 2 Swindon 3
Swindon 5 Shrewsbury 0
1978/79
Shrewsbury 0 Swindon 0
Swindon 2 Shrewsbury 1

DIVISION TWO

1987/88
Shrewsbury 2 Swindon 1
Swindon 1 Shrewsbury 1
1988/89
Shrewsbury 0 Swindon 1
Swindon 1 Shrewsbury 0

DIVISION THREE

1995/96
Swindon 0 Shrewsbury 1

Teams for the last game here,
December 3rd, 1988:

Shrewsbury Town: Ron Green;
Richard Green; Rougie; Priest;
Moyes; Steele; Bell; Kasule (Brown);
Melrose (Griffiths); Thomas.
Swindon Town: Digby; Hockaday;
King; Jones; Gittens; Calderwood;
Foley; White (Simpson); Henry
(Shearer); Maclaren; Geddis.
Attendance: 3,524.

Ian Branfoot, Paul was only to make 43 appearances for the Saints. During his time at the Dell he went on loan to Luton Town and Stoke City. Paul is an England 'B', Under 21 and Youth International.

IAN CULVERHOUSE

Defender. Signed from Norwich City at the end of December 1994 for a fee of £250,000 decided by a Football League tribunal after Norwich City's request of £900,000 was turned down by Swindon. Ian was a former apprentice at Tottenham Hotspur before turning professional and making his League debut as substitute at Notts County on 21st February 1984. He had only made one full appearance while at White Hart Lane before signing for Norwich City in October 1985 for £50,000. In December 1995, Ian signed a new contract at Swindon Town to take him through to June 1998.

STEVEN COWE

Forward. Signed as a schoolboy with Aston Villa in February 1990 before becoming an apprentice and signing as a professional in July 1993. The young striker was unable to command a first team place with Villa, although he was in the travelling squad several times. Steven originally came to Swindon Town on loan before signing a permanent contract for a fee of £100,000 in April 1996.

WAYNE ALLISON

Forward. A Football League tribunal decided that Swindon Town had to pay £475,000 for the registration of Wayne from local rivals Bristol City, for whom he was top scorer last season. In July 1995. Born in Huddersfield, Wayne started his career as an apprentice at Halifax Town before moving to Watford for £250,000 in July 1989. The following year a £300,000 deal took him to Ashton Gate where he became a firm favourite with the fans.

STEVE FINNEY

Forward. Manager Steve McMahon knew of Steve when they were both at Manchester City and took Finney on a free transfer from Maine Road during the summer. He scored his first goal for Swindon Town on the club's pre-season tour of Finland. Following an injury to Peter Thorne, Steve was given an unexpected run in the first team at the beginning of this season. He recently signed a new long term contract to keep him at the club until 1998.

PETER THORNE

Forward. Young striker signed from Blackburn Rovers for an undisclosed fee in January 1995. Peter was signed on as a trainee player at Ewood Park in July 1981 before progressing to the professional ranks in the 1991 close season. First team opportunities were restricted because of the form of the likes of Alan Shearer, Chris Sutton and Mike Newell and Peter relished the chance of a move to Swindon Town with the opportunity of regular action. His only first team appearance for Blackburn Rovers was when he came on as a substitute in the Charity Shield at Wembley against Manchester United. Made an impressive start in his career at Swindon Town, scoring four goals in his first two games.

DEAN HOOPER

Midfield. Signed from non-league Hayes Football Club in March 1995 for an initial fee of £15,000 with further sums due after appearances. Made his Endsleigh League debut at Grimsby Town, the day after signing professional forms for Swindon Town. Had a loan spell with Peterborough United in December 1995.

CHIC BATES

Of the players who over the years have been associated with both today's teams Chic Bates is the one whose name springs most readily to mind having served us in two separate spells and also having had a spell in charge.

Born in West Bromwich in 1949 and christened Philip, Chic was a comparatively late entrant to professional football, being in his mid twenties when he joined us from Stourbridge together with Ray Haywood in June 1974. We were looking for goals after being relegated from the old Division Four at the end of the previous season and Chic soon responded by finding the net in the 3-0 win at Stockport County in his first away game. He went on to score 17 goals in that first season as we moved smoothly to promotion and he went on to play in 93 consecutive games before missing his first game in March

**PLAYED
FOR BOTH SIDES**

1976. In fact he missed only four games in over three seasons before moving to Swindon Town for £30,000 in January 1978. By that time his appearance tally was 202 in the course of which he had scored 52 goals.

In just over a season and a half at the County Ground he got 15 goals in 63 games while they were in Division Three and then moved on to Bristol Rovers. Though scoring within two minutes of the start of his opening game against Watford Chic struggled a little and after losing his place to Paul Randell who had returned from Stoke he moved back to us in December 1980 with 4 goals in 29 games to his credit.

He came back to us in December 1980. Soon he was scoring in an F.A. Cup win over Huddersfield Town and he went on to get another 23 goals in this spell. He became player manager in July 1984 in succession to Graham Turner. Chic stayed in charge for just over three seasons and he did manage to keep us in the old Second Division.

He then returned to Swindon Town as coach and assistant manager to Lou Macari and had a spell back here in 1992 as assistant to John Bond before rejoining Lou Macari as he moved from Birmingham City to Stoke City and later Celtic. Since September 1994 the duo have been back in charge at Stoke and they are currently bidding for a Premier League place, via the playoffs.

YESTERYEAR

Looking back 30, 20 & 10 years

30 YEARS AGO

We ended our home programme on Wednesday May 18th with a 1-1 draw against today's visitors Swindon Town to leave us in tenth place in Division Three. Trevor Meredith got the only goal of the game after the break and the teams were:

Shrewsbury Town: Boswell; Wright; Gregory; Hay; Dolby; Brodie; Meredith; Scott; Clarke; Broadbent; Thom.

Swindon Town: Downsborough; Dawson; Trollope; Morgan; Nurse; Smart; Weaver; Brown; East; Butler; Rogers.

Attendance: 2,719.

Swindon-Town were in seventh spot and Hull City and Millwall comfortably won promotion at a time when only two clubs went up from Division Three. Liverpool pipped Leeds United by a clear six points for the First Division championship while Manchester City and Southampton went up from Division Two to replace Northampton Town and Rochdale who were on their way down. The F.A. Cup final had been played several weeks earlier with Everton coming back from a 2-0 deficit to beat Sheffield Wednesday 3-2.

20 YEARS AGO

Our season ended on April 24th, 1976 with a 3-2 defeat at Peterborough United, this being our third successive defeat as we slipped to ninth place in Division Three. The game was virtually lost in the first half when Colin Griffin produced our solitary reply to goals from David Gregory (2) and Ernie Moss and though Mike Kearney pulled another one back after the break we were unable to level things up.

Peterborough United: Steele; Hodson; Lee; Eustace; Turner; Carmichael; Gregory; Nixon; Moss; Robson (Heeley); Hughes.

Shrewsbury Town: Mulhearn; King; Leonard; Durban; Griffin; Hayes; Lawrence; Atkins; Kearney; Turner; Roberts (Tarbuck).

Attendance: 5,023.

Swindon Town beat Walsall 5-1 with Trevor Anderson netting a hat-trick of penalties and David Moss and Dave Syrett getting the others. They avoided relegation to Division Four by just a single point.

QPR beat Leeds United 2-0 with Stan Bowles and Dave Thomas getting the goals to set up a grandstand finish in Division One with Liverpool needing a win or a lowscoring draw to overtake QPR. The last game was at Molineux where Wolves needed to win to stay up and it is now history that Liverpool came from behind to win 2-1.

10 YEARS AGO

On the penultimate Saturday of the season we lost 3-1 at Bradford City on April 29th, 1986 as we sought in vain to increase the useful four point cushion as the fight for survival reached its climax.

We gave a goal away after ten minutes when Nigel Pearson miscued a backpass and Ian Ormondroyd walked the ball home. John Hendrie volleyed a second on the half hour and the same player made it 3-0 just before halftime after Steve Cross failed in an attempt to turn the ball back to Steve Perks. We fought back bravely after the break and Steve Cross made some amends for his earlier error when he latched onto a Hughes through pass to steer the ball home. Steve ended a very eventful day for him when he was carried off in the closing minutes after being fouled.

Bradford City: Litchfield; Oliver; Evans; McCall; Jackson; Clegg; Hendrie; Ormondroyd; Campbell (Thorpe); Abbott; Graham.

Shrewsbury Town: Perks; Williams; Hughes; Cross (Leonard); Pearson; Griffin; McNally; Hackett; Stevens; Robinson; Daly.

Attendance: 4,663.

