




Nationwide League Division One
Monday 24th April 2000 - Kick Off 3.00pm
Stockport County v Swindon Town

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TO SUPPORT WHEN
THINGS ARE GOING
WELL "**

"The sooner we put a

THE VIEWS OF COUN

We didn't do too much wrong against Ipswich performance wise although the game itself was a disappointment. I thought that we created the best chances especially Ian Lawless header and the two first half chances that fell to Ian Moore, and to do so against a tremendous side like Ipswich was obviously pleasing.

We weren't so pleased however at going down to a goal that we had worked so hard to avoid during the week previous. We had practiced defending against the long ball up to Scowcroft which is then flicked on to Johnson.

When you give a chance to a striker who has cost millions of pounds it usually ends up in the back of the net. Overall we defended well but were guilty of a lapse in concentration which has happened before this season. You simply cannot afford to offer such opportunities to strikers of that class - because nine times out of ten you will get punished and this was certainly the case against Ipswich.

Despite that setback we should have got something out of the game and had Richard Wright not pulled off such a tremendous save from Ian Lawson's header then maybe we would have done.

As it turned out it was another game onto the run and obviously the sooner we put an end to it the better. Ironically if we had won against Ipswich the three points would have pushed us seven places higher than position we currently occupy and thankfully that is still very much the case.

Our aim is obviously to finish up the table and high as we possibly can and two good results over the Easter weekend would help us to achieve our aim. The last four months have been very frustrating especially for our supporters but I honestly feel that had our results over the season been evenly spread then we would have been reflecting upon a successful season. Other managers including my

n end to it the better?

TY BOSS ANDY KILNER

predecessor have spent millions on pounds trying to maintain First Division status. We have spent £300,000 and have generated £425,000 transfer income to do the same.

More importantly we have invested in youth and are already benefiting from this investment.

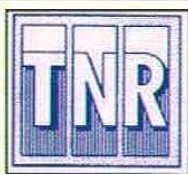
The latest example is Neil Ross who we have brought in from Leeds United. He is seventeen years old and we have already seen a glimpse of his ability when he made his debut as a substitute against Ipswich. Neil has a very bright future ahead of him and got his chance because of injuries to Wilbraham, Daly and Bailey. It is easy to forget that we have had three strikers out injured but Neil come in and nearly set the goal up for Kevin Cooper.

It is early days for Neil but he has a great chance. I know that our young players are appreciated by our fans and there is much more to come but I am not foolish enough to think that seeing young players flourish is the be all and end all for our supporters. You want results and that is what the game is all about.

We have another opportunity this afternoon to end our recent sequence of results but there is no such thing as an easy game in this Division.

Our visitors Swindon have had a very hard season and their manager has had to fight to keep the club alive as well as trying to keep the team in the Division. I think that Jimmy Quinn has done a magnificent job and despite being forced to sell some of his best players he has still managed to pull off some remarkable results. We welcome everyone connected with Swindon to Edgeley Park and as ever I thank you in advance for your support.

Andy Kilner



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Playing host to

Community Kings Cook Up



Mike Smith

Our community scheme started the above competition along with the schemes national sponsors, Adidas, way back in November 1999 with over 50 primary schools playing for the chance to represent Stockport County in the area finals.

The lucky winners were Russell Scott Primary from Denton who won through two local stages to meet Vernon Primary, Poynton in



The Winning Team...Wrexham FC

the local final on the Edgeley Park turf at half time during the Blackburn game which Russell Scott won.

Each year a different north west club hosts the area finals of the competition and this year it was our turn. After a lot of organisation (and stress!!!) the day arrived - Thursday 16th March 2000. We used the Pitz Soccer Centre up in Ardwick as the venue and thankfully the

weather on the day was superb.

The clubs involved were allocated a group and the fixtures were played on a mini league basis, with the winners of Group A playing the winners of Group B in the final and for the winners earning themselves a step nearer the National Final with a trip to Rotherham United in May for the Regional Finals. The scores were as follows:-



**Our Winners...
Russell Scott, Denton**



**Boy Blues...
Manchester City FC**



**Trying for the Trotters...
Bolton Wanderers FC**

the Predator

Cup Competition Cracker

Group A

Wrexham 1 v 3 Bolton
Stoke 1 v 3 Chester
Macclesfield 0 v 5 Rochdale

Wrexham 4 v 0 Macclesfield
Rochdale 1 v 0 Chester
Bolton 3 v 1 Stoke

Bolton 3 v 1 Macclesfield
Wrexham 2 v 0 Chester
Rochdale 4 v 1 Stoke

Wrexham 3 v 1 Stoke
Macclesfield 1 v 0 Chester
Bolton 2 v 1 Rochdale

Wrexham 4 v 3 Rochdale
Bolton 2 v 3 Chester
Macclesfield 4 v 5 Stoke
Winners: Wrexham F.C.

Group B

Crewe 1 v 3 Man City
Oldham 4 v 2 Port Vale
Crewe 0 v 1 Oldham
Man City 2 v 3 Stockport

Man City 0 v 5 Oldham
Port Vale 2 v 2 Stockport

Crewe 0 v 1 Stockport
Man City 1 v 1 Port Vale

Crewe 1 v 3 Port Vale
Oldham 2 v 2 Stockport
Winners: Oldham Athletic
FC

So onto the final between Wrexham and Oldham Athletic, played with a great atmosphere as all the other teams cheered from the balcony, the winner after a pulsating game were Wrexham putting three past Oldham's two. Well done to Wrexham FC and good luck in the next round.

After all the ups and downs of the day (Wrexham breaking down on the M60!!) The Football in the Community Scheme at Stockport County would like to thank the following making the day a success:- Pitz for the superb facilities, Karim Fradin for taking time



out to watch and coach the players, Steve Southart for the photos and a lot of running about, the five independent referees for an excellent job, Chris Jolley for the lift!! all the community schemes involved for their help, and a big thank you must go to all up at FITC HQ for their trust in allowing us to host the event and also to Adidas for sponsoring such a well received and enjoyable competition. We look forward to next season when we will be starting it all over again.

Yours in Sport
Mike Smith
Community Officer



Doing it for Dale...
Rochdale FC



Unlucky Latics...
Beaten Finalists - Oldham Ath



Alex's Crewe...
Crewe Alexandra FC

Swindon - Town But Not Out

ROBINS RELIANT UPON DETERMINED SPIRIT

Jimmy Quinn's Swindon Town team will arrive at Edgeley Park this afternoon hoping to finish the season on a high although it looks almost certain that they will be kicking off in the Second Division next season. In fact, the dreaded 'R' may have been placed alongside their name already as printing deadlines dictate that these notes are written before Swindon welcome the West London aristocrats of Fulham on Saturday and it could be that last rites have already been administered.

The Robins will be hoping that they can regroup in the summer and put together a team which can regain their First Division status as quickly

as possible using their new found

determined spirit. Quinn will be hoping that star striker **Giuliano Grazioli** will be with him next term and is able to steer clear of injury to provide Swindon with a goal threat. He was signed by manager Jimmy Quinn in June 1999 on a free transfer from Peterborough United and he arrived with happy memories of the County Ground having scored the winner for Stevenage Town in the FA Cup 3rd round on his previous visit. He scored 15 goals last season for Peterborough where he played the early part of the season alongside Jim Quinn although this term has been largely interrupted by injury.

DEPARTURE

Following the departure this season of Chris Hay, Iffy Onoura and George Nolah, Town have found themselves short of regular goalscorers although young **Steve Cowe** has worked tirelessly in their absence. The 5'7" striker is lightning quick and possesses a keen eye for goal which was proved when he notched the winner at runaway League leaders Charlton Athletic in March. **Charlie Griffin**, a £10,000 signing from non-league side Chippenham Town also provides Quinn with options up front. Rated as a very exciting prospect by the Swindon management Griffin notched 30 goals in the Screwfix League last season and following a grounding in the reserves is ready to accept the challenge of first-team football.

STABILITY

At least Quinn has some defensive stability on which to build with the experienced **Mark Robinson** and **Gareth Hall** both providing options. Robinson started his career at West Bromwich Albion before joining Barnsley on a free transfer in June 1986 and such was his form that Newcastle snapped him up for £450,000 in March 1993. After losing his place in the first-team through injury, Swindon paid a club record £600,000 for his

services in July 1994 and he has been a consistent performer ever since. Mark is capable of playing at full-back, central defence and has also been a success at sweeper. Gareth Hall signed from Sunderland under the Bosman ruling and the 31 year old brings a wealth of experience to the club. Best known as a full-back the Croydon born star is versatile enough to play anywhere across the back. He started his career at Chelsea where he flourished under ex-Swindon boss Glenn Hoddle before moving to Sunderland in 1995 and was a regular in the top flight for the Wearsiders. The commanding former Crazy Gang member, **Alan Reeves**, provides more experience for Quinn. The 6'0" central defender quit Wimbledon in search of first-team football just 3 years after joining them from Rochdale for £300,000. An excellent header of the ball, 32 year old Reeves can be dangerous at set pieces and scored a couple of goals last term.

DETERMINATION

Club captain **Scott Leitch** brings grit and determination to the Swindon team and is a big favourite with the Robins fans. The former Dunfermline and Hearts midfielder signed from Swindon in the summer of 1996 for a bargain price of £15,000. He enjoyed a successful loan spell at the County Ground during their Second Division Championship season and former manager Steve McMahon was quick to bring him in on a permanent basis. He was named club captain in the summer after the retirement of Brian Burrows and his never say die spirit has been invaluable to the entire squad this season. He is often partnered by **Bobby Howe** who is an attacking midfield player signed in 1998 from Nottingham Forest. He has had loan spells at Kettering and Ipswich Town where he has always had the reputation as a midfielder with an eye for goal. His forward



GARETH HALL



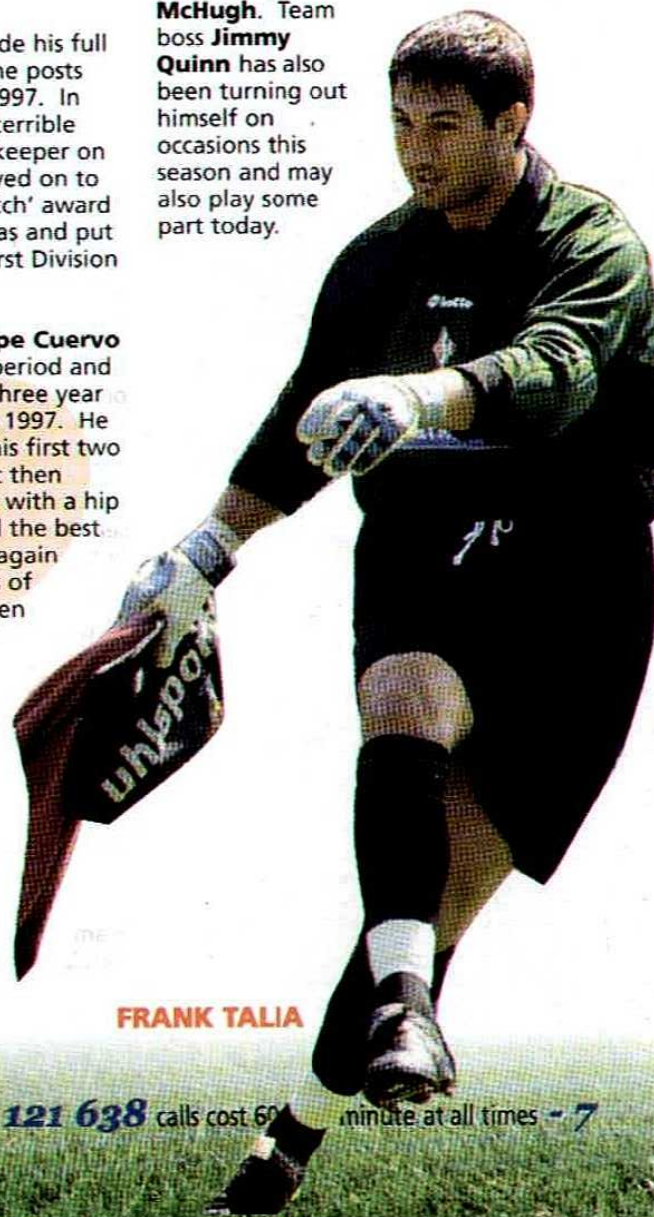
GIULIANO GRAZIOLI



who always stands up to the physical challenge. He will be battling for a place in the starting line up with **Adam Willis** and **Sol Davis** who could also both feature in Swindon's defence. Adam joined the Robins after finding himself released by Coventry City after failing to make the grade in the Premiership whereas Davis emerged through the now defunct Swindon youth set up and has gone on to become a regular in the left full-back berth.