Happily after this we did manage to squeeze one more win (2-1 against Middlesbrough with Colin Robinson and Darren Hughes scoring) while in Division Four Swindon Town romped to the championship with an unbeaten run of 21 games and four wins in a row with Charlie Henry and Colin Gordon banging home the goals.

As Liverpool made virtually certain of the First Division Championship with a 5-0 win over relegation candidates Birmingham City defender Gary Gillespie got a hat-trick and Wolves 3-1 defeat at Cardiff City ensured that they would be having a first-ever spell in Division Four.

Geoff Allman.

IN SUPPORT

Supporters & Family Enclosure News

SUPPORTERS CLUB NOTES AND HAWKSTONE PARK FAMILY ENCLOSURE

As another season draws to an end it is time to reflect on things that have happened over the last 12 months.

The closed season saw the Centre Stand completed (to everyone's relief) and the pitch altered once again. We also saw one or two new faces arrive at the ground, who soon became regulars in the team.

Once the season started things started to gather pace. We started off the season in an unenviable position, and were in fact the bookmakers favourites for relegation. The squad decided to prove them wrong by putting a run together that took us to 5th in the League.

Unfortunately winter arrived early and we had to play several games on frost bound pitches. This made the playing conditions rather difficult with players wearing trainers rather than boots! However we did manage to complete all our fixtures over Christmas - some achievement.

Since then it has been a rather frustrating season as far as the League games have gone. Wembley beckoned though and all the players were determined to get there, and get there they did! A really good day out resulted from the trip and the lads then carried on to play two cracking games to make our League position safe.

The Supporters Club tried to follow the team away all season, but we did have a temporary lull of not arranging coaches. A few of us still went down to games though and had some good laughs.

Normal service was soon resumed and coaches started running again and hopefully will continue to do so next season.

There have also been several very enjoyable Karaoke nights where singing ability counted for nothing. On some occasions a cats chorus might have been more harmonic. Practice makes perfect, so we all decided to keep trying until we get it right.

The Family Enclosure has been thriving and it is always good to see so many people in there. We have also seen a lot of new faces in there over the season and I hope they have enjoyed the atmosphere and will continue to come.

Today the Enclosure is being decorated to make the last home game of the season a special occasion. The Supporters Club Player of the Year and the Family Enclosure Player of the Year are being presented on the pitch prior to today's game. I hope that you will all support the winners, even if they are not your own personal choice.

Enjoy the game and the summer break, I look forward to seeing you all again next season.

Best Wishes.

Ann Ralphs - Family Co-Ordinator S.T.F.C.

AWAY TRAVEL WITH CHRIS SMITH

Coaches for our final game of the season will leave Wem 10.15am, Gay Meadow 10.45am, Bucks Head 11.00am. Bookings by seeing Chris Smith after today's game outside the Club Shop or by phoning Chris on Telford 604742 as soon as possible.

Please also see Chris today for your tickets to the Annual Player of the Year Awards night at the Lord Hill Hotel on Thursday May 9th, 8.00pm until late. Travel Club Members have you voted yet? If not see Chris today.

Once again a special thank you to all our Away Supporters particularly Away Travel Club Members and their friends who travel regularly on the coaches with Chris Smith. It is always a pleasure to arrange travel for the hardcore Town fans whose behaviour is brilliant wherever they go.

Who will ever forget the scenes on the Motorway, the thousands of fans at Chervell Valley Services, let's hope for a repeat next season, enjoy your summer break and the European Championships.

PROGRAMME FAIRS

Don't forget the Programme Fair at the Telepost Social Club on May 6th, 7.00pm. Admission is FREE. All enquiries please phone Chris Smith on Telford 604742.

The biggest event on the Programme calendar is held on Saturday June 1st 1996 at the Hotel Russell, Russell Square, LONDON. The International Programme Fair, dozens of dealers, tens of thousands of programmes, don't miss this great event.

Finally advance orders now being taken for F.A. Cup Final and European Championship programme. Write to Chris Smith, Cranmere, 39, Wellington Road, Muxton, Telford.

SUPER BLUES

April Draw Winners:

1. No. 138 - Mr. N.G. Wells. £50.00. - 2. No. 131 - Mr. S.A.W. Jones. 2 V.I.P. Tickets.
3. No. 97 - Mr. R. Parry. 2 Stand Tickets. - 4. No. 163 - Mr. M. Andrews. Bottle Prize.

Would you like to help Shrewsbury Town, then why not join the Super Blues Club for only £1 per week, £52 per year.

There are a number of benefits available to members including discount on goods from the Club Shop, reduced Travel Costs with Chris Smith on Away trips, preferential ticket availability for big games at the Meadow, access to the Players Lounge before home games, and Match Tickets when booking a holiday with Ron Morgan Travel and taking Insurance Cover.

There is also a monthly draw with a first prize of £50 and other prizes including V.I.P. Tickets in the Directors Box. Two other main prize draws per year with prizes of £1,000 and £500.

Since September 1993 the Super Blues Club have donated in excess of £14,000 to the Football Club and paid out over £8,000 in prizes to members. During that time social events including the main draw and cabaret, racing nights, boxing night, travel show and more recently a sports dinner with guest speaker Geoff Hurst and comedian Danny Dalton have been had.

You can join the Super Blues club today at the Commercial Office or by contacting any committee member namely Keith Sayfritz, Chris Smith, Mike Edwards, Brian Kitson or John Nash.

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all members for their valued and continued support throughout the past year and hope you all enjoy the summer break.

We are always searching for fund-raising ideas to be in the form of social events and any ideas you have would be very welcome, particularly from our lady members.

JOHN NASH



he Summer of 1947 again brought disappointment with the

club's sixth attempt to gain Football League status falling short of the required votes.

The pre-season build up was not a total loss however with the arrival on the playing front of one Edris Hapgood the ex-England international, together with James Argue from Chelsea, both arriving in August. The two latest signings were soon to be followed by Ambrose Mulraney a right winger who arrived from Birmingham City.

For the second season in succession the club opened with a match versus a Bradford club, this time Park Avenue reserves as opposed to City reserves the previous season. The result was the same however as Shrewsbury cruised to a 3-1 victory to open their Midland League campaign in style.

Two days after that opener the club suffered a home defeat by Denaby United by a solitary second half goal, but it was to be the first of only three such reverses in an unbeaten sequence of games that stretched from August right through to the end of the year, and encompassed some twenty four league and F.A. Cup matches.

Once again it was the club's consistency on the playing side coupled with the fact that manager Knighton was able to field virtually the same eleven week in, week out that went to produce the finished product.

The club's epic cup run that season began tamely enough with a 1-0 win over Wellington for

which they were rewarded with another away tie, this time by the seaside at Great Yarmouth Town.

THE TOWN'S HISTORY

Part 54
1947/48

Two goals apiece by Jock Davie and Ambrose Mulraney in front of the club's smallest cup attendance of the season, 4,160, gave the proud Salopians a 4-1 win and a plum tie against the Football League's Division Three (North) side, Stockport County.

The first match on December 13th ended not only in stalemate but also in abandonment. Two second half strikes - Town's coming from Davie - had sent the tie into extra time but with twenty-two minutes played fog caused it's abandonment.

One week later the replay duly took place with Sheen and Argue goals for Town reversing an interval deficit to again send the tie into extra time. Two days later on Monday December 22nd a third match was required after the two-all scoreline at the Meadow, this time on the neutral surroundings of Maine Road, Manchester.

Once again Shrewsbury found themselves trailing by a single goal at the break, however by the end of 90 minutes local products Roy Phillips and Jack Butler had again squared the game at 2-2. Extra time for a third time in ten days was just a little too much for Town who went out to a late Stockport strike 2-3,

however the share of the combined gate receipts that amounted to a grand total of £3,629 went some way to easing the pain of defeat.

Back to League action on Boxing Day, 1947 Town saw out the year with a three-all home draw versus York City reserves following up 24 hours later with a 2-1 home win over Grantham.

The 0-3 defeat to Denaby on New Year's Day 1948 was just a slight hiccup in the order of things as the relentless march toward the championship rolled ever increasingly forward.

The 8-0 trouncing of Ollerton Colliery on the last day of February had it not been a leap year, was the side's 20th League win in twenty eight games and set everyone up for a final push.

Three straight defeats between the 3rd and the 10th of April put the championship bubbly on ice temporarily, however a 2-1 home success over Notts County reserves on Easter Saturday meant the club were Midland League champions for the second time in three years, and there remained still a couple of games to play!

Hopes of a League and Welsh Cup double were dashed amid scenes of disbelief when versus lowly Lovell's Athletic three goals in extra time gave the Welshmen a 3-0 victory after it had looked like a Town triumph throughout the entire match. Indeed it was the same side's defeat the following season of Shrewsbury in this competition that prompted Town's self imposed exile from the Welsh senior trophy for some quarter of a century.

Kevin Davies.

POST

The following letters have been received by Fred Davies

Dear Mr Davies.

I'm just dropping a few lines to congratulate you and your boys, on getting to Wembley. I'm sorry you had to lose.

I'm an O.A.P. Walsall Supporter of many years, but Shrewsbury have always been my second love. I always look for your results.

I finished my Army Service at the end of the War, at Shrewsbury and in my time off I used to watch Shrewsbury in the old Midland League. I had a few good times in Shrewsbury.

Give all my best wishes to everyone at the Club.

Yours sincerely,

John Huskisson. Palfrey Walsall.

Dear Sir.

Last Saturday 36,000plus people enjoyed a splendid game of football played by two sporting teams.

I have supported Rotherham on and off for over 40 years being first taken by my father when I was 10. This match gave us a day to remember for the rest of our lives.

I would like to congratulate you on the sporting manner of your players both on the field and by applauding the Rotherham fans as they left the pitch. It was greatly appreciated and the applause was reciprocated.

Before the match commenced we were able to speak to several Shrewsbury fans and were struck by their friendliness and desire to see a good game.

For everyone this was a day to remember and although your team lost I am sure the players and fans will recall the day with a sense of pride.

We look forward to meeting your team and supporters again at Wembley next year for a good game of football.

Yours faithfully,

Jim Steel,

Wickersley, Rotherham. South Yorks.

In our match programme for our game with Brentford we published the story of a Town supporter, who is in the Army in Germany, who took the day off to fly to London to see the Town play at Wembley.

Another young man, Paul Gisborne also took to the air to see the Town play at Wembley. Paul who lives in Monkmoor, booked at Holiday in Portugal way back in last October never thinking that the Town would be at Wembley (it was, however, the Football Season, Paul!!!). He left for that holiday with his parents on April 5th. But he flew back from Portugal on the Saturday, stayed the night in Wembley, watched the game on Sunday, staying the night again in a Wembley hotel and then flew back to Portugal to continue his holiday before returning home last weekend. he was greeted on his arrival in Portugal with his family wearing black armbands

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- 2 John KAY
- 3 Tommy LYNCH
- 4 Mark TAYLOR
- 5 Dean SPINK
- 6 Richard SCOTT
- 7 Darren CURRIE
- 8 Ian STEVENS
- 9 Steve ANTHROBUS
- 10 Dave WALTON
- 11 Austin BERKLEY
- 12
- 13
- 14

REFEREE: J.A.KIRK
LINESMEN: D.P.MORRISON Yellow Flag
RESERVE OFFICIAL
Lee Colemere & J

TODAY'S REFEREE: J.

We welcome as our referee for today's game John Kirk
Taverns. Married with three children he commenced r
linesman's list of the Football League in 1982 and the r
as his highlight of his career that of finding a £5 note
Richard Pratley is still trying to get it from him! A She
watches cricket, yes Yorkshire. Together with his lines
Gay Meadow

HALF TIME SCORE

A Bournemouth v Chesterfield.....	M Luton T
B Blackpool v Walsall.....	N Millwall
C Brighton & Hove v York City.....	O Norwich
D Bristol City v Rotherham United.....	P Port Val
E Crewe Alexandra v Oxford United.....	Q Portsmo
F Notts County v Swansea City.....	R Reading
G Peterborough United v Hull City.....	S Souther
H Stockport County v Bristol Rovers....	T Sunderl
I Wrexham v Burnley.....	U Wolves
J Wycombe Wanderers v Carlisle United..	V Cardiff
K Grimsby Town v Tranmere Rovers.....	W Darling
L Leicester City v Birmingham City.....	X Doncast

TEAMS

SWINDON TOWN

Fraser DIGBY	1
Ian CULVERHOUSE	2
Paul BODIN	3
David PREECE	4
Paul ALLEN	5
Shaun TAYLOR	6
Mark ROBINSON	7
Wayne O'SULLIVAN	8
Peter THORNE	9
Wayne ALLISON	10
Kevin HORLOCK	11
Mark SEAGRAVES	12
Alex SMITH	13
Steven COWE	14

J. KIRKBY - Sheffield
w Flag. **E.J. WALSH** Red & Yellow Flag.
ICIAL: P. LINDSEY.
e & James Davies.

J.A. KIRKBY, Sheffield.

n Kirkby, who is a Senior Business Administrator for Bass
ced refereeing in January 1990 and progressed to the
the referee's list in 1987. This is the referee who names
5 note on the terraces of Derby County.....no doubt
A Sheffield Wednesday supporter he also plays and
s linesmen we hope he has an enjoyable afternoon at
eaglow today.

PRECHECK

uton Town v Barnsley.....
illwall v Stoke City.....
orwich City v Watford.....
ort Vale v Charlton Athletic.....
ortsmouth v Ipswich Town.....
eading v Sheffield United.....
outhend United v Oldham Athletic...
underland v West Bromwich Albion..
olves v Huddersfield Town.....
ardiff City v Hereford United.....
arlington v Chester City.....
oncaster Rovers v Wigan Athletic....

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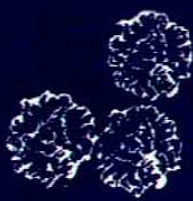
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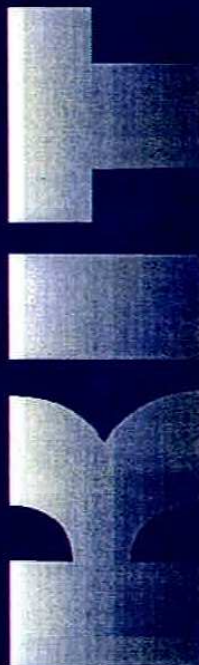


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 Paul Edwards; Tommy Lynch; Dave Walton; Steve Anthrobus; Kevin Summerfield.
 Front row - left to right: Chris Withe; Ian Reed; Paul Evans; Mark Taylor; Fred Davies (Manager); Kevin Seabury; Richard Scott;

FRED DAVIES Chris Smith & The Away Supporters	MALCOLM MUSGROVE Chris Smith & The Away Supporters	KEVIN SUMMERFIELD North Shropshire Supporters Club	KEVIN SEABURY Emma Kinna & Adam Phillips	PAUL EDWARDS Tony Poole, Shropshire Trophies, Milk St, Shrewsbury. 01743 369688.	CHRIS WITHE Shrewsbury Transport Training & Car Tuition. Day - 443100 Evenings - 360603	MARK HUGHES Robert Davies Machinery. Ford, Shrewsbury 01743 850000
MARK TAYLOR Margaret, Andrew & Jo Lobbenberg.	DARREN SIMKIN Shropshire Blinds & Awnings 41 Wyle Cop 361755	TIM CLARKE Shrewsbury Town Supporters Club, Main Branch	RICHARD SCOTT Cogent Computer Solutions Limited	SEAN WRAY Dave Mellor Cycles, Shrewsbury 01743 366662	MARTIN JEFFRIS Chris Smith & The Away Supporters	DARRAN ROWBOTHAM Cogent Computer Solutions Limited
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A LEAGUE BY ANY OTHER NAME -

RESERVES ROUND UP by Kevin Davies

Seven years after switching from the Macbar South West Counties League to the Midland Senior League - a rather unfortunate name in it's final season since only Town and Walsall of it's participating clubs could truly be called Midland sides - Shrewsbury reserves were once again in essence treading pastures new, as the Midland Senior League became the new third division of the Pontins League.

After unsuccessfully trying to join what was the old Central League for many years, Town's second string wasted little time in stamping their mark on the early stages of the season.

Unbeaten in their opening eight matches they looked likely to be contenders for promotion at the first time of asking before a very late goal away to Darlington on November 8th consigned them to their first defeat of the campaign.

After a home draw against Chester, the 1-0 victory at Doncaster temporarily saw them head the table, but after a disastrous run of just two wins in a three month spell that encapsulated ten matches, Town's chances in the promotion stakes looked as dead as the proverbial Dodo.

Having written this article prior to the midweek home encounter with Doncaster in order to reach the printing deadline, Town have still yet to complete their twenty eight match League programme with five matches still to play, Doncaster and Bury have to visit Gay Meadow whilst Town have to meet Stockport, Scunthorpe and Walsall away.

With no cup commitments to otherwise occupy them this term highlights are restricted to league fare, and some rare feats have been witnessed. Rochdale provided two thrilling encounters both ended in four-all draws, whilst Scunthorpe have picked the ball out of their net on nine separate occasions versus Town this term, three in their home game and six at Gay Meadow two weeks ago. Chesterfield opened with a shared six goal thriller whilst Lincoln became the first Town double of the season going down 3-1 both home and away.