Also in contention for Swindon this afternoon are the tough tackling midfielder **Lee Collins** and first year professionals **James Williams** and **Frazer McHugh**. Team

boss **Jimmy Quinn** has also been turning out himself on occasions this season and may also play some part today.



FRANK TALIA

running is perfectly complimented by the silky passing skills of **Andy Williams** who was signed from Southampton in October 1999 for £65,000 following an impressive loan spell at the County Ground. Andy is an extremely versatile player and has taken on a variety of defensive and midfield duties. A regular Welsh Under 21 international, he made his debut coming on as a substitute against Brazil in San Paolo's Maracana Stadium

FORMIDABLE

Providing Swindon with a formidable last line of defence is **Frank Talia** who was spotted playing for Australia's Under 21 team and after trials with several English clubs eventually signed for Blackburn Rovers in August 1992. He failed to make a first-team appearance and was brought in on loan at Swindon before signing in November 1995. He was back up to Fraser Digby until he broke through with some terrific displays to earn him a regular place and the number 1 shirt. One of Swindon's homegrown talents, **Steve Mildenhall** provides cover for him. He made two first-team appearances in 1995-96, came off the bench to play as an outfield

player in 1996-97 and made his full League debut between the posts for Swindon in October 1997. In this match he suffered a terrible groin injury but with no keeper on the bench he bravely played on to earn the 'Man of the Match' award in front of the Sky cameras and put Swindon on top of the First Division for 24 hours.

GIFTED

Gifted Frenchman **Philippe Cuervo** impressed during a trial period and was quickly signed on a three year contract from Sochaux in 1997. He was a revelation during his first two months of the season but then spent several months out with a hip problem. He has not had the best of luck with injuries and again missed all but two games of last season due to a broken ankle and only resumed training at the turn of the year.

Also suffering from a succession of injuries last term was **Gareth Davies** whose aggressive style makes him a big favourite with the fans. Signed on a free transfer in March 1999 from Reading Gareth is a big defender

Quinn some lose some

Jimmy is Philosophical in face of challenge



Swindon Town boss Jimmy Quinn knows that he has a hugely difficult task in front of him to lift his club next season and try to guide them back to the First Division. With

little or no money available to him and with virtually all of his backroom staff made redundant, the popular boss will have to call upon all his powers of motivation to try and revitalise his team.

Quinn was, of course, a crowd favourite with Swindon Town in the eighties and was an enormously popular appointment when he was named as the Robins' new Manager in October 1998. During his first playing spell with Swindon he made 86 appearances and scored the impressive tally of 43 goals. He was a member of Lou Macari's team which took the old Fourth Division by storm, winning the Championship in 1986 with a record 102 points. Quinn also enjoyed successful spells at Blackburn Rovers, Leicester City

and West Ham United, as well as taking charge of Reading on a Player/Manager basis where he managed 94 goals. The likeable forward was also capped 48 times for Northern Ireland and scored several goals for his country in a long and successful career. Quinn is determined to replicate the success he enjoyed as a player at management level, although obviously he faces a challenging season next term in his quest for glory and should he achieve it, then it would be a fantastic feat of endeavour.

Town Recently... a look at Swindon's form



This afternoon we welcome Swindon Town to Edgeley Park for this bank holiday fixture. Hopefully, results on Saturday will have transpired to take the importance off this fixture, from a County viewpoint. Town's fate this season was

virtually sealed with a first half of the season on a par with County's post Boxing Day results sequence with only 17 points and 16 goals on the board by Xmas. Full credit must go to Swindon who have stuck to the task and whose 3-1 home success against Tranmere Rovers recently was their fourth victory of the year 2000, the other 3 coming in a purple patch in March which saw 3 victories recorded in a 4 match sequence, the pick of which must surely be the 1-0 success against table topping Charlton Athletic at The Valley. The Robins have had little to sing about at the County Ground this season and have a won 4, drawn 6, lost 11 record. They had to wait until the end of September to pick up their first home win, a 2-1 success over Blackburn Rovers. The other 3 home wins

have come against Port Vale (2-1), Huddersfield Town (2-0) and in their last home fixture when goals from the 3 'G's - Griffin, Gray and Grazioli - secured a 3-1 victory over Tranmere Rovers. The 6 home draws have come against Nottingham Forest (0-0), County (1-1), Sheffield United (2-2), Norwich City (0-0), Walsall (1-1) and Portsmouth (1-1). The 11 teams to have left Swindon (eventually - after negotiating the magic roundabout!) with maximum points have been Ipswich Town (4-1), West Bromwich Albion (2-1), Bolton Wanderers (4-0), Charlton Athletic (2-1), Queens Park Rangers (1-0), Crystal Palace (4-2), Grimsby Town (1-0), Birmingham City (4-1), Crewe Alexandra (1-0), Wolverhampton Wanderers (2-1) and Manchester City (2-1). On their travels to date Swindon have picked up 14 points from a won 3, drawn 5, lost 13 record. The away successes have come at Crystal Palace (2-1), Charlton Athletic (1-0), and Norwich City (2-0). The Charlton result must certainly have ruined many a football punter's afternoon, Steve Cowe benefiting from some profligate Dean Keily goalkeeping. Their 5 draws on the

road have come at Walsall (0-0), Wolverhampton Wanderers (1-1), Birmingham City (1-1), West Bromwich Albion (1-1) - clearly a liking therefore for the West Midlands - and at Blackburn Rovers (0-0). They have returned back to Wiltshire pointless following trips to Grimsby Town (0-1), Crewe Alexandra (1-2), Port Vale (0-2), Fulham (0-1), Barnsley (0-1), Bolton Wanderers (0-2), Huddersfield Town (0-4), Manchester City (0-3), Tranmere Rovers (1-3), Ipswich Town (1-3), Nottingham Forest (1-3), Portsmouth (1-4) and Queens Park Rangers (1-2).

One word can be used to sum up Town's cup exploits this season - brief. In the Worthington Cup they fell at the first hurdle to Leyton Orient. A first leg 1-0 home loss could not be rectified at Brisbane Road where the second leg ended up 1-1. In the FA Cup the Robins were also first round casualties going down 2-1 away to Charlton Athletic.

This season's scorers (all competitions):- Hay 10; Grazioli 6; Onuora, Walters 3; Carrick, Gray, Hall 2; Collins, Cowe, Goode, Griffin, Howe, Ndah, Reeves, Williams 1.

Visiting Coach... in profile

This afternoon's visitors are obviously in some financial difficulty and this is reflected in their team coach as they have had to downgrade to a 22 seat Toyota Optimo IV. This is, of course, not the coach which Swindon began the season with, although since the full extent of their financial plight has become apparent and the cutbacks have had to be made. Featuring a courier seat and tinted, double-glazed windows

with full draw curtains, the Toyota is a useful runner and obviously far more economical than the usual, gas guzzling team coaches which have been featured.

The coach is fitted with a full soft interior trim with centre gangway carpet and, in truth, provides a surprisingly comfortable ride, although leg room is a little more restricted than on conventional coaches.

Unfortunately the coach doesn't possess a TV or a video and so the Swindon players will have to keep themselves entertained with the Blaupunkt stereo, although this occasionally causes a bit of friction between Frank Taliaferro into soul music and Sol Davis who enjoys heavy metal.

The Swindon coach will be on view in the car park from approximately 1.30pm onwards.

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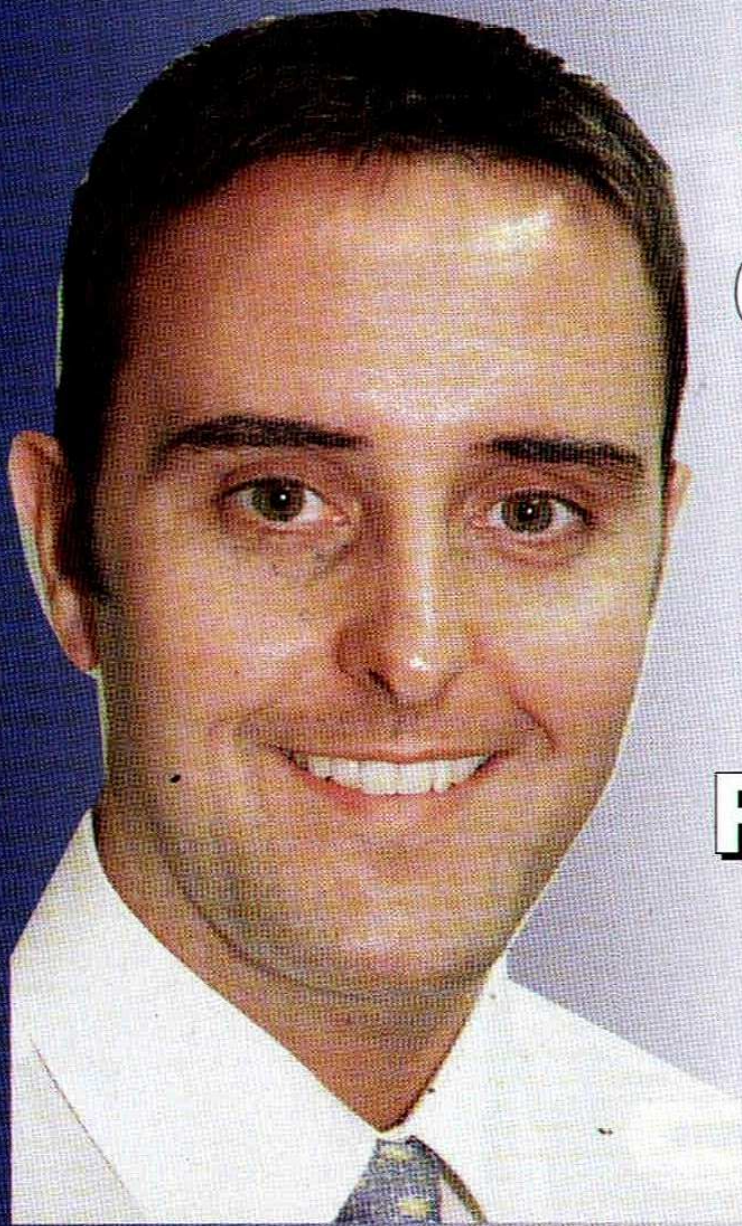
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Stockport
Express

Question Time

Swindon fan
Tony Norris on life
watching the Robins



Name:
Tony Norris
Age: 37

Where do you live:
Swindon/Wilts

First ever match

following the Robins:

Against Bristol Rovers, at Eastville, but I can't remember the score, or the exact date.

Most hated local rivals:

Oxford Utd: Because they are Young whippersnappers and are not really bright enough to find their own rivals. They have only been in the league since the 60s. Even their pitch isn't flat. Being simple West Country folk, we tend to have a little something going with the two BristolSides.

Most hated non-local rivals:

Birmingham: They are the most miserable people in the world.

Best away trip:

Tranmere, Because there is a brilliant Italian restaurant right next to the ground, and we always have a good meal before the game. It also brings back memories of the Playoff semi-finals, which was perhaps my best memory in football. Having just secured our place in the Play-off final as the final whistle blew, the Tranmere fans all charged down to our end of the ground. For one moment we thought oh-no, but when they reached the terrace they stood there and applauded us. It was an

unforgettable moment, and all credit to their fans for it.

Worst away trip:

Oxford Utd: Because the pitch slopes, and the stands are made up of five garden sheds stolen from B&Q

Favourite current player:

Phillippe Cuervo: Because he gets me tickets for away games, plus he hasn't played much due to injury and therefore cannot be blamed for our current problems.

Favourite all time player:

Nestor Lorenzo: A wonderful Argentinean central defender, who used to take opposing players out at the neck and then look very surprised that he got booked. Apart from Hoddle he was one of the best passers of the ball I have ever seen in a Swindon shirt.

Worst ever player:

That's hardly fair, there's so many to choose from. Take most of the current squad, that's a good place to start. I suppose loan signing Neil Fenn has to be one of the worse. Apparently he was a striker

If they built a statue outside the County Ground who should it be of:

Without doubt it would have to be Steve McMahon. They would have to make it out of something soft, because then we could beat the crap out of it at every opportunity. Still it would save the cat some grief.

Which club in this division gets right up your nose:

Any Club from the Midlands, with Wolves and Birmingham fighting for first place. Have you ever had the misfortune to meet such a miserable lot as Wolves and Birmingham fans.

Which manager in this division gets right up your nose:

Trevor Francis - Because he's a snotty nosed & boring idiot.

Three wishes for this season:

Something heavy falls on Steve McMahon, Swindon win a game, Something else heavy falls on Steve McMahon, I know this sounds like two wishes are the same, but I want it to happen so much, I thought I use it twice!



What is the media stereotype of your club and how true is it:

Broke and useless - 100% correct!

Best moment watching Swindon:

Glen Hoddles goal against Sunderland. He feigned to go to his left, and the whole of the Stratton bank leaned with him, and then he sent a curling ball into the top right hand corner. He not only sold the Sunderland defence a great dummy, but the 2000 people behind the goal were also fooled.

Did you know?

Swindon Council

Swindon Council claims to be one of Europe's fastest growing towns. That's a bit hard to check up on but they apparently have the lowest Council Tax in the West of England

Tractors

To the south of Swindon you will find Wroughton Airfield. This is the home of the National Museum of Science and Industry's agriculture collection. Once you get bored looking at tractors you can go onto the road transport and aircraft sections.

Stonehenge

Top tourist attraction and mecca for hippies

in this country is Stonehenge in Wiltshire. Sadly it is no longer get up to the stones themselves. Wiltshire is home to a number of other unexplained physical phenomena.

Lions of Longleat

One of the most famous country houses in the country is Longleat in Wiltshire. It was one of the first to turn itself into a safari park. It was particularly well known for the its collection of lions.

Melinda Messenger

Swindon's most famous daughter is Melinda

Messenger. Melinda is rarely out of the media these days with countless TV appearances and photos in the tabloid press. It's sometimes hard to remember what she is actually famous for.

Swindon 2000

There is a campaign being mounted to make Swindon the first City of the new millenium. Oddly enough Stockport are also aiming for City status. Perhaps the two towns could stage a football match to decide which becomes a city?

Just for our visitors

Isn't it annoying when you buy a programme at an away match hoping to find out more about the home team's players - and all you get is 2 or 3 pages on your own players that you already know? Well, fret no longer - here's some info on the Edgeley Park squad.

No 1 Carlo Nash (Goalkeeper)

County's number one has been in good form this season and has established himself as one of the best young keepers outside the Premier League. Standing at 6'5", the Bosman free transfer signing has been a revelation since his arrival in the summer of 1998.

No 2 Sean Connelly (Right Back)

Sean arrived in football via an unorthodox route having first studied at University and become a fully chartered physiotherapist. He was signed from Sheffield non league side Hallam on a free transfer and has gone on to establish himself as first choice right back and a big favourite with the supporters.

No 3 Shane Nicholson (Left Back)

Another free transfer signing, this time under the Bosman ruling, Shane has settled in well during his first season at Edgeley Park and has made the left-back spot his own. He was withdrawn in the recent match against Ipswich as Andy Kilner switched to a 3 at the back system late on.

No 4 Tom Bennett (Midfield)

Tom is currently on loan at Walsall who he is trying to help avoid the drop. He has returned to near two year absence through injury but has first team due to the form of Fradin and Dinning. The former Aston Villa and Wolves star was brought to Edgeley Park for £75,000 in the summer of 1995.

No 5 Mike Flynn (Centre Half)

'Flynnie' is the club skipper and a real favourite at Edgeley Park. Signed in 1993 for a then record fee of £150,000 the Oldham born defender has been an ever present in the majority of the seasons he has played in and made himself a key member of the County defence.

No 6 Martin Taylor (Centre Half)

Martin is a promising young central defender who is on loan from Blackburn Rovers to play in the place of long term injury victim Jim Gannon. Signed with a view to a permanent move the 6'4" youngster has settled in well in his first few games for the Hatters.

No 7 Kevin Cooper (Left Wing)

Signed from Derby County in the summer of '97, Kevin Cooper has quickly become the darling of the Edgeley Park faithful who appreciate his tireless workrate, and dangerous crossing. A £150,000 capture, 'Coops' is able to play on either flank.

No 8 Ian Moore (Forward)

Gary Megson shattered the clubs transfer record when he paid £800,000 to bring talented youngster Ian Moore to the club. Formerly with Nottingham Forest and Tranmere Rovers, Birkenhead born Ian is looking to extend his run of goalscoring this afternoon.

No 9 Kevin Francis (Forward)

County's post war goalscoring legend, Kevin Francis suffered the heartache of limping out of the recent derby game with Manchester City with a snapped achilles tendon. The 6'7" striker is currently undergoing rehabilitation in the midlands.

No 10 Chris Byrne (Midfield)

A promising young midfield player who cost County £200,000 when he signed from Sunderland in 1997. He is another player to have recently undergone a hernia operation and is looking to force his way back into the first team reckoning soon.

No 11 Colin Woodthorpe (Midfield)

A versatile performer Colin was originally signed by Gary Megson as a left full back although he is now very much considered to be a midfield player by the management team. Formerly with Chester, Norwich and Aberdeen, Colin brings top level experience to the County line up.

No 12 Ali Gibb (Right Wing)

Ali has been in outstanding form since signing for County from Northampton in February. The £50,000 capture has settled in immediately and has provided a steady stream of quality crosses for the front two from the right flank.

No 13 Ian Gray (Goalkeeper)

Ian has deputised efficiently for first choice Carlo on several occasions this season and has given some accomplished performances. The Manchester born stopper is in his third season at County having arrived from Rochdale for a tribunal set fee of £200,000.

No 14 David Smith (Midfield)

A free transfer signing from Oxford, David has found himself on the transfer list since losing his first team place earlier in the season.

No 15 Rob Matthews (Right Wing)

Rob was signed from Bury in November 1998 for a £120,000 fee and although he has been plagued by injuries during his time at County he is still a popular member of the squad.

No 16 James Gannon (Central Defender)

County's longest serving player enjoyed a hugely successful launch to his testimonial campaign last week with a promotional evening in the Firstec restaurant. The popular Irishman is currently preparing for an operation on his ruptured cruciate ligament.

No 17 Tony Dinning (Defender/Midfield)

Tony arrived on a free transfer in the summer of 1994 as a central defender although it is since his conversion to a central midfielder player that he has really shot to prominence. Currently County's top scorer, Tony has been in outstanding form this season.

No 18 Ian Lawson (Centre-Forward)

Ian has notched two goals since his arrival for £150,000 in February and looks to be striking up a promising partnership with Ian Moore. The former Huddersfield youngster is a natural goalscorer who by his own admission is not quite at full fitness but will benefit from a good pre-season.

No 19 Aaron Wilbraham (Forward)

Knutsford born Aaron has suffered the disappointment of breaking his toe just as he was pressing for a first-team recall following an outstanding performance in the reserves against Sheffield United. Still only 20, the lanky striker is an exciting prospect for the club.

No 20 Sean Mannion (Midfield)

A young Irish midfielder who

played in the same youth side as Robbie Keane and is looking to force his way into the first team set up.

No 21 Adam Lillis (Left Wing)

Adam is a first year professional who is the nephew of former County star and currently Halifax Town manager Mark Lillis.

No 22 Ben Johnson (Left Back)

A talented and composed full back who spent some time on loan at Blackpool earlier in the season.

No 23 Alan Bailey (Forward)

Alan is a promising young forward who will unfortunately miss the remainder of the season due to a hamstring injury. Signed on a free transfer from Manchester City last summer Alan looks to be a goalscorer in the making for County.

No 24 Keith Briggs (Right Back)

Keith burst onto the scene earlier in the season and looks set to have a long and distinguished career with County.

No 25 Karim Fradin (Midfield)

Karim arrived on trial in November and quickly established himself as a first team regular at the club. Formerly with Nice, the French star has put some niggling since the turn of the year behind him and turned in some outstanding performances.

No 26 Glynn Hancock (Centre Half)

Glynn recently turned professional for County and was also made captain of the reserve side despite still only being 17 years of age.

No 27 Neil Ross (Centre Forward)

An outstanding prospect who was signed from Leeds United at the turn of the year. Still only 17 years old, Neil made his debut in County's last home fixture against Ipswich and is looking for more first-team run outs before the end of the campaign.

No 28 Chris Allen (Left Wing)

The former Forest and Oxford star, who was once the subject of a £800,000 transfer between the two clubs, arrived at Edgeley Park on trial in October and dazzled the County fans with some excellent performances.

No 30 John Daly (Forward)

John has signed a long term contract at Edgeley Park and looks set to make a big impact in the future.

No 31 Stuart Elliot (Centre-Half)

London born Stuart is currently on loan from Newcastle United and has already appeared in a variety of positions for the club.

No 33 Kent Bergersen (Left Wing)

Kent is a gifted player who also brings experience to the side. A former Norwegian international, he is another player to have been absent through injury recently.



**Loan star
Martin Taylor**

Ian Moore...has now recovered from his hernia op

10 - Stockport County Club call 09068

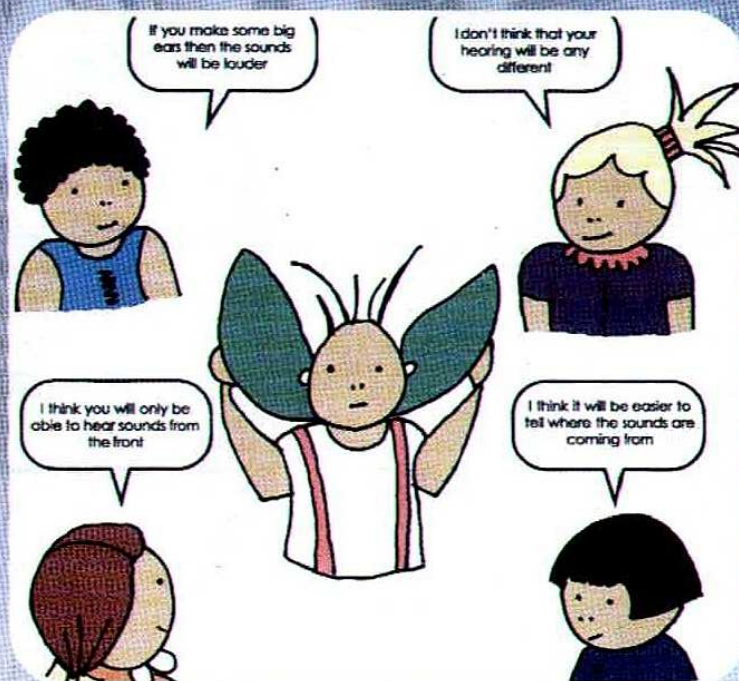
121 638 calls cost 50p per minute at all times

Science Spot

Your chance to make sense of the science going on around you

You have probably been wondering about last week's picture. It shows three people in a car, wondering whether the light from the travels further at night.

What do YOU think?



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Awards



The Royal Society

British Association
Promoting Science & Technology

BIG EARS

You have probably been wondering about last week's picture. It shows some people arguing about how big ears will affect their hearing. Well, what did you think? Our local scientist thinks that big ears will make the sounds seem louder.

Why does this happen?

The outer part of the ear acts like a funnel. It collects the sound waves in the air and funnels them in towards the ear. The bigger the outer ear,

the more sound waves are caught and the louder the sound will be. So if you make big ears out of card then the sounds will seem louder. This is why animals with big ears, like rabbits, can usually hear very well.

The ears can also help you to tell which direction the sound is coming from. Sounds will be a bit louder when the ears are pointing in the direction that the sound is coming from. So if you point the big ears in different

directions, sounds will be louder or softer depending on where the sound is coming from.

It's not as simple as that!

If you try this at home you will find it isn't easy to hold the big card ears in position against your own ears. The way that you hold the card ear can affect how loud the sound seems to be. This can be a problem if you want to compare sounds coming from different directions.

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Miserable Memories



AFTER THE TRAUMATIC HAPPENINGS OF LAST SEASON AND NOW SAFELY REHABILITATED INTO THE LOVING ARMS OF HIS FAMILY, STOCKPORT COUNTY HISTORIAN RICHARD HARNWELL NOW LIVES A PEACEFUL, STRESS-FREE AND NORMAL LIFE WITH HIS WIFE AND CHILD IN THE SLEEPY VILLAGE HAMLET OF RADCLIFFE, WHERE HE PURSUES EVERY DAY ACTIVITIES - LIKE TRACKING DOWN COUNTY FANS, YOUNG AND OLD, AND SUBJECTING THEM TO BANAL QUESTIONS IN THE NAME OF JOURNALISM TO BRING YOU A UNIQUE INSIGHT OF POOR COUNTY PERFORMANCES OF THE PAST!!!!

Back in the mid 80's, the County ground, home to Swindon Town was somewhat of a bogey ground for Stockport, as in the preceeding 5 matches to todays features game played there, the boys in blue never managed a victory.