Before the Doncaster game the reserves had struck 49 goals in their 23 games with Ian Stevens having netted thirteen already, and barring any freak scoring feat in the final five matches should be crowned top reserve marksman to add to the same position he will surely claim at first team level too!

It may come as a shock but fifty five players have been used in those twenty-three games, but surprisingly only fifteen have been trialists. Who said Barry Fry had a monopoly on large playing squads?!

No matter how the final few results go, Town reserves will again be playing Third Division football next term, but rest assured they will be giving their all next season to attain a move to higher things and no doubt giving supporters more than a few happy memories along the way.

ROCHDALE 4 SHREWSBURY TOWN 4

The Pontins League Division Three
Wednesday 10th April 1996

The famous old saying from some ancient scribe proclaims that lightning never strikes in the same place twice, well whoever first penned that classic had never been to a football match involving Shrewsbury and Rochdale!

Way back in October of last year it was Shrewsbury who clawed their way back from a 2-3 half-time deficit as two goals apiece from Mark Dempsey and Ian Stevens

ensured a four-all draw, a point apiece and the continuation of a six match unbeaten run to start the season.

Six months later and it was a case of as you were as the sides again produced an eight goal thriller.

Nathan King, Darren Simkin and Ian Reed were the

only Shrewsbury survivors of that first game, as Town tried out Steve Round and Jason Thomas of Birmingham, together with the Swansea striker Jonathan Coates this time around.

It was Coates who fired Shrewsbury into an 18th minute lead, a scoreline that was doubled eight minutes later by fellow trialist Thomas.

Rochdale hit back with a goal prior to the interval and levelled just after the restart, only for Shrewsbury to restore their lead through an Ian Reed effort - his fourth of the season - in the 48th minute.

Two minutes later it was once again all square as the home side made it three-all.

Again Shrewsbury hit back, and through Darren Simkin's first goal since the campaign's opener against Chesterfield, took the lead for the third time in the match to once again leave Rochdale to play catch-up.

Catch-up they did indeed too, and in the cruellest of ways and in the final minute of the encounter, they levelled to make the final score four-all and leave homeward bound fans of both sides satisfied that their entrance fee had been well worth spending.

Shrewsbury Town: Clarke; Green; King; Seabury; Simkin; Reed; Wray; Round; Coates; Thomas (Ward); Currie. Other subs: (unused): Berry (goalkeeper); Campbell.

BIRMINGHAM CITY 4

SHREWSBURY TOWN 0

Melville Midland Youth League
Wednesday 10th April 1996

After suffering another unlucky defeat at the hands of youth internationally strewn Aston Villa the previous Saturday, it was the turn of city neighbours and rivals Birmingham City to take on Shrewsbury Town youth in a match brought forward due to the commitment of the senior side's visit to Wembley.

Using a mixture of schoolboys and first year trainees with the exception of the one second year trainee in the form of David Clark, Shrewsbury Town gave the

home side several dodgy moments early on but fell behind to a single goal by which City led at the break.

After falling further behind a slight alteration was made with the introduction of the

Shrewsbury Town substitutes, however Birmingham City proved to be the winners on the day.

Shrewsbury Town: Berry; Highfield (Ashton); Rose (Newman); Smith; Dignam; Jackson; Clark (Carr); D.Stevens; Pountney; Corns; P.Stevens.

SHREWSBURY TOWN 1 COVENTRY CITY 5

Melville Midland Youth League
Saturday 20th April 1996

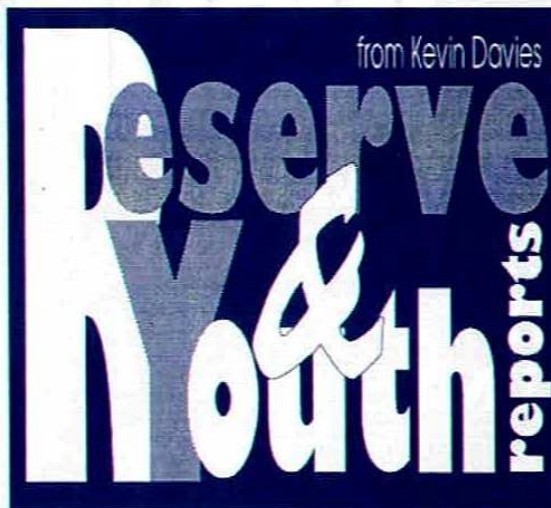
Town youth went into this match nursing several injuries to key players and without the services of influential skipper Billy Campbell.

After several early chances carved out by both sides the match calmed down and looked to be heading for a half-time stalemate, however four goals in a five minute spell ensured Coventry went into the interval in command.

Healy snapped up the first in the 35th minute, with centre-forward Morgan heading number two a minute later. Faulconbridge made it three in the 39th minute, and it was four soon after as Ducros snatched another.

Five minutes after the restart City made it 5-0 but didn't count on a 25 yard volley by Shaun Wray reducing the arrears in a match that was an even contest despite the over-inflated scoreline.

Shrewsbury Town: Berry; Highfield; Jackson; Green; Clark (Murrell); Pemberton (Hill); Cope; Smith; Corns; Wray; Barnard (Briscoe).



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SIDELINES

The End of the FA Cup Trail



We started with Bilston Town versus Blakenhall and we've ended up with Manchester United against Liverpool. Is there a more remarkable and wonderful competition than the F.A. Cup? And, of course, this column has followed the 1995-96 event from start to its imminent completion.

Successively we have visited Halesowen Town v. Blakenhall, Halesowen v. Moor Green, Telford United v. Halesowen, Telford v. Southport, Telford v. Witton Albion, Telford v. Notts County, Notts County v. Middlesbrough, Middlesbrough v. Wimbledon, Huddersfield v. Wimbledon, Chelsea v. Wimbledon, Chelsea v. Manchester United.

Twelve ties to bring us to where we are now, anticipating "the big one". Would you, though, like me, have preferred to be looking forward to something a tad more interesting? Are we *really* that interested in seeing these two clubs, whose supporters so despise one another, yet again? Wouldn't it have been nice to have had Huddersfield Town, or even Middlesbrough, at Wembley to put some real interest in there for the neutral?

But Red Devil trying to skewer Liver Bird it is, just as it was in 1976/1977. Fortunes are rather different this time around. Nineteen years ago Liverpool had just won the championship and were four days away from a European Cup Final in Rome. United had been also-rans in the top division (sixth) and had been humiliated in the previous year's final by Southampton.

As I write it's United that have dreams of the double, though most of the uncommitted would surely opt for a Newcastle Championship, despite our dislike of those who buy success. And I'm equally sure that the uncommitted will be rooting for Liverpool on Cup Final Day, if only in the sincere hope that the thoroughly decent Roy Evans gets his hands on some silverware.

Back in '77, Evans was a low-standing backroom boy at Anfield. His was the job of feeding quality through from the Reds' Central League side. In truth few of the Class of '77 came genuinely through the home-grown machine, though Ray Clemence, Joey Jones and Terry McDermott had been obliged to find their feet in the second XI after their transfers from Scunthorpe, Wrexham and Bury respectively.

In the heart of the 'Pool rearguard were Tommy Smith and Emlyn Hughes, blokes who detested one another. In the engine room was the remarkable powerhouse, sometime centre-forward Ray Kennedy, a man so terribly struck by Parkinson's Disease not enough years later. Alongside were a genuine local, Jimmy Case (who must pine for those far-off times as he struggles at Brighton), McDermott and the educated Steve Heighway, who had first strolled the Wembley turf as an amateur with Skelmersdale United. And then there was Kevin Keegan, who was a god above gods to the Kop until they'd heard the name Dalglish.

United were managed by Tommy Docherty, not my favourite person now and he certainly wasn't then.

His team was the archetypal blend of youth and experience. In truth, the old timers seemed positively geriatric and the kids wet behind the ears. Thus goalkeeper Alex Stepney was more winter turkey than spring chicken, and one couldn't decide if Jimmy Greenhoff was blond or white. Some of the youngsters were mustard, though. Arthur Albiston, playing his first F.A. cup tie at leftback, was a revelation at Wembley, there was remarkable prompting from Sammy McIlroy and Steve Coppell and on the left flank was the enigmatic Cockney who alternated twist genius and joke, Gordon Hill. The twin strikeforce was relatively short but twinkle-toed: Stuart Pearson and Lou Macari.