Ever the optimist Bernard Ogley (Ogley being Bernards assumed surname in tribute to his hero, the County keeper of the 60's and 70's.) had studied very carefully the early season form and decided in his infinite wisdom that the fact that County's last three matches had ended in defeat, and that it was almost month to the day since the nail biting 4-3 victory over Wrexham at their place was a cast iron guarrantee of the boys in blue returning triumphant.

A man of limited means and living a very simple life, Bernard always attended home matches, because his sister was a programme seller and she could get him in cheap, but when it came to away matches, he use to pick very carefully, and would spend days, even weeks trying to weigh up the odds for and against this match or that one. So it was quite an occassion when Bernard booked himself onto the club coach down to Swindon, and a weeks preparations ensued. The correct filling for the pack up had to be purchased, and 2 packets of Seabrook salt and

vinegar with a kitkat and a pack of winegums. The planning was meticulous, but Bernard knew it was all going to be worth it. Hed even had a little flutter he was so confident.

The great day dawned and Bernard arrived good and early, but not early enough to avoid being seated next to the family from hell! Mum, Dad, and children - boy 3yrs(hyperactive) boy 7yrs(tormentor) girl 10yrs(whinger)girl 16 yrs (obnoxious) with boyfriend(sullen). Mum and dad sat together to get away from their offspring. Eldest and boyfriend made for the back seat to start canoodling (at 8.30am - PLEASE!!!) leaving the other three delights and Bernard. Which ever option he chose, it was most certainly the worst one, and after having endured almost 3 hours mild mannered Bernard was ready to kill! When the coach pulled up near the County ground Bernard was out of his seat and off in 3 giant leaps and heading straight for the nearest pub. After downing

three pints in very quick succession, his pulse and blood pressure returned to normal, and he decided that he quite liked it in the boozier before a match - it added a certain dimension which could only be found at the bottom of an empty pint glass. During the course of the next two hours Bernard consumed the equivalent of his total alcohol intake for the last twelve months, and he was poured out of the pub and into the gutter at 2.30pm. Whereupon he was picked up by Dad (of family from hell) and helped into the ground. By full time County had been trounced for the fourth time on the run and Bernard couldn't have cared less. He had a new buddy, and the coach journey home saw Mum trying to contend with Hyper, Bullyboy and whingbag whilst trying to put a stop to some extrordinarily heavy petting going on at the back of the bus.

After that Bernard gave up studying form and took up very seriously studying the inside of empty pint pots with his new buddy - Malc!



MATCH DETAILS

Swindon Town 4
STOCKPORT 0
2,657

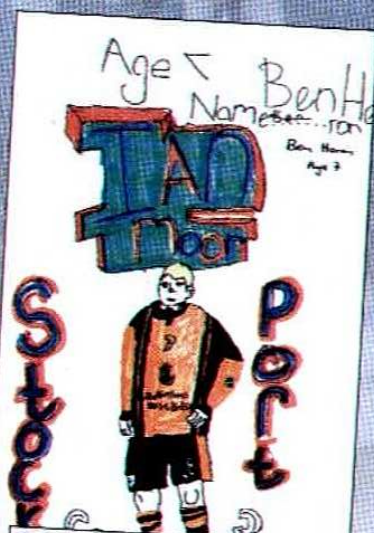
27TH OCTOBER 1984

Brett Angel... in the nets!

Stockport County Clubcall 09068 121 638 calls cost 60p per minute at all times - 13

More Home Drawers

Why not send in your colour picture about your visit to County. All pictures that are printed will earn the artist a special prize. Send your pics to: More Home Drawers, c/o Steve Bellis, Stockport County FC, Edgeley Park, Hardcastle Road, Edgeley, Stockport, SK3 9DD.



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14 - Stockport County Clubcall 09068 121 638 calls cost 60p per minute at all times

Vernon's View



Hi bear everyone,
First of all I'm beary sorry
that I wasn't able to do
my stuff last Saturday
but I had to go to a
wedding.

I had to go a long way as
well and I got on a
British Bearways flight to
Turkey.

I've always liked Turkey
especially with those
likkle sausages with
pieces of bacon
wrapped round them.

The wedding was bearill
but I missed the footy.

When I heard that
we had lost I was
like a bear with a
sore head because I
banged it dancing with
a Bellies Dancer. She
must like Turkey too,
because her tummy
looked very tired.

Anyway Ady was getting
married again to his wife
Bilge - but it isn't

pronounced Bilge its
pronounced Bill - gay.
He's already got married
to her once in our
country but he enjoyed it
so much he got married
again in her country. I
think he just likes getting
presents.

Today we have got a very
important game because
we haven't won for ages,
but don't worry - have a
curry - that's what Mr
Bellies always says.

Swindon have been
having a Winnie the
Pooh time too and could
go down so it will be tuff
today.

I'll see you at arf time
and you will see my
Turkish sun tan.

Mrs Bear even wore her
bearkini.

- Very sexy!

Chow Beambino's

VERN

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On the Edgeley



Loan Rover... Martin Taylor

May we begin by wishing you a very happy Easter and welcoming you back to Edgeley Park for our penultimate home game of the season. In particular we extend a warm

welcome to all our friends from Swindon who have made the journey north from Wiltshire. At our last fixture here against Ipswich Martin Taylor made his home debut. Martin has joined us on loan from Blackburn Rovers and as fitted in perfectly, we all wish Martin well during his time at Edgely Park.

At half time during the aforementioned fixture we played host to the final of the competition for young people organised by five different



Triumphant trophy winners Salford

local authorities including Stockport. Indeed Stockports young side reached the final but lost out 1-0 to their rivals from Salford City Council. The club were delighted to support his initiative having organised similar events with the probation office. Thankyou to all those supporters who have taken the time to complete the questionnaires distributed at our last match. With your help we can work to provide the services and facilities you expect from your football club.



James Gannon... Thankyou for a great night

delighted by the support he recieved. The centre of excellence required a timely boost recently by way of a cheque from the funniest travel club.

On behalf of James Gannon we would also like to thank the 300 or so supporters who attended the launch of the testimonial on the evening of the Ipswich game, the night was a great success and james was



Cheque point... mick Imblin receives the cheque from fingerpost landlady Barbara Murphy

Centre of excellance Directoe Mark Wiblin was on hand to recieve the donation from County loving fingerpost landlady Barbara Murphy. Thankyou all at the 'finger' for their support

Finally why not give yourself a chance of leaving Edgely Par hundreds of pounds richer this afternoon by entering our 50-50 half time draw. Tickets are just £1 and this involves donations to six local charities.

The winning numbers against Ipswich were as follows:

First Prize: £468 (50452)
2nd Prize: an executive day out for two (48624)
3rd Prize: A pair £ County match tickets (49529)
4th Prize: A case of Robinsons best bitter (49528)
Winning ticket numbers in brackets

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Where were you

SEASON 1968/69 BY PHIL BRENNAN



WATCHING STOCKPORT

COUNTY...A second season of third division football for County started a home draw against Reading(2-2) and a defeat at Swindon(0-1), progress was made in the league cup following a replay, against second division Bury(1-0) before the first win of the campaign came at Watford(1-0) started a run of five wins in eight games with forwards Jim Fryatt(6) and Bill Atkins(4) continuing their goal scoring partnership, unfortunately for the County faithful, following a goal less draw at Gillingham, the partnership was broken up when Fryatt joined Blackburn Rovers for £30,000. Initially the big centre forward was not missed as County were to win nine of their twelve league and cup games leading through to the end of the year, most notably against Orient(5-2) and Gillingham(5-0) in the league and Bradford(3-0) in the FA cup. The new year began with defeat at Blackburn in the FA cup(0-2) and a seven game run without a win, including a heavy defeat at bottom of the table Oldham Athletic(2-5), before a wins at home against League cup finalists Swindon Town(2-1) and eventual champions Watford(4-2) stopped the rot and kept the club in with a chance of promotion. Once again County were to sell their top scorer as Bill Atkins, who had by now scored 18 goals, was

sold to Portsmouth, and with him went any outside chance of promotion, although the next game against Hartlepool was won(1-0), six of the final eight games were lost, the only success coming with an Albert Harley goal against Tranmere Rovers(1-0) in the last home game of what had become a disappointing season as the club finished ninth in the final table.

THANKS FOR COMING...Midfielder Jim Collier one appearance in home defeat by Bristol Rovers(0-1).

HIGHS...'Double' over champions Watford-home win over Swindon Town.

LOWS...Selling Jim Fryatt to Blackburn Rovers-selling Bill Atkins to Portsmouth.

WATCHING SWINDON TOWN...For many reasons the 68/69 season is



one that will never be forgotten in Wiltshire. The club Chairman retired after eighteen years at the helm, a new club record of games played without conceding a goal was set, promotion from the third division was achieved, and during the eventful campaign there was also the little matter of a Wembley win in the League Cup Final against first division Arsenal.

Whilst the club were doing their best to win promotion, it was the league cup run that had caught the imagination of many neutrals, with wins against Torquay, Bradford and Blackburn Rovers already under their belt, the rest of the country started to take the 'Robins' seriously after they thumped first division Coventry City (3-0) and won a replay against Derby County to claim a place in the semi final against first division Burnley. Both legs of the semi final were won by the away team meaning a replay at The Hawthorns, in which the 'Robins' came from behind to win in extra time(3-2) meaning that they were to meet the mighty Arsenal at Wembley, where once again the 'underdogs' took the lead only for an equaliser by Bobby Gould with six minutes remaining to deny them, although extra time proved to be the undoing of the first division side as Don Rogers claimed two goals to win the trophy for Swindon(3-1). With the cup won it was time to concentrate on promotion, a record home crowd (28,898) saw Watford become the only team to defeat Swindon at home(0-1), but a fine run from Easter of four wins and two draws placed the club in second place with two games to play, the final away game at Rotherham appeared to be lost when substitute Chris Jones grabbed a last minute equaliser giving the Wiltshire side an automatic promotion

when we were (NOT VERY GOOD)

spot, the final home game against Barrow was won comfortably (2-0) and with Watford losing their last game at Mansfield both clubs finished on the same total of points with the championship going to Watford on goal average.

HIGHS... Winning League Cup
Winning promotion

LOWS... Losing out on
Championship on goal average

WATCHING...

MOTOR RACING... Whilst Graham Hill was to win his second world formula 1 championship, fellow briton Jackie Stewart won the hearts of many neutrals, following an accident where he broke his wrist forcing him to miss two grand prix, the scot raced for the rest of season with a protective strapping helping him to win 3 races and placing him second in the final championship.



ATHLETICS... Bob Beamon set a new world record of 8.90 metres in the long jump final during the Olympics in Mexico City. The American 4 X 400 metres relay team set a new world record time of 2mins 56 seconds.

Great Britain won 5 gold, 5 silver and 3 bronze medals including a fine 400 metres hurdles gold for David Hemery in a new world record time of 48.1 seconds.

CRICKET... With all counties allowed to sign one 'overseas' player this

season, crowds all over the country were being treated to some spectacular batting with South African Barry Richards leading the way scoring more than 2,000 runs for Hampshire, whilst Warwickshire's Rohan Kanhai scored the seasons highest innings when he hit 253 and Notts Gary Sobers became the first batsman to hit six sixes from one over against Glamorgan.



LISTENING...

ALBUMS: Top selling Albums this season include:

'John Wesley Harding' Bob Dylan--
'Bookends' Simon and Garfunkel--
'Child is father to the man' Blood, Sweat & Tears--
'The Beatles' The Beatles--
'Goodbye'

Cream--'Best of the Seekers' The Seekers--
'Greatest Hits' The Hollies--
'Ogdens nut gone flake' The Small Faces.

SINGLES: Top selling Singles this season include: 'Mony Mony' Tommy James and the Shondells--
'Fire' The crazy world of Arthur Brown--
'Do it again' The Beach Boys--
'Hey Jude' The Beatles--
'Those were the days' Mary Hopkin--
'Lily the pink' The Scaffold--
'Albatross' Fleetwood Mac--
'Blackberry way' The Move--
'I Heard it through the grapevine' Marvin Gaye--
'I've gotta get a message to you' The Bee Gees.

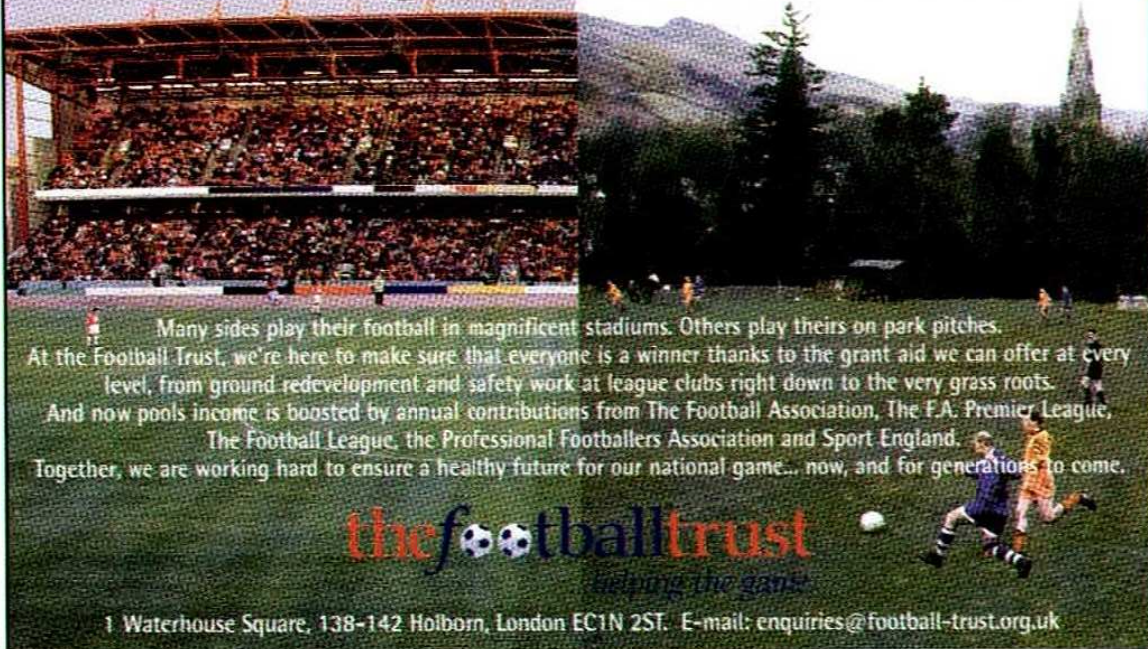
WATCHING...

FILMS... New films to see in the UK this season include: The Lion in Winter--Once Upon a Time in the West--Bullitt--The Odd Couple--Planet of the Apes--Rosemary's Baby--Oliver--Yellow Submarine--Easy Rider--Hello Dolly--Midnight Cowboy.

ON THE TELLY... Top TV shows this season include: The Miss World Show--The Grand National--Coronation Street--Howard's Hour--Royal Variety Performance--In loving memory--The Benny Hill Show--The Eurovision Song Contest.



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*On the Road Cash Price shown is correct at the time of going to press and includes 12 months' Road Fund Licence, a First Registration Fee of £25.00, VAT (at 17.5%), number plates and delivery to dealership and is subject to change without notice. Prices may vary at individual dealerships. *Spare wheel supplied is steel.

Dave Marchbank-Smith with the views and opinions from the Hatters Official Website



SEA MYS

Today we welcome back to Mark Evans from Bermuda. Mark is a life long County fan that now lives and works in the holiday paradise.

Mark makes jewelry and made a necklace for Kevin Francis to commemorate The Big Man scoring 100 goals. He is also an avid mailing list member, who shocked his fellow listees after sending an email, which contained a video clip of an exploding dog! It was, of course meant for a select band of people with a similar taste in humour. Oh well, they do say having a good sense of humour helps when supporting Stockport County!

SEA MONKEYS

Anyone else remember Sea Monkeys, or is it just me? They also went under the sickening name of Artful Arties, if that rings any bells. You sent off for this little sachet of dried eggs and Sea Monkey food, poured it into a jam jar full of water, and these amazingly cute little sea creatures were supposed to hatch and raise families. What usually happened was either (a) nothing or (b) they ate each other. Now some bright spark has had the idea of creating Sea Monkeys for the PC. All of the cuteness, with none of those tragic, "Mum have you seen that jam jar full of murky water?" endings. No one seems to have registered www.seamonkey.co.uk either, if you fancy giving the makers a run for their money.

BALDING GINGER MAN VERY HAPPY WITH HAIR

Poor old John Hartson. Being told you're not fit enough to play for a club whose star player is one Darren Anderton is bad, but his alternative career has taken a nosedive too. The Wimbledon striker, of course, is nearly as famous for his brave work in the hair replacement field as he is for his particular brand of thunderous trundling up front. As we all know, John brings in a whole lot of green for showing off his shiny napper on the back of various

newspapers, making himself a national laughing stock into the bargain. Sadly, according to the Sunday People, this particular gravy train may be grinding to a halt. Advanced Hair Studio claim that Hartson's mighty impressive new barnet was the result of drug and laser treatment, but their rivals have insisted that Hartson must have had a transplant. Advertising standards authorities have banned the ads, presumably on the grounds that they are misleading. But it's not all bad news. Ginger John, who denies the accusations, says: "I still get the regular laser treatment and I'm very happy with my hair."

THE GERMAN SHEPHERD HATTER?

I could not agree more. We will NOT go down. The football this season has been better than watching County under Megson and, why shouldn't we talk about ALL subjects? Calling for the head of a Manager is all very well but surely you have to look at the broader picture. I watched County throughout the 70's and 80's and we had a new Manager every season. It made no difference because the real reason was not the boss it was Lukig. Ellwood steps in and what happens? Exactly. Killer is being made to suffer because of the way Megson threw money around. Unlike City, we cannot afford L1m mistakes (for example Cooke going to Wigan). Richard-The German Shepherd Hatter (Rim.sorry@lahars.com)



ANDY CAMPBELL

THE TOXIC AVENGER

THE pollution problems on Teesside are really getting out of hand...

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ROSS

Autograph

Neil Ross



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An old biddy well worth writing to!

Dear Gladys

As you may be aware, Crystal Palace FC is in dire financial straits. The club has been in administration, seeking new club owners, since last March. As I write there is no rescue package in place and a very real threat that the club will go into liquidation.

What you may not be aware of is the work of the Crystal Palace Supporters' Trust. The fans have got together with the aim of saving the club and securing for the supporters a permanent place in Palace's future. The venture is supported by Palace manager Steve Coppell, Secretary for Culture Media and Sport Chris Smith as well as Supporters Direct, many other footballing organisations, politicians, the Co-Operative party and celebrities.

The trust has produced a comprehensive brochure included with this letter which explains exactly how the money raised by the Trust will be spent.

While I hope that substantial sums will be raised by the Palace fans themselves, the task is huge and we are appealing for

help from others in the football community. Supporters of any club are welcome to join the trust for a £20 annual fee and every donation to the Trust (large or small) will be gratefully received.

Cheques or postal orders (which should be made payable to "Crystal Palace Supporters' Trust") should be sent to the Crystal Palace Supporters Trust, 122 Whitehorse Lane, London, SE25 6XB.

Palace is one of the friendliest clubs in the country, with a long history and a big hardcore of loyal supporters. It would be a tragedy not just for them but for the whole footballing community if the club died. We would therefore very much appreciate your support in publicising the clubs plight and the ways in which everyone in football can help.

Best Wishes

Jane Vigurs

On behalf of the Crystal Palace Supporters Trust

Gladys: I have printed your letter Jane to raise the awareness of your trust. I trust that's ok!

Dear Gladys

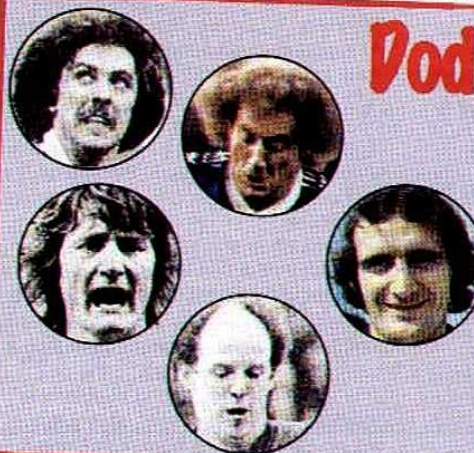
INFOPOST

Face in the crowd



If this is you, pictured at our last home match against Ipswich then you have won a County scarf. To claim your prize simply call into the Club Shop after todays game. Oh and please can you return our feather dusters to Muriel the cleaner.

Dodgee Haircut!



Our thanks this week go to Phil Brennan for this motley collection of ridiculous barnets. They include current Wolves boss Colin Lee, former Blackburn Rovers Noel Brotherston and Kevin Hird, current Sky pundit - (candy floss head) Ian Brazil and the increasingly handsome Eric Gates. They are all a mess! Why not send your dodgy haircut pics to the Club c/o Steve Bellis, Stockport County FC, Edgeley Park, Hardcastle Rd, Edgeley, Stockport SK3 9DD. All pictures printed with earn the senders an autographed prize.

That guy from the Evening News

Alan Hanson investigates the impact of imported players on football on BBC1 this Wednesday.

His conclusion on footballs foreign legion is that there should be a limit on the number of foreigners in any team for the good of young English players coming through.

An opinion apparently shared by United boss Alex Ferguson.

But as Hanson admits, that won't happen as the European Commission will not make football an exception to the current employment laws.

And why should it? England has a history of welcoming immigrants, except for the racist minority goon squads that exist in most towns.

Just because some people in Kent are getting upset at the number of refugees on their doorstep doesn't mean they are right.

In the same way that Kentish sons will still rise to the top if they are good enough so will our young players. Two further points - it's a lot easier to cheer for Chelsea when they are on all - foreign team if their side consisted of 11 Cockneys.

And Kevin Keegan suggests in Hansens programme that his successor as England coach will be looking more to the first division for his players, which is hardly discouraging for future County stars.



Read Guy Nelson's Stockport County reports in **The Pink** on Saturday and the M.E.N. on Monday



Go Away!

HUDDERSFIELD TOWN F.C.

The Alfred McAlpine Stadium
Huddersfield
West Yorkshire
HD1 6PX

Huddersfield's futuristic state of the art stadium has not been a happy hunting ground for County. In fact, the Hatters can point to only 1 goal scored at the McAlpine in its history and who scored it? Well it was mighty Martyn Chalk, now of Wrexham of course, and he enjoyed it so much he decided to be first at the bar for a celebratory drink by getting sent off just before half-time.

At least, however, it is a bogey ground which is easy to reach and easy to find.

Those supporters travelling by car should jump on

the M60 and head towards West Yorkshire on the M62. Continue along the M62 across those eerie looking moors before exiting at junction 25. At the motorway roundabout follow signs to Huddersfield A644 onto the A644.

At the Cooper Bridge roundabout turn right (signposted Huddersfield A62) into Leeds Road. Follow the Huddersfield A62 signs through several sets of lights for 2.8 miles and then turn left (signposted Sheffield, Wakefield) into Thistle Street passing between The Spinners Arms and The Market Tavern. At the crossroads turn right into St. Andrews Road, and at the next lights turn left for the stadium.

County fans will have to part with £2.00 to come back with a programme from Huddersfield, although, be warned, the Terriers production is big, cumbersome and bland.

In terms of getting into the stadium it will cost £13.00 for adults and £7.00 for juniors/OAPs and all supporters are invited to pay on the day. County fans will be housed in a covered seating area behind one of the goals.

The club will be running supporters coaches to Huddersfield, although as yet no details have been confirmed.

Please contact the Club Shop on 0161-286-8899 for further details. The closest railway station to the McAlpine Stadium is, believe it or not, Huddersfield Station which is within half a mile of the ground. Trains run with immense regularity from Manchester but please contact British Rail for full timetable details.

HUDDERSFIELD TOWN AT A GLANCE

Admission Prices:- Adults - £13.00

Juniors - £7.00

OAPs - £7.00

Approximate Journey Time (by car):-
57 minutes

Nearest Railway Station:-
Huddersfield Station

Standing/Seating?:- Covered Seating
Supporters Coach Price:- TBA

Departing At:- TBA

Please phone 0161-286-8899 for further details.

Those County fans who can't make the game will miss a battling 1-1 draw with Mike Flynn netting the goal.



Only County player to score the McAlpine Stadium? Martyn Chalk

There has never been any talk of relegation

The Views of Skipper Mike Flynn...



We gave a very creditable performance against Ipswich and I'm sure any neutrals would not have been able to distinguish between the side in supposed free fall and the one looking to reach the Premiership.

The game was a bit slow overall although it picked up at times but I think that the game was so important to both sides that neither side wanted to lose. It was always going to be decided by a silly mistake or a wonder goal. In the first half we had three or four half decent chances which on another day might have gone in - it was looking to all intents and purposes like a nil - nil but as has happened so often this season we were caught in the final minute of the first half - which was again due to a lack of concentration. To concede a goal so close to the break was very demoralising but that based on our first half showing we had enough in our locker to unlock them and create decent chances.