Liverpool lost the toss on the shirts and wore white. (One wouldn't care to place bets on the colours United will wear this time around should they be forced to change from red. Any colour bar grey.) There was no score at halftime but soon after Pearson, once of Hull, sailed into the box to net past Clemence. Within two minutes Liverpool were level, Case's swivel shot entering via Stepney's palms. And no more than three more minutes had elapsed before Macari shot in the clincher via Greenhoff's chest.

Within weeks Docherty had left Old Trafford, his friendship with the physiotherapist's wife having hit the headlines. We hope that the headlines after the 1996 final are for all the right reasons. And I, for one, hope there's a big smiling face from Roy Quincey Evans underneath.

Charlie Bamforth

IN CHARGE OF THE CHAMPIONS

STEVE McMAHON

Now in his second season at the helm Steve McMahon may have been unable to stave off relegation last season but he has responded by leading the Robins straight back up again and they are a much stronger side than the one that went down a year ago.

Born in Liverpool in 1961 he graduated via Liverpool schools football to make his First Division debut for Everton as a 19-year-old in 1980/81 and immediately became a first team regular. After four seasons as a key figure in midfield at Goodison Park he moved to Aston Villa in 1983 but then just two seasons later moved back to his home city to play for Liverpool.

In his first season with the Reds he won an F.A. Cup and League Championship medal and got another winners medal two seasons later. By that time he had won his first England cap and to complete a remarkable five seasons at Anfield he gained an F.A. Cup winners medal in 1989 and another First Division medal in 1990.

He moved to Manchester City in December 1991 and stayed there just over three years until moving to Swindon Town as a player/manager in November 1994. He played in 19 games before the end of last season to take his career aggregate to 595 appearances but was unable to save the Robins from relegation.

His 26 games in midfield this season have taken his career tally close to the 650 mark and though he has not been in the team in recent weeks his influence is there for all to see.

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SUMMER TEE SHIRTS

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Junior - £4

JUNIOR SWEATERS

£10

JUNIOR POLO SHIRTS

£10

*See You After
Today's Match*



Kevin Horlock, whose name has been regularly on the Swindon Town scoresheet in recent weeks is a most versatile player who has proved himself in defence, midfield and attack during his four seasons with Swindon Town.

Born in Bexley in 1972 he was a trainee with West Ham United, graduating to their professional ranks in 1991 and moving on a free transfer to Swindon Town in 1992. He made his debut in a 3-2 Coca Cola Cup win over Torquay United in October 1992. He got his first goal in a 5-1 win over Notts County a few days later and played in a total of 17 games on that first season though he was not in their team that beat Leicester City in the playoff final.

1993/94 saw him playing in 41 Premier League games and then in Division Two played in another 43 last season, scoring the winner against Middlesbrough in January though playing mainly in defence and a deeper midfield role. By the end of the season he had also gained two full Northern Ireland caps against Latvia and Canada respectively.

This season he began as substitute but in his first full game he scored in the 2-0 Coca Cola Cup win over Cambridge United and a few weeks later he got a hat-trick in Swindon Town's 4-1 win at Bristol Rovers. He has been a regular in the number 11 shirt playing a much more forward role than previously and he has also become the side's penalty king in recent weeks.

His equalising goal at Blackpool on Saturday was his 13th of a very successful season. Tall and still only 23 years of age he would appear to be one of the players towards whom Swindon Town will be looking to make an impact next season on their return to Division One.

Town in the Community with Richard Pratley

TODAY'S MASCOTS

Today's mascots are Lee Colemere who is 10 years old. Lee attends Ellesmore Primary School and his favourite Shrewsbury Town player is Mark Taylor and James Davies who is 7 years old and he attends Bellvidere Primary School. James' favourite Shrewsbury Town player is Dave Walton.

To both lads, have a great day and enjoy yourselves. To all of the mascots who have led the Town out, if you have not picked up your photograph's yet, do so quickly.

MASCOTS 1996/97 SEASON

The same format will take place next season. All you have to do is put your name, address, age and telephone number on a postcard or envelope and send it to Ann Ralphs, Family Co-Ordinator, Shrewsbury Town F.C., Gay Meadow, SY2 6AB. If you are interested I do suggest you write in quick. When all names are in, a draw will take place and two lucky people will then be informed and given a game for the season.

MARATHON MAN

As you will know Brian Williams ran in the London Marathon on Sunday. Brian was running for 2 charities **Asthma Research** and **Air Ambulance**. As you saw on television the conditions were not ideal for running, so much so that Brian had to pull out at the 21 mile stage through dehydration. I would like to thank him in his efforts and wish him a speedy recovery.

SOCCER SCHOOLS/HAVEN HOLIDAYS

At half time today a draw will take place for those youngsters who attended the Easter courses. The winning name will win a 7 day self-catering holiday at any UK Haven Park. My thanks go to Haven for their great support towards the Scheme.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

May 8th - Town v R.A.F. Shawbury at Gay Meadow, kick off 6.30pm. Game in aid of Shrewsbury Town FC Youth Link.

May 9th - Lads v Dads (Shrewsbury Town Junior Blues).

Staff v Away Supporters (Chris Smith) at Gay Meadow.

Presentation Evening at Lord Hill Hotel afterwards.

Tuesday 28th & 29th May - S.T.F.C. Soccer School (Sundorne). Town players will be in attendance and hopefully the course will consist of a

Goalkeeping Day for all youngsters. 10.30am -

2.30pm. Also with Special Giveaway's to all Children.

May 30th & 31st - Whitchurch (Sir John Talbot Upper). Same format as S.T.F.C. 10.30am - 2.30pm.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

As from June 1st Birthday

Parties will cease for the near future. If you need any more information please telephone 01743 356316 or 360111.

Finally, from June 1st I will no longer be P.F.A./Shrewsbury Town FC. Community Officer. I have been offered a place with the Club as a coach by Fred Davies. It's something that I did first of all when I had to finish playing and something I look forward to in the future.

I would like to say a big thank you to countless individuals and organisations for your tremendous support.

Throughout my time I have met different people from all walks of life and have built up friendships in so doing.

The setting up of the Schools Programme has seen the Club having more contact in the county. This I am pleased to say will continue, but slightly differently.

Also I would like to think that those youngsters who come to the Meadow were somehow encouraged by Football in the Community and will keep on coming.

Thanks for the memories and see you next season.

Richard Pratley



SAFETY NOTICE

SAFETY OF SPORTS GROUND ACT, 1975 and 1987

In the interest of Spectator Safety the following conditions apply at Gay Meadow and must be observed at all times:

- glasses, bottles, drink cans, cannisters, knives, darts, tools, fireworks, cameras, flagpoles or
- any other article likely to cause injury are not permitted to be brought into the ground.
- encroachment onto the playing area is forbidden.

Any spectator acting in contravention of these conditions is liable to arrest.

Closed Circuit television is in use and any spectator found to be acting in a disorderly manner is likely to be arrested or ejected from the ground.

In the event of an emergency, instructions will be given via the public address system. Spectators must follow the instructions given.

First Aid and Medical facilities are provided at the Station End of the ground. In the event of medical attention being required, the assistance of a steward should be sought.

Spectators are asked to comply with requests made by the stewards.

Your co-operation in ensuring that these conditions are met would be appreciated.

To comply with the Safety Certificate, exit gates cannot be opened until the final whistle. Spectators wishing to leave the stadium, other than from the Riverside/Wakeman Terraces who may leave by the turnstile close to Exit Gate 'A', should approach a steward for assistance.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

In the event of an emergency, you will hear a Police message over the Public Address System.

This will be preceded by a loud Klaxon sound. Please remain where you are and listen carefully to the Police message. Comply immediately if it affects your area. Stewards and Police Officers will direct you to safe areas.

Above all, REMAIN CALM and DO NOT MOVE unless the announcement concerns your area of the ground.

M.R. ASHTON - Safety Officer.

Telephone Shrewsbury 356623 to reach Richard Pratley

MEADOW T A L K

from Stuart Dunn - BBC Radio Shropshire

It's always traditional to reflect on the past nine months at this time of year - and there's certainly never been a dull moment at the Gay Meadow.

You name it and it's just about happened during an incredible season of highs and lows featuring remarkably fluctuating fortunes.

Highpoints must be the seven successive League victories between October 28th and December 16th, the record breaking 11-2 F.A. Cup trouncing of Marine, Mark Dempsey's late dramatic winner in the F.A. Cup third round replay against Fulham, watching the Cup draw on TV and seeing Town drawn against Liverpool, the fantastic night at Bristol Rovers' Twerton Park when Town booked their debut Wembley appearance - oh and for the benefit of the 'sporting' Steve McMahon, Town's 1-0 win at Swindon was an enjoyable experience as well....!