After half time it became clear that it was one of those days - the ball just wouldn't drop for us. They've paid a lot of money for their strikers and when Johnson was given the chance he took

it. We had several half chances with Ian Lawsons header being the best but Ipswich keeper Richard Wright showed why he is the best in the Division.

We're in nineteenth place which is very strong because we should be a lot higher based on our performances.

We have a big Easter programme and we need to pick up that elusive win.

The relief will be immense and will take the pressure off everyone and will get those fans off our backs who have been critical in recent games.

There has never been any talk of relegation in the dressing room but the fans have started twitching and one win will banish all that.

We can then look forward to the last three games. We can also start our preparations for next season.

Today's match will be a difficult one and one we've got to win. Swindon look like they're going down - but they are doing it with one hell of a fight and they have pulled off some impressive wins at Charlton and against Huddersfield.

MIKE FLYNN

...Mike Flynn



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Know the Score

"DON'T SIT ON YOUR SYMPTOMS"

Don't sit on your symptoms.

That's the message going out for National Bowel Cancer Week 2000, April 10th-16th. Although Bowel Cancer is the third most common cancer in this country, it is one of the most treatable cancers if it is found in the early stages. To improve the odds of avoiding Bowel cancer, it is important to know the following:-

Who gets Bowel Cancer?

Bowel cancer affects both men and women. It is more common in people who are over 50 years of age. Some families have an increased risk which they have inherited.

Be Bowel aware!

Get to know your bowel habits and look for changes.

Don't delay!

If you are experiencing a change of bowel habit, i.e. Diarrhoea, rectal bleeding, anaemia or abdominal pain go and see your doctor. It is much more likely that these symptoms are due to another bowel problem, such as irritable bowel syndrome, piles or diverticular disease rather than bowel cancer.

Research shows that a varied diet, high in fibre and fresh vegetables may help you against Bowel Cancer. Doctors believe that moderate exercise can be helpful in preventing Bowel Cancer.

Don't be embarrassed!

Some people find it difficult to talk about their bowels and some just hope that any problems will just go away, but don't let embarrassment

stop you from going to your GP.

Remember that the symptoms are unlikely to be Bowel Cancer, but it is important to discuss this with your doctor. For further information contact:-

Colon Cancer Concern: 020 7381 4711

Cancer Bacup: 0808 800 1234

Cancerlink: 0808 808 0000



**Moderate
exercise can be
helpful in
preventing bowel
cancer.**



For information on local services, support groups and keeping healthy ring the Information Line
0161 429 7010
Minicom 0161 429 8225

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H E A L T H**

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HELEN CLEGG GUM CLINIC
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Email: Janet Ford 419 5377 Health Advisor

Service for Sexually Transmitted Diseases.
HIV clinic is every Monday (except Bank Holidays).
There is a walk in testing service between 4.30-6.30pm. Results will be advised by Health Advisor. If very anxious you can be booked into 24 hr testing session each Tuesday morning. Between 8.00-9.00am (by appointment only). Results will be available the following morning. If these days are not convenient you can book an appt in the STD screening sessions, results being arranged by Health Advisor.
Confidentiality assured.



Central Youth - "Stockport Young People's Advice, Information and Health clinic".
Tel 0161 480 9600 (24 hour ansaphone)

28 - Stockport County Clubcall 09068 121 638 calls cost 60p per minute at all times

Call me easily offended if you like, but are my opinions not worth listening to or something? Most people, when they walk down any busy shopping thoroughfare, will be stopped at least a dozen times for this survey, or that survey, join here today, Big Issue Sir, not me.

I must have acquired this look of invisibility which allows me to walk from one end of Mersey Way to the other without being so much as glanced at by these people. Great, you might think. But, hang on, don't my opinions count.

I even make it easy for them. I establish eye contact, slow my pace but I never get stopped. The clipboard army always avert their gaze, deal with an untied shoelace (often not even their own), glance nervously at their watch. If its a leaflet giving something away for free, I can forget it. I could ride down the road on a unicycle, juggling flaming clubs and still not be noticed. Sometimes I will even resort to the direct approach, and you can often see me pursuing a gaggle of outdoor statistical analysts, regaling them of my opinions about anything under the sun. I wonder why my opinions are not thought valid. I wonder, if they read this column. On the subject of surveys, a

couple of interesting footy lists have been compiled just recently. Two lists (I was consulted for neither of them, by the way) of 'greatest managers' rate that dour Scot from down the road quite highly, possibly for all the good work which he did at Aberdeen.

But far more interesting is the list of footy bad boys ('The Shifty Fifty' featured in this month's Match of the Day Magazine). All manner of indiscretion and human frailty is here. Gambling, drinking, between-the-sheets shennannigans, match-fixing, assault, forgery, and in one notable case the possession of suede wallpaper, all add to



the crime count. Reformed bad boys like Tony Adams appear, as do those whose road to rack and

ruin was complete, like Robin Friday. True, we shouldn't really be glorifying those who have besmirched the good name of football, but there is something fascinating about someone having it all - fame, adulation, money and status -



and blowing the lot. Faced with temptation, would we be a Gary Lineker or a Peter Storey?

Yours in Sport,
Steve Southart

Thought for the day:

"Ooh, aah, just a little bit, Ooh, aah, a little bit more."
(Mrs Thatcher to Helmut Kohl at the 1984 G-7 Conference).

Life thru a lens

more mischievous
meanderings from the
likeable lensman!



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Eighteen games without a win - that was the cruel statistics that faced us following last week's home defeat at the hands of Ipswich. The manager is never

one to make excuses...so I'll do it for him! Bad luck and atrocious refereeing decisions have played a bigger part in this run than anything the players have done. Look back to the game against QPR at Loftus Road when a perfectly good winning goal in the last minute was ruled out by the officials. Then to Wolves, where the home side were allowed to equalise in the dying minutes after pushing keeper Carlo Nash to the ground!

Nash himself agrees. He told *Imagine FM*: "There has been no loss of confidence whatsoever. You can't afford to let things get to you. All you can do is look to the next game and hope that things even out over the course of the season."

But as the season draws to a close, it gets tougher each week to pick up three points. Nash told me:

"There are no easy games in this divisions anyway, but it does seem to get harder as the season goes on. Week in, week out, we find ourselves facing teams who are either battling for promotion or fighting to stay up. But make no mistake, we want to end this run as soon as possible."

Those sentiments are echoed by manager Andy Kilner who, tongue in cheek, told *Imagine FM*: "We

always said we'd make this season more exciting and give the supporters some entertainment! But the players are still in high spirits - you don't come back from three goals down at Crystal Palace if your confidence is low."

The boxing Day curse may have ended at Crewe on Saturday - if not, then let's hope the lads can put it to bed this afternoon against basement club Swindon Town.

Jon Keighren

The man himself...Carlo



No loss of confidence whatsoever

Live Commentary



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as the Bible Says...*

The Sixth Day is For Football"

Anthony Burgess 'Inside Mr Enderty'



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KEY

● starting line-up ● 1 (Blue disc with accompanying number denotes goals scored)

Ⓢ playing sub with number of player replaced Ⓞ OWN GOAL IN STOCKPORT'S FAVOUR

Ⓝ Non playing sub

● booked ● sent-off ● star man

Stats it!

DATE	OPPONENTS	VEN	RES	POS	HTSD	HT MT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Aug Sat 7	Grimsby Town	A	1-0	5	5,528	559	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tues 10	OLDHAM ATHLETIC (North.5K10)	H	2-0	-	3,017	806	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 14	TRAMERE ROVERS	H	2-1	1	6,555	831	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 21	Portsmouth	A	0-2	5	15,002	389	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tues 24	Oldham Athletic (North.6K20)	A	1-1	-	2,885	749	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Fri 27	BIRMINGHAM CITY Sky TV	H	2-0	2	6,115	887	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sept Fri 10	Barnsley Sky TV	A	1-2	6	12,970	551	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tue 14	Barnsley (North.6.2 (1)	A	1-1	-	6,966	432	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 18	PORT VALE	H	1-0	8	7,632	649	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tue 21	BARNISLEY (North.6.2 (2) 7.45pm	H	3-3	-	3,332	410	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 25	NORWICH CITY	H	2-2	8	7,603	563	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tues 28	Charlton Athletic (S.50pm)	A	0-4	8	19,827	360	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Oct Sat 02	Walsall	A	2-1	8	5,492	617	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 09	Swindon Town	A	1-1	7	5,326	323	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 16	CROWE ALEXANDRA	H	2-1	5	7,571	1,006	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tue 19	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	H	1-1	5	7,305	1,365	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 23	Nottingham Forest	A	1-1	7	15,778	530	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tue 26	Norwich City	A	0-2	8	16,880	283	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 30	WALSALL	H	1-1	9	6,552	530	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Nov Tue 02	QUEENS PARK RANGERS (7.45pm)	H	3-3	9	4,868	446	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 06	FULHAM	H	2-1	7	7,200	466	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 20	SHEFFIELD UNITED	H	1-1	9	6,614	686	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tue 23	West Bromwich Albion	A	0-2	10	9,201	238	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 27	Blackburn Rovers	A	0-2	10	17,582	1,228	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Dec Sat 04	GRIMSBY TOWN	H	2-1	10	5,581	273	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tue 07	Manchester City	A	2-1	6	32,686	2,254	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 11	Grimsby Town (S. Cup 3)	A	2-3	-	3,400	401	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 18	Bolton Wanderers	A	1-0	6	13,285	1,422	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sun 26	WOLVERHAMPTON WAND	H	3-2	6	10,278	2,868	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tue 28	Ipswich Town	A	0-1	6	20,674	441	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Jan Mon 03	CRYSTAL PALACE	H	1-2	6	8,570	561	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 08	(S. Cup 4)						●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 15	Tramere Rovers	A	0-0	6	7,513	1,150	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 22	PORTSMOUTH	H	1-1	7	8,008	644	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 29	Birmingham City (S. Cup 5)	A	1-2	7	17,150	474	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Feb Sat 05	CHARLTON ATHLETIC	H	1-3	9	8,185	1,059	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 12	Queens Park Rangers	A	1-1	10	10,531	576	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 19	BLACKBURN ROVERS (S. Cup 6)	H	0-1	12	7,902	1,366	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 26	Port Vale	A	1-1	11	5,663	932	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Mar Fri 03	BARNISLEY	H	1-3	13	6,386	687	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tue 07	Fulham	A	1-4	15	8,688	375	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 11	WEST BROMWICH ALBION	H	0-1	16	8,238	1,429	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tue 14	BOLTON WANDERERS	H	0-0	16	6,412	1,417	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 18	Sheffield United	A	0-1	-16	14,907	762	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tue 21	MANCHESTER CITY	H	2-2	15	11,212	3,018	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 25	Wolverhampton Wand	A	2-2	15	25,065	553	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Apr Sat 08	Crystal Palace (S. Cup Semif)	A	3-3	16	16,646	293	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 15	IPSWICH TOWN	H	0-1	19	8,501	1,681	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 22	CroWE Alexandra	A					●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Mon 24	SWINDON TOWN	H					●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 29	Huddersfield Town	A					●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
May Sun 07	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	H					●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

STOCKPORT COUNTY... FIGHTING RACISM!

Stockport County Football Club will not tolerate racism in any form. Any supporter who is caught using obscene language or chanting racial abuse could be arrested and banned from the ground for life. Any instances of this nature should be brought to the attention of the club stewards.

The continued co-operation of the vast majority of supporters is greatly appreciated by all at Stockport County Football Club.

Thank you for your assistance.

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	30	31	32	33
Colin Woodthorpe	Tony Ellis	Ian Gray	David Smith	Rob Matthews	James Cannon	Tony Dunning	Laurie D'Arfo	Aaron Williamson	Sean Hamilton	Adam Lins	Ben Johnson	Alan Bailey	Keith Briggs	Karin Fradin	Glyn Hancock	Karin Gibbons	Gary Hunt	John Doby	Stuart Elliott	Matthew Channon	Monty Bergerson
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947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968
969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990
991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000	1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007	1008	1009	1010	1011	1012

LINE Card Line Greetings Ltd is a leading franchisor and publisher of high quality greetings cards, distributed locally in a range of outlets via franchisees Michael & Susan Humphry. Customers can choose from a range of designs, including the exclusive Jelly's, Gallery, Holly and Friends. Many local retailers are already reaping the benefits of stocking. No outlay is required so why not give them a try in the shop? Their top selling cards are in new designs so your display will always be fresh and interesting. contact Michael on 0850 678282 for further details.