It hasn't been all glory of course. The opening weeks of the season were no fun at all as Town languished in the bottom four. And three sending-offs from the first four games - Mark Hughes, Steve Anthrobus and Dean Spink - did little to brighten the gloom.

The old adage that when you are struggling nothing goes right certainly rang true, for Shrewsbury Town bowed out of the Coca Cola Cup to Derby County, the damage done in a disappointing home leg, although Town's improved performance in gaining a 1-1 draw in the Baseball Ground return pointed the way to better times.

For by the end of the month (October) Town were embarking on that club record equalling run of seven consecutive League wins with Rotherham United, Oxford United, Brentford, Burnley, Swindon Town, Stockport County and Brighton the victims. And during that run of form came some memorable cup occasions. Who will forget the aforementioned massacre of Marine when Town scored eleven despite going half an hour without a goal at one stage.

For sheer drama you would have to go along way to beat the tension of Town's 7-6 penalty shootout triumph over Bristol City - even now I can still hardly believe how Dean Spink and Austin Berkley's spot kicks found their way over the line at a deserted Station End.

Richard Scott came into his own during this incredible purple patch and has any other Town midfielder from down the years managed to score on five successive Saturday's? Answers on a postcard as they say.

Some of Town's football during those heady Autumn days was wonderful to watch with Ray Woods and, find of the season Austin Berkley (thankyou Swindon...) tormenting down the flanks.

Steve Anthrobus - a fellow summer signing - has gradually become a cult figure for his enthusiasm and willingness to battle and whoever started the "Throb is going to Wembley" song up at Millmoor eight days before Town's debut at the twin towers is nothing short of a musical genius.

Saddest moments of the season were ironically what should have been the two biggest occasions. The dream of drawing mighty Liverpool quickly became a nightmare, what with all the bother about tickets, the freakish weather conditions causing two frustrating postponements, and finally the nonsensical decision of our local Police Force to make it an 11.00am kick off on a Sunday morning. In the end it proved to be a major anti-climax, although the 4-0 scoreline flattered Fowler and Co.

And then there was Wembley. The night Town won against all the odds at Bristol Rovers was tremendous. A brilliant penalty save from Paul Edwards, before Stevo did what he did best by popping in the winner to send Town to Wembley.

But it's one of my biggest disappointments that Town didn't do themselves justice on the wonderful stage that Wembley is. I felt desperately sorry for the likes of Paul Evans and Kevin Seabury not being even on the substitutes bench and for two more genuine players 'Throb' and especially Tommy Lynch being omitted from the starting line-up.

It was still a memorable day out though seeing 15,000 plus, Salopians having a lovely day out, and I for one wouldn't mind going again next season. How about it Fred?

Have a great summer and keep the faith.

MY OFFICIAL AWARDS FOR 1995/96

(League games only)

1. Most entertaining

Home game:

- (1) Wrexham 2-2,
- (2) Crewe 2-3,
- (3) Bristol City 4-1.

2. Worst Home game:

- (1) Bournemouth 1-2,
- (2) Hull 1-1,
- (3) Walsall 0-2.

3. Most memorable Away game:

- (1) Swindon 1-0,
- (2) York 2-1,
- (3) Rotherham 2-2.

4. Worst Away game:

- (1) Swansea 1-3,
- (2) Crewe 0-3,
- (3) Bradford 1-3.

5. Best Town Home goal:

- (1) Paul Evans v Oxford,
- (2) Steve Anthrobus v Hull,
- (3) Richard Scott v Brentford (1st goal).

6. Best Town Away goal:

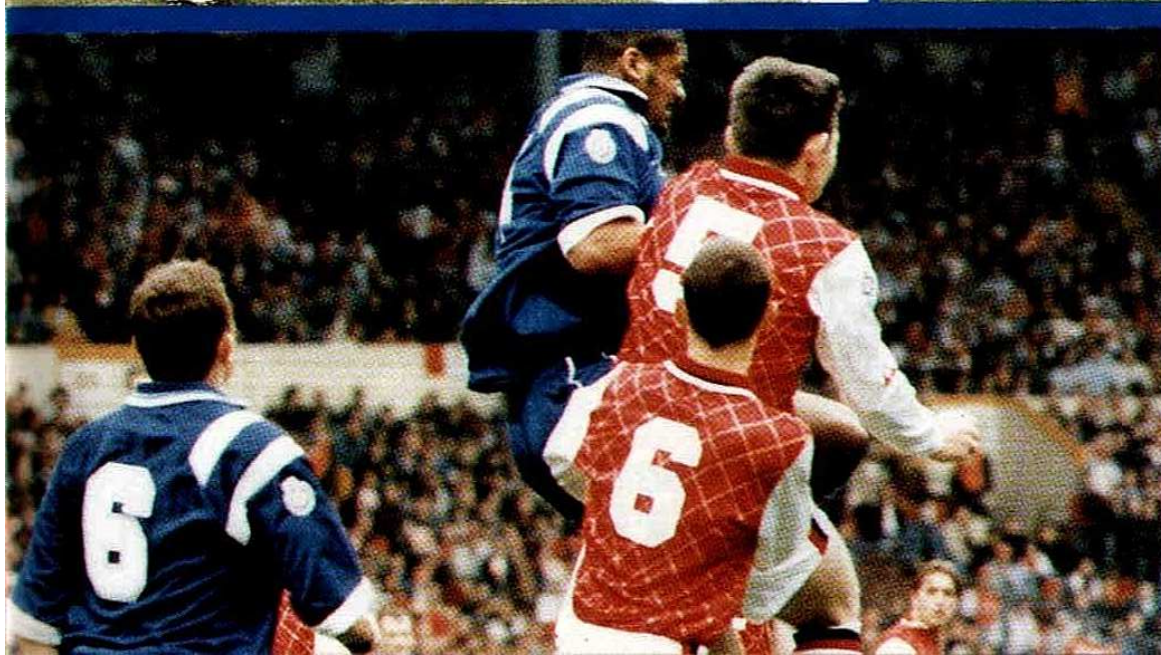
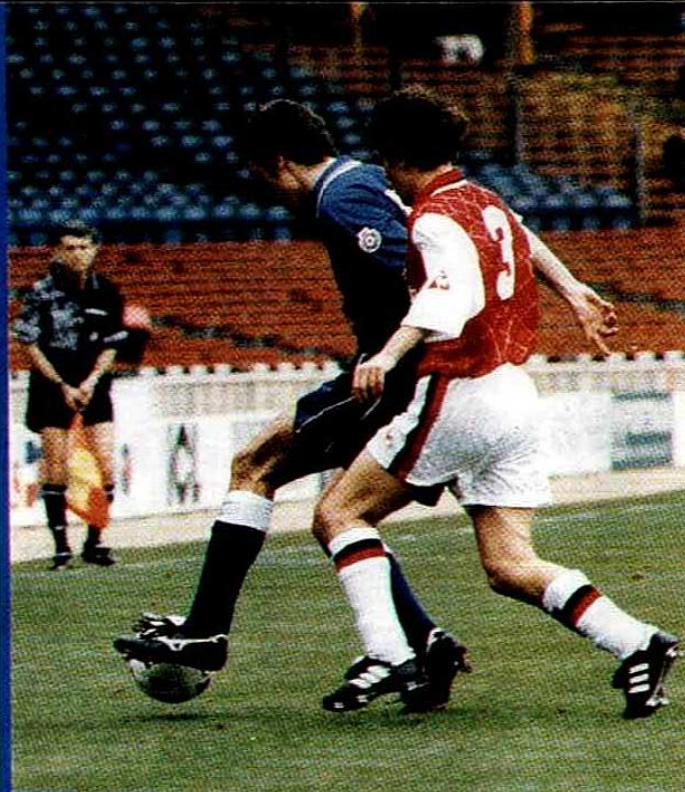
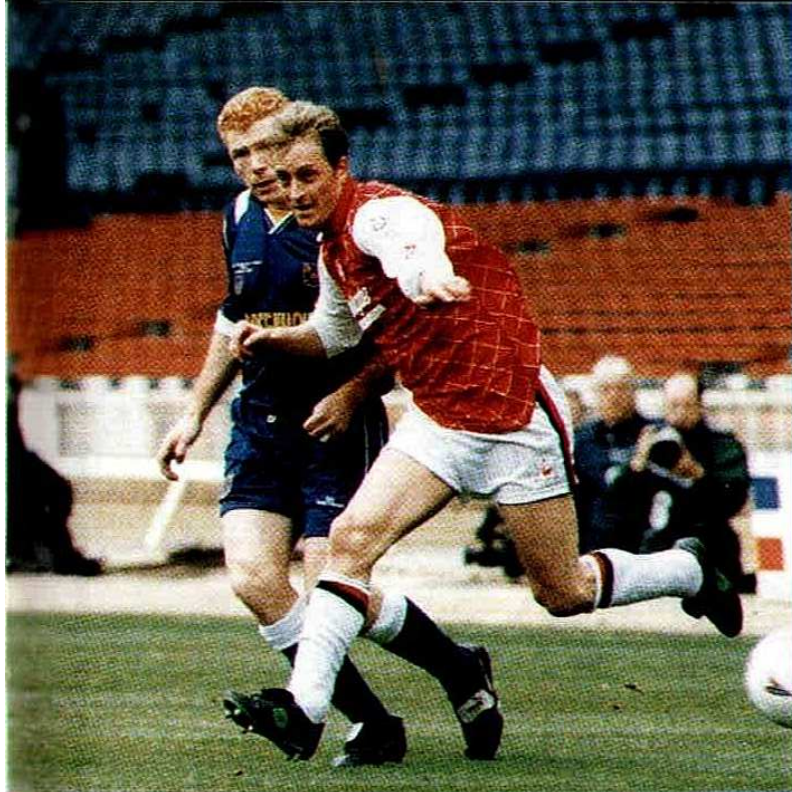
- (1) Steve Anthrobus, bicycle kick at Carlisle,
- (2) Ian Reed, 25 yard dipping volley at Bradford,
- (3) Darran Rowbotham, super header from brilliant run and cross by Ray Woods at Brighton.