PUB v CLUB NIGHT

The final Robinsons Pub v Club night takes place on Wednesday 26th April at the Flying Dutchman in Hillgate. Once again several County favourites will be on hand to accept challenges at Pool, Darts etc and it promises to be a fun packed night. Everybody is welcome and the fun begins at 8.00pm.

The England Job!

John England interviews Tod White

John England Interviews Todd White

Most of the interviews I've conducted this season have been either with people outside of Stockport County or occasionally with people at the forefront of the club. This week however I thought it would be nice to interview one of the many people who work behind the scenes at the Club. One of the unsung heroes beaver away out of the public eye and without any tangible reward. I called up Todd White who among other things is a bar manager in the Directors' Boardroom. This is what he told me.

JE: How long have you been working in the Directors' Boardroom?

TW: Just exclusively in the boardroom, probably for the last 4 or 5 seasons.

JE: What else have you done at the Club?

TW: I was invited to join the Executive committee about 15 years ago and part of my role was to share responsibility for performing unpaid tasks around the Club. It was more important then because the Club were Fourth Division and were glad of any help they could get. I was involved initially doing the match videos both home and away, interviewing players and having copies of the videos on the managers desk by Monday morning. I was then invited to join the backroom staff running the bars at the Club. From that I also got involved in editing the matchday programme with Steve Bellis. I was then invited to look after the Directors and their guests on matchdays primarily serving drinks and generally looking after them.

JE: So you actually serve drinks to the Directors do you?

TW: Yes. I must admit it's all done fairly casually. The Club really go out of their way to make sure that people feel welcome at Edgeley Park in spite of the fact that we've got limited resources and

quite a small room compared to some of the bigger clubs like Blackburn.

JE: Is it true that each Director drinks a bottle of whisky before each game and then another bottle at half time just to calm their nerves?

TW: Nobody tends to drink whisky and they're all moderate drinkers I would say!

JE: Were you born in Stockport?

TW: I was actually born in Dublin but I moved to Stockport at an early age. My father was a footballer and he came over to England to follow his career. We ended up in Stockport via Birmingham City but because of injury my father was unable to continue his career. Fortunately, he got fixed up with a job fairly quickly and so we stayed as a family in Stockport from then on.

JE: How long have you been a Stockport County fan?

TW: I went to my first game as a 14 year old in 1962. I went along with a crowd of lads from the local youth club. I'd never been to a professional match other than watching my dad play as a kid and I went on a Friday night to watch Stockport County play Bradford Park Avenue.

JE: Who is your favourite old Stockport County player?

TW: Without a doubt Len White. Nothing to do with the name! It was just the fact that he was a magic little player. He only had very small feet, I think he was a size 6 boot or something like that but he was absolute magic. We only saw him as a 35 year old playing in the Fourth Division but he was an amazing player.

JE: Who is your favourite current Stockport County player?

TW: I'd have to say Jim Gannon at the moment. I'm heavily involved in Jim Gannon's testimonial committee. Over the years I've come to admire what he's done

for the club. He's an amazingly good player and not always appreciated for what he does.

JE: Did you ever play yourself?

TW: I had a trial with Stockport as a 15 year old when Keith Coates was the trainer. I played local amateur football/Saturday/Sunday league football never brilliantly but enjoyed it and at one stage I did think I had a chance but never quite made it.

Never quite made it as a professional footballer maybe. However, the services that Todd and other like him have provided the Club over the years have been invaluable. People think that football clubs are awash with money and everybody associated with the club is on a nice little earner. Maybe they are in the Premiership but certainly not in the lower divisions. To a large extent football clubs at the lower level are still community-led organisations relying substantially on large quantities of goodwill. Long may it continue.



ATTENTION ALL STOCKPORT COUNTY FANS!

This is **your** matchday programme and if you have any views that you would like to express about either the club or the town and would like to be interviewed then now is your chance! Please write to me, John England c/o Matchday Programme, Stockport County FC, Hardcastle Street, Edgeley, Stockport telling me why you (or one of your friends) should be interviewed. The most interesting and original application will be selected. If you are featured you will win a VIP Day Out for two at Edgeley Park.

TAYLORS
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County... More Taiwanese views



Two of our Taiwanese students - Regina and Valence meet skipper Mike Flynn

FOOTBALL CLUB OR FRIENDLY CLUB?

As a business school student from Taiwan, which is renowned for its manufacture of computers, I was presented with an opportunity to be a placement student for two weeks in Stockport County Football Club (hereafter SCFC). During this period, I have had contact with some of the business departments, the most notable being marketing and the many activity centres within the Club eg Conference & Banqueting, Study and Coaching. My observations of the activities soon led me to question my long held perception of English football ie: football clubs played football only. Yet I was faced with aspects of SCFC that I could only class as 'extra curricular' to mainstream football. It seemed to me that this "football club" has been launching several projects in a concerned fashion to model itself as a "community friendly club". Before I stepped foot into SCFC, my conjecture that the Club would be engaged in several aspects of business eg: sales (match tickets and merchandise), promotional activities, fans' club etc, was based on The Big League (baseball) in Taiwan. However, in (unexpected) contrast, I found that not everything SCFC has to offer has a price tag on it. Indeed, I found that many of its offers have 'priceless'



tags on them! Take the Study Centre for example - it welcomes anyone who is interested in Information Technology (IT) or computer-related learning and provides help and assistance for free. It is only one of ten football clubs in England to offer this kind of services. Over and above this, the Club also sends its players to coach pupils from 300 primary schools every week. This may be old hat for a native football follower but not so for an, albeit fast-learning football Philistine from Taiwan! I found the experience totally refreshing and welcoming.

It goes without saying that every company looks for growth and potential profit from its business activities. SCFC's main financial source is the sale of 12,000 match tickets at Edgeley Park during the season (league and cup matches). This is followed closely by income generated from its conference and banqueting facilities. This led me to question the possible reliance of the Club on these facilities as a constant source of income. Could this be sustained over the long term, in view of the fact that Stockport is well endowed with hotels that offered similar facilities, and particularly because Manchester, a world known city with all its offerings, was not many miles away. More generally, I was curious about the take up of such facilities, as offered by football clubs. My 'research' informs me that SCFC does host many company conferences and wedding banquets (probably by die hard Hatters?) This leads me to conclude that SCFC is indeed creative in its business enterprise in that it is able to combine its football expertise with requirements/requests from its community - immediate and otherwise.

Stockport County Football Club is not only aspiring to become a big and successful football club but a community club too. Its endeavours to involve the community of Stockport gives it a unique profile - one that is set to continue for a long time to come because of its investment in the people of Stockport. For this reason, I would like to re-christen SCFC as SCFC - Stockport County Friendly.

by Eugena

Reflections

Some memories of senior County observations for Alan Turner

ERNIE

Everyone who watched County in the 30s knew 'Ernie'. No one seemed to know his surname, he was just 'Ernie'. In those days there were no electronic scoreboards, and no public address system either.

To inform the crowd of anything, a notice board with a

message chalked on it was carried round the ground. That was Ernie's job. He was the official bearer of tidings, good or bad!

It was his job at Reserve team games to carry round the first team's half time score. If they were winning we carried it round in a leisurely manner, basking in the waves of cheers from the crowd as he went.

If they were losing, he walked much faster keeping his head behind his board as protection against the pie crusts and orange peel that rained down on him!

He was quite an elderly chap but he was always present with his notice board, he was part of the atmosphere of pre-war Edgeley Park!

Stan The Man

Thank you to Betty Stevenson (whose late husband Jimmy appears in the centre of this picture) for sending this picture of a rare visit by Sir Stanley Matthews to Edgeley Park.

Sir Stan who sadly died earlier this year is pictured with County trainer Bill Newton, team manager Willie Moir, assistant trainer Jimmy Stevenson and groundsman, Harold Allcock.

To date was January 18th 1958.

RIGHT: Bill Newton - Trainer, Willie Mair - manager, Jimmy Stevenson - Asst trainer, Harold Allcock - Groundsman & Stanley Matthews.



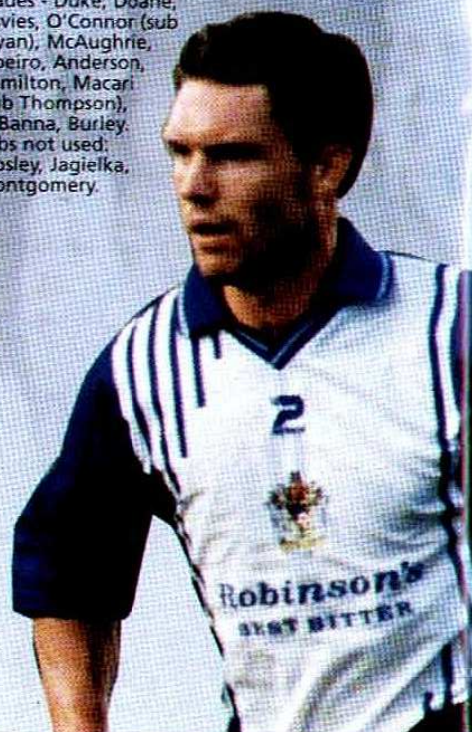
Too strong for Irons and too Sharp for Blades



The reserves final league match is this Wednesday 26 April here at Edgeley Park when Scarborough are the visitors with a 7pm kick off. County will know what they need to do depending on what happened last Wednesday (when County were visitors to fourth place Lincoln City and third placed Wrexham were visitors to Sheffield United) to secure second place and promotion to the Premier Division. Wrexham are at home to Lincoln City on Wednesday and depending on the sequence of results any one of the three teams can finish second. County returned to winning ways after three games without a win beating Scunthorpe 1-0 on the 5 April and Sheffield United 2-1 on the 12 April both here at Edgeley Park. Ben Johnson, Robert Clare and Neil Ross replaced Jonas Larson, Colin Woodthorpe and the injured Alan Bailey from the team that lost 1-0 to the top of the table Rotherham United the week before. Neil Ross had several first half chances with Redley heading clear after he had lobbed keeper Turner who also punched clear a header and then made a diving save from a shot from ten yards on the turn. Fickling cleared another Ross effort off the line and the young striker shot wide after being put through by Byrne. Other chances fell to Byrne who saw a shot turned round the post by Turner and Briggs who hit the side netting with a shot. The Irons had a couple of chances with Gray making a fine one handed save from Bull and saving from Marshall. The only goal of the game came after 30 minutes with Wilbraham heading home a Bergersen corner from ten yards. County had fewer chances in the second half with Turner saving a Hancock header and Fickling clearing a shot from Johnson off the line. Turner made a diving save to keep out a shot from Byrne and Stamp blocked a goal bound effort from McLachlan who had replaced Byrne after 85 minutes. County had brought Evans on for Ross after 60 minutes and then Hennessy for Evans who was carried off following a tackle from Barwick after 83 minutes. Scunthorpe used one substitute bringing on Masson for

Wright after 73 minutes. Gray made two saves to deny Stamp by diving at his feet and pushing a Jackson header round the post. Byrne received a yellow card after 84 minutes following a challenge on Barwick. Teams: County - Gray, Briggs, Johnson, Byrne (sub McLachlan), Hancock, Clare, Bergersen, Smith, Wilbraham, Ross (sub Evans, sub Hennessy), Allen. Subs not used: Larsson, Welsh. Iron - Turner, Fickling, L. Ridley, Jackson, Wilcox, Barwick, Marshall, Maddison, Bull, Stamp, Wright (sub Masson). Subs not used: Andersib, Herrick, McCombe, S. Ridley. The following week the only change to the starting line up saw Colin Woodthorpe replace Robert Clare. County's first came after ten minutes when a Bergersen cross hit Allen and the ball fell to Byrne who shot home from ten yards through a crowd of players. The second came after 30 minutes with a fabulous back heeled goal from six yards by Ross from a Bergersen cross. County had other chances with Duke saving Bergersen shot and another back heel effort from Ross. The keeper made a diving save to keep out a Wilbraham header who then had a shot cleared off the line by O'Connor. Gray in the County goal made saves from Macari, Hamilton and El Banna who also had a goal bound shot blocked by Briggs. There were first half booking for Byre following a challenge on Hamilton who was also booked for a late challenge on Briggs. County made a half time substitution with Mannion replacing Smith whilst Evans replaced Wilbraham (who had a broken toe) after 57 minutes and Hooper coming on for Bergersen after 67 minutes. The Blades made two substitutions bringing Cryan on for O'Connor after 61 minutes and Thompson for Macari after 63 minutes. The Blades put more pressure on County in the second half with Gray making a reaction save from O'Connor and then recovered to stop a back pass from Briggs on the line. El Banna forced a brilliant one handed save from Gray who then recovered to dive on the loose ball before Ribeiro got a touch. The Blades scored after 61 minutes with McAughrie hooking home from the corner

of the six yards box from a Cryan corner kick. In the closing stages Davies hit the outside of the post. County's chances fell to Wilbraham who shot wide on a one on one with keeper Duke, Evans who hit the side nettings with a shot from ten yards and Allen who had a header blocked by Doane from a Hooper cross. County had three bookings in the second half Johnson for a challenge on Hamilton, Hancock for kicking the ball away and Woodthorpe for dissent. Teams - Gray, Briggs, Johnson, Byrne, Hancock, Woodthorpe, Bergersen (sub Hooper), Smith (sub Mannion), Wilbraham (sub Evans), Ross, Allen. Subs not used: Clare, Welsh. Blades - Duke, Doane, Davies, O'Connor (sub Cryan), McAughrie, Ribeiro, Anderson, Hamilton, Macari (sub Thompson), El Banna, Burley. Subs not used: Mosley, Jagielka, Montgomery.