7. Best Ground visited:

- (1) Meadow Lane, Notts County,
- (2) Ashton Gate, Bristol City,
- (3) County Ground, Swindon.

8. Worst Away ground:

- (1) Twerton Park, Bristol Rovers,
- (2) Manor Ground, Oxford United,
- (3) Bloomfield Road, Blackpool.



TOWN at Wembley

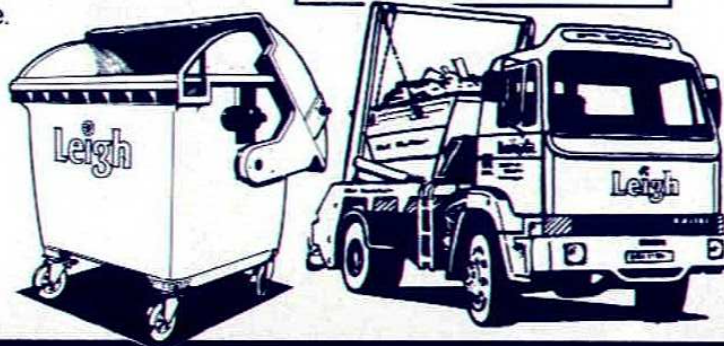
Top - left: Tommy Lynch gets into the action. Right: Austin Berkley looking for an opening. Middle: The meeting of the Mascots. Above: John Kay takes on Rotherham's Andy Roscoe and left: Steve Anthrobus, his height pays off.

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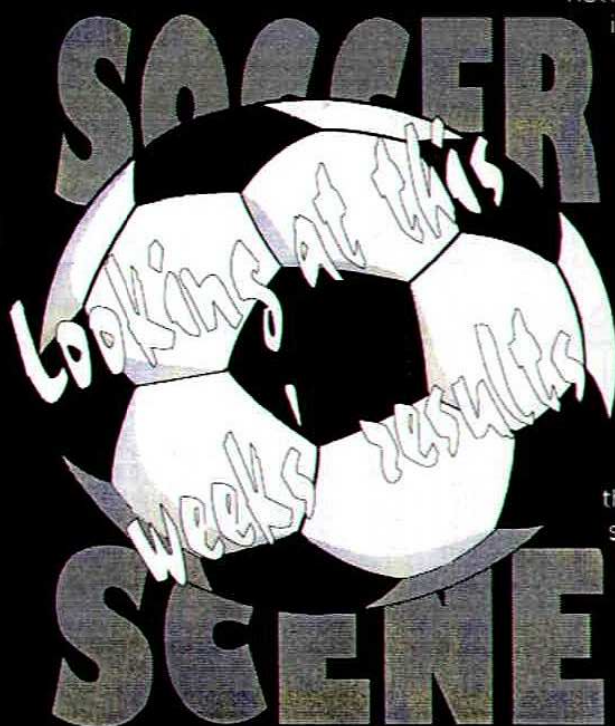
After keeping up our excellent record against Brentford last Saturday when they scored only their third goals in ten visits to Gay Meadow, we expected more out of Tuesday's visit to Oxford United but the outcome was our first 6-goal defeat since Preston North End beat us 6-1 at Deepdale in August 1993 and was our heaviest defeat since we lost 7-1 at Southend United in April 1964. Paul Moody's goals took his tally to five in his last four games and 22 this season as Oxford United took their current run to 12 wins and 3 draws in 16 games to leave them only two points behind Blackpool in the quest for the second automatic promotion place behind today's visitors, Swindon Town.

Oxford United are now certain of at least a playoff place and Notts County are also within one point of a certain playoff place after their 2-1 win over Brighton & Hove Albion on Tuesday that plunged the Seaside into Division Three. Despite this being a vital match for County Tuesday's 3,501 gate was their lowest of the season as Tony Battersby's goals took his current tally to four in four games.

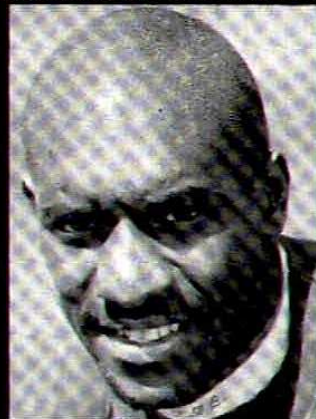
Today's visitors Swindon Town confirmed their position as the top Second Division club when beating Chesterfield 3-1 at Saltergate on Tuesday with ace goalscorer Wayne Allison getting his 19th goal of the season. The wheel seems to have come off Chesterfield's bid for a playoff place in recent weeks and they have now failed to win any of their last six games and have slipped to tenth place.

Meanwhile Marcus Stewart's 29th goal of the season kept Bristol Rovers' playoff hopes alive as they won by the only goal of the game at Burnley who have won only one of their last 11 games and are not yet clear of relegation worries.

They are three points clear of Carlisle United who kept their hopes of climbing out of the bottom four alive by winning for the first time in four games, 2-0 against York City on Tuesday.



This defeat left York City looking over their shoulders together with Peterborough United as both clubs are level with Burnley



Wayne Allison who netted for today's visitors against Chesterfield on Tuesday.

and three points ahead of Carlisle United.

One of the most improved sides in our Division are Rotherham United who took their current unbeaten run to eight games with Tuesday's 2-0 win over Stockport County whose playoff hopes now look rather thin.

Bermudan Shaun Goater's goal on Tuesday for Rotherham

United took his season's tally to 23 while fellow Bermudan Kyle Lightbourne is also on the 23 mark after netting in his side's 3-0 win over bottom place Hull City with 17 year old Clive Platt netting his first-ever League goal in what was his second substitute appearance. Walsall also recorded their lowest League gate of the season with just 2,701 passing through the turnstiles at Bescot.

Glancing briefly at Division Three we find Hereford United's tremendous run towards a playoff place suffering at least a temporary hiccup in Tuesday's 1-0 home defeat by Darlington in front of their highest gate of the season of 5,301. This ended their run of six successive wins, but they still have a good chance of a playoff place while Darlington still have hopes of an automatic promotion place being just

one point behind third place Bury.

Chester City won the battle between two teams just below the playoff bracket with a matchwinner from teenager John Murphy on Tuesday against Northampton Town but both they, Barnet and Colchester United, the teams one point behind them, have played a game more than Hereford United the team they are striving to overtake for the fourth playoff place.

In Division One Watford may still not escape relegation but they have provided a grandstand finish for manager Graham Taylor. Tuesday's 6-3 win over Grimsby Town took their current record to three wins and 15 goals their last three home games with 18 year old David Connolly getting two hat-tricks during this spell. Meanwhile Luton Town's defeat by a Lee Mills goal consigned them to relegation and the scramble is now on to see who accompanies them into Division Two.

Goeff Allman

OPPONENTS

	Score	LP	Att	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
AUGUST																	
12 Swansea City	1-3		3498	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
14 Doncaster Rovers CCC R1.1L	1-1		1580	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
16 WALSALL	0-2	24	4619	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
12 DONCASTER CCC R1.2L	0-0		1882	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
26 Bradford City	1-3	23	5017	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
29 BRISTOL CITY	4-1	18	2558	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
SEPTEMBER																	
2-BLACKPOOL	0-2	22	3182	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
9 Crewe Alexandra	0-3	23	3747	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
12 Wrexham	1-1	23	3298	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
16 NOTTS COUNTY	0-1	24	2827	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
19 DERBY CCC R1.1L	1-3		3170	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
23 STOCKPORT COUNTY	1-2	24	2588	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
26 SWANSEA CITY AWS R1	1-1		943	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
30 Brighton & Hove Albion	2-2	24	5247	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
OCTOBER																	
4 Derby County CCC R2 2nd Leg	1-1		8825	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
7 Hull City	3-2	22	3266	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
14 YORK CITY	0-1	21	3520	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
21 Chesterfield	0-1	21	3520	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
28 ROTHERHAM UNITED	3-1	19	2632	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
31 OXFORD UNITED	2-0	17	2186	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
NOVEMBER																	
4 Brentford	2-0	14	4104	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
7 Leyton Orient AWS	3-1		1437	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
11 WARRINGHAM FC Cup R1	og 11-2		2845	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
18 BURNLEY	3-1	11	3814	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
25 Swindon Town	1-0	9	3006	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
28 BRISTOL CITY AWS2 (7-6p)0-0			2258	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
DECEMBER																	
2 Scunthorpe United FAC R2	1-1		2718	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
9 Stockport County	2-0	8	5530	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
12 SCUNTHORPE UNITED FAC R2 2-1			3315	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
16 BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	0-1	8	3638	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
23 Wycombe Wanderers	0-2	9	4131	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
26 BRISTOL ROVERS	1-1	10	4944	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
30 CARLISLE UNITED	1-1	8	2864	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
JANUARY																	
2 AFC Bournemouth	2-0	5	3265	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
6 Fulham FAC R1	1-1		7205	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
9 BRIGHTON AWS AQR	4-2		2559	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
13 Walsall	0-3	8	3638	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
16 TULHAM FAC R1.5 Rply	1-1		7983	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
20 SWANSEA CITY	1-2	9	6532	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Dempsey	Rowbotham	Anthobus	Stevens +
31 HEREFORD AWS AS-F	og 4-1		4345	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
FEBRUARY																	
3-BRADFORD CITY	1-1	9	3605	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
10 Peterborough United	2-2	8	4986	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
13 Bristol City	0-2	10	5269	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
18 LIVERPOOL FAC Cup R4	0-4		7752	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
20 Blackpool	1-2	13	4210	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
24 Notts County	1-1	14	4559	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
27 CREWE ALEXANDRA	2-3	14	3745	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
MARCH																	
2 Bristol Rovers	1-2	14	5014	Clarke	Scott	Withe	Taylor	Hughes	Stuart	Woods +	Evans	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
5-BRISTOL ROVS AWS AF1L	1-1		5202	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
9 WYCOMBE WANDERERS	1-1	17	2866	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
12 Bristol Rovers AWS AF2L	1-0		7050	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
16 Carlisle United	1-1	18	3760	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
19-PETERBOROUGH UNITED	1-1	16	2291	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
23-AFC BOURNEMOUTH	1-2	17	2534	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
30 HULL CITY	1-1	17	2347	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
APRIL																	
2 York City	2-1	17	2767	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
6 Rotherham United	2-2	12	2973	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
9-CHESTERFIELD	0-0	16	3035	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
14 Rotherham United AWSF	1-2		35235	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
17-WREXHAM	2-2	16	4094	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
20 BRENTFORD	2-1	16	2711	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +
23 Oxford United	0-0	17	5800	Edwards	Seabury	Lynch	Taylor	Withe	King	Woods +	Rowbotham	Spink +	Walton	Berkley	Dempsey	Anthobus	Stevens +

27-SWINDON TOWN
MAY
4-Burnley

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Swindon Town	43	24	15	4	68	32	87
Blackpool	41	22	13	6	58	38	79
Oxford United	41	22	11	11	70	38	77
Notts County	40	20	15	9	59	38	75
Crewe Alexandra	43	21	7	15	73	55	70
Wrexham	44	17	16	11	75	53	67
Bristol Rovers	44	19	10	15	59	57	67
Bradford City	43	20	6	17	65	65	66
Stockport County	44	18	12	14	59	47	66
Chesterfield	43	18	12	13	54	49	66
Walsall	43	16	12	15	53	42	60
Wycombe Wanderers	44	14	15	15	58	57	57
Bristol City	44	14	15	15	50	55	57
Rotherham	44	14	14	16	51	57	56
Bournemouth	44	15	10	19	49	68	55
Brentford	44	14	13	17	40	47	55
Shrewsbury Town	44	13	14	17	56	66	53
Peterborough	43	12	13	18	55	59	49
York City	43	12	13	18	55	69	49
Burnley	43	12	13	18	55	69	49
Carlisle United	44	11	13	20	55	67	46
Swansea City	44	10	14	20	41	74	44
Brighton	44	10	10	24	44	64	40
Hull City	44	5	16	23	33	72	31

DIVISION TWO GATES

	Highest	Lowest	Average
Swindon Town	13,041	6,552	9,003
Burnley	10,511	6,815	8,653
Bristol City	19,900	4,408	7,076

What have Bradford City and Chelsea in common? Not very much on the surface it is true for while Bradford City from the North of England still have an outside chance of making the Second Division playoffs Chelsea are well established in the Premier League. While it is true that both have played in the top division and both have won the F.A. Cup, Bradford City's glory days were before the First World War while Chelsea's days of triumph including this season's sortie to the F.A. Cup semi-final have all been since the Second World War.

What they do have in common however is that right at the start of their respective histories they achieved something that almost certainly no club will ever achieve again. Bradford City achieved it in 1903 and Chelsea in 1906 and in more recent times the only club to come remotely near to achieving it was Colchester United, who took 13 years to achieve it. We refer of course to admission to the Football League. Chelsea and Bradford City achieved it without playing even a single game of any kind, while Colchester played for just eight seasons in the Southern League either side of the First World War before gaining election to the Football League in 1950 after being founded in 1937.

Had it not been for the rigid Football League regulations on ground capacities and conditions Stevenage

Borough might just have achieved Football League status this season exactly 20 years after their foundation in 1976. To come so close is something of a miracle as they have moved successively from the Clithern Youth League to the Wallspan South Combination in 1979 and then on to the Wallspan South Combination in 1980 and to the United Counties League in 1980 and the Isthmian League in 1984. It



The **LAST WORD**

was not until 1994 that they reached the Vauxhall Conference, which they now have every chance of topping at the end of this season.

Now it remains to be seen whether they will follow the pattern of Kidderminster Harriers and Macclesfield who have in recent seasons topped the Vauxhall Conference and then been ruled out of the Football League on ground

facilities criteria and then after bringing their grounds up to the required standards have so far failed to top the Conference again.

Meanwhile Torquay United wait anxiously as Exeter City did last season and Northampton Town the season before to see whether their League status is preserved despite finishing at the bottom of Division Three because the team that could otherwise have replaced them fails the ground test.

Any team slipping out of the Football League now has rather less chance of an immediate return than was the case a few years ago since the quality of Vauxhall Conference teams seems to have risen since the days when Lincoln City and Darlington climbed back after just one season and Colchester United after two. While Newport County went out of existence soon after losing their Football League place (though happily they are now back in action in another place under another name) Halifax just managed to survive though they are now in their third season in the Vauxhall Conference with no immediate prospect of climbing out. Happily however they are still playing at their Shay ground just as Stevenage are playing at their Broadhall Way ground. And for any fan as long as there are games still being played at their local ground life can't be too bad.

Geoff Allman.

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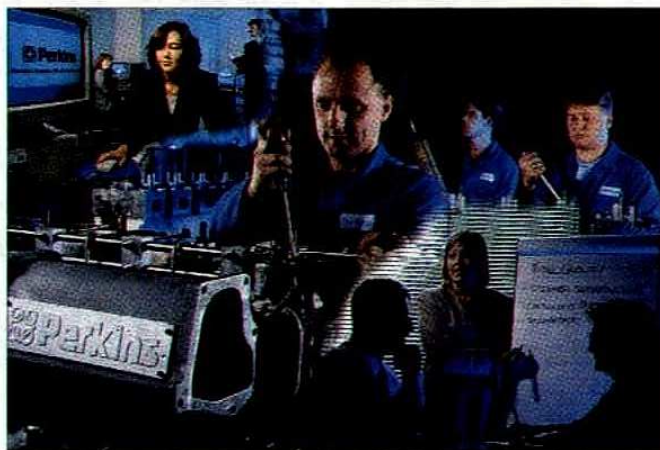
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