Aaron Wilbraham... secured the win against Scunthorpe

PONTINS LEAGUE 1st DIV.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rotherham	20	11	5	4	29	17	38
Stockport C20	10	4	6	34	25	34	
Wrexham	20	9	5	6	32	24	32
Blackpool	21	8	6	7	25	21	30
Lincoln City	20	8	6	6	23	24	30
Scunthorpe	20	8	5	7	24	22	29
York City	21	8	3	10	20	31	27
Sheffield Utd	20	7	5	8	27	24	26
Shrewsbury T20	6	8	6	17	19	26	
Walsall	20	6	5	9	31	29	23
Notts County	19	6	4	9	27	31	22
Scarborough	19	2	6	11	14	36	12
	240	89	62	89	303	303	329

STOCKPORT COUNTY RESERVES APPEARANCES 99/2000

	APP	PSUB	NP	SUB	GOALS
C. ALLEN	8	0	0	0	1
M. ANDREWS	0	0	0	0	0
B. ANGELL	0	0	0	0	0
A. BAILEY	11	0	0	0	6
T. BENNETT	8	0	0	0	1
K. BERGERSEN	14	0	0	0	13
K. BRIGGS	20	0	0	0	11
C. BYRNE	12	0	0	0	3
P. CARRATT	0	1	1	2	0
R. CLARE	0	1	0	0	0
S. CONNELLY	0	0	0	0	0
D. COOPER	2	0	0	0	0
K. CRAWFORD	0	1	0	0	0
J. DALY	6	5	1	0	4
T. DINNING	2	0	0	0	0
L. D'IAFFO	1	0	0	0	0
T. ELLIS	3	1	0	0	1
K. FRADIN	0	0	0	0	1
J. GANNON	4	0	0	0	0
M. GLENNON	5	0	0	0	0
A. GIBB	1	0	0	0	0
I. GRAY	17	0	0	0	0
S. GUMMER	1	0	0	0	0
G. HANCOCK	23	0	0	0	0
M. HENNESSY	1	9	7	0	3
D. HOOPER	4	4	0	0	0
D. HURST	0	1	0	0	0
B. JOHNSON	19	1	2	0	1
G. JOHANSSON	0	0	1	0	0
A. KILTY	0	0	0	0	0
J. LARSSON	0	3	1	0	0
A. LILLIS	0	6	0	0	0
M. MCINTOSH	0	0	0	0	1
F. MCLACHLAN	0	5	6	0	0
S. MANNION	0	2	4	0	0
R. MATTHEWS	4	0	0	0	1
C. NASH	1	0	0	0	0
S. NICHOLSON	1	0	0	0	0
S. PIONEL	0	1	0	0	0
N. ROSS	5	3	0	0	3
P. ROWLEY	1	0	0	0	0
B. SHUTTLEWORTH	1	0	0	0	0
D. SMITH	16	0	0	0	0
L. VILLIERS	0	0	0	0	0
A. WELSH	0	3	3	0	0
A. WILBRAHAM	12	0	0	0	3
P. WILD	0	2	1	0	0
C. WOODTHORPE	10	0	0	0	2
	253	62	53	41	

STOCKPORT COUNTY RESERVES FIXTURE LIST 1999/2000

Date	Opponents	Venue	Score	Scorers
18/08/99	Notts County	Home	4-1	Bailey 2, Briggs, Woodthorpe
01/09/99	Shrewsbury Town	Away	1-1	Wilbraham
08/09/99	Blackpool	Away	3-0	Daly 2, Bennett
15/09/99	Wrexham	Home	0-0	
22/09/99	Oldham Ath (Cup)	Away	0-1	
29/09/99	Walsall	Away	2-3	Angell, Byrne
06/10/99	York City	Home	1-2	Angell
11/10/99	Lincoln City	Home	1-0	Wilbraham
27/10/99	Sheffield United	Away	0-2	
10/11/99	Rochdale (Cup)	Home	3-1	Angell 2, Bergersen
24/11/99	Macclesfield Town (Cup)	Home	4-1	Bailey 2, Fradin, Woodthorpe
01/12/99	Rotherham United	Home	1-3	Angell
15/12/99	Scunthorpe United	Away	2-1	Matthews, McIntosh
19/01/00	Walsall	Home	5-3	Bailey 2, Angell, Ross, Johnson (P)
26/01/00	Shrewsbury Town	Home	0-0	
01/02/00	Notts County	Away	2-0	Daly 2 (1 pen)
09/01/00	York City	Away	3-0	Allen, Byrne, Ross
16/02/00	Scarborough	Away	3-2	Hennessy (2) (1 pen) Evans
23/02/00	Wrexham	Away	3-3	Hennessy (2) (1 pen) Bergersen 2
28/02/00	Blackpool	Home	0-2	
28/03/00	Rotherham United	Away	0-1	
5/04/00	Scunthorpe United	Home	1-0	Wilbraham
12/04/00	Sheffield United	Home	2-1	Byrne, Ross
19/04/00	Lincoln City	Away	7.00pm	
26/04/00	Scarborough	Home	7.00pm	



Evans is Hell for Hull

The youth team were unlucky on the 8th April going down 1-0 away at Bradford City. Robert Clare hit the bar in the first half with several chances being missed. The only goal of the game came after 70 minutes through Scott Kerr.

Team: Williams, Rowley, Johnson, Andrews, Larsson, Clare, McLachlan, Wild, Hennessy, Evans, Welsh (sub Carratt). Subs Not Used: Albiston, Fenna, Hooper, Thomas.

The following Saturday, 15 April, Hull City were beaten 3-0 at Timperley. Lee Evans had a shot cleared off the line and forced a fine one handed save from Tigers keeper Adam Valente with a header from an Andrew Welsh cross. Evans finally hit the net

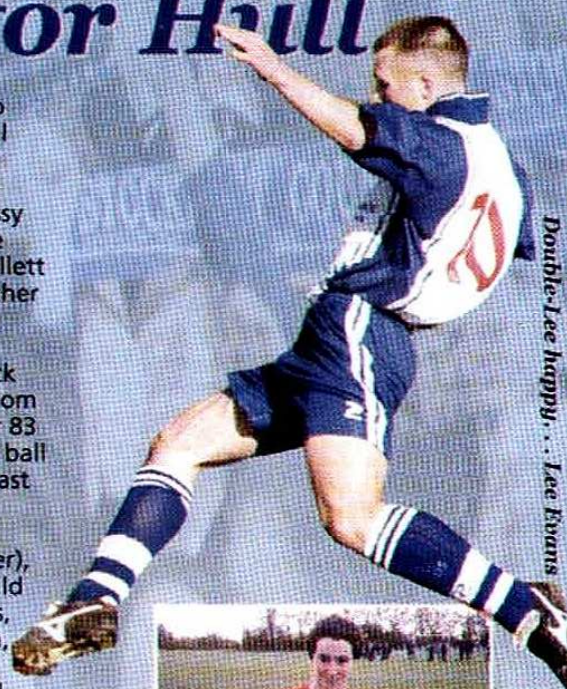
with a cracker from 25 yards from another cross from Welsh to give County the lead after 20 minutes. Evans was also unlucky when he tried to lob

Valente who had come out to narrow the angle and the ball went wide. County were reduced to 10 men after 65 minutes with Michael Hennessy being sent off. Valente made another good save from a bullet header from Evans from another Welsh cross. County's second came after 75 minutes when Evans found Welsh at the back post and Welsh fired home from 5 yards. The third came after 83 minutes when Welsh laid the ball through to Evans who shot past the advancing Valente.

Team: Williams, Rowley, Thomas, Andrews (sub Hooper), Larsson, Clare, McLachlan, Wild (sub Carratt), Hennessy, Evans, Welsh. Subs Not Used: Fenna, Stanton, Scraggs.

This week I like to offer good wishes to Ryan Albiston who has decided to give up football and go into full time education. Ryan, son of Arthur, was born in Manchester and was with Manchester United's School of Excellence. He joined Norwich City as a youth trainee in July 1999 and County took over his YT contract in January after a month's trial. A centre forward, Ryan scored 2 goals in 1 full and 3 substitute appearances for the youth team.

Geoff Thomas



Double Lee happy... Lee Evans



Ryan Albiston... son of Arthur

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE

STOCKPORT COUNTY YOUTH TEAM APPEARANCES 99/2000

	App	PSub	NP	Sub	Goals
R. Albiston	1	3	3	8	2
M. Andrews	10	3	0	0	0
J. Baker	1	0	0	0	0
K. Briggs	5	0	0	0	0
C. Budden	2	0	0	3	0
P. Carratt	4	6	4	4	1
R. Clare	27	0	0	0	2
P. Clitheroe	0	0	1	0	0
M. Cordingley	0	1	0	0	0
J. Daly	7	1	0	0	9
L. Evans	16	0	4	4	13
S. Fenna	2	9	9	0	0
S. Guest	0	1	0	0	0
G. Hancock	10	1	0	0	0
M. Hennessy	22	3	0	0	20
D. Hooper	15	5	3	1	0
G. Johansson	4	1	0	0	0
B. Johnson	6	0	1	0	0
A. Kieley	16	1	0	4	1
J. Larsson	23	0	0	2	0
A. Lillis	3	0	0	0	2
F. McLachlan	24	2	1	0	3
P. McGing	1	0	0	0	0
L. Mudd	10	6	5	0	0
A. Nixon	1	0	0	0	0
B. Norton	0	0	0	2	0
N. Ross	4	0	0	0	2
P. Rowley	20	2	0	0	0
J. Scraggs	0	0	2	0	0
J. Stanton	0	1	1	1	0
A. Thomas	9	3	8	0	1
D. Thorpe	0	1	0	0	0
L. Villiers	10	0	0	0	0
G. Walsh	0	0	0	2	6
A. Welsh	22	0	3	3	6
P. Wild	13	7	7	0	1
S. Williams	9	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	297	57	78	64	

STOCKPORT COUNTY YOUTH TEAM FIXTURE LIST 1999/2000

Date	Opponents	Venue	Res.	Scorers
14/08/99	Rotherham United	Away	2-1	Hennessy 2
21/08/99	Chester City	Home	1-1	Hennessy
28/08/99	Lincoln City	Away	3-0	Daly 2, Hennessy
04/09/99	Mansfield Town	Home	2-3	Hennessy 2
11/09/99	Wrexham	Away	0-4	
18/09/99	Sheffield United	Home	3-5	Lillis, McLachlan, Thorpe
02/10/99	Chesterfield	Home	3-2	Clare, Hennessy, Wild
16/10/99	Port Vale	Away	1-1	Carratt
23/10/99	Tranmere Rovers (Cup)	Away	2-0	Hennessy, McLachlan
06/11/99	Oldham Athletic (Cup)	Home	3-3	Evans 3
13/11/99	Bury (Cup)	Away	2-7	Evans, Hennessy (pen)
16/11/99	Sunderland (FA Youth Cup)	Home	2-3	Evans, Welsh
20/11/99	Rochdale (Cup)	Home	3-1	Daly 2, Welsh
27/11/99	Rotherham United	Home	3-3	Daly, Hennessy, McLachlan
04/12/99	Chester City	Away	2-2	Evans, Hooper
08/12/99	Wrexham	Home	7-0	Hennessy 2, Daly 2, Evans, Lillis
22/01/00	Sheffield United	Away	2-3	Welsh, Kieley
29/01/00	Mansfield Town	Away	6-0	Daly 2, Hennessy 2, Ross, Welsh
12/02/00	Port Vale	Home	2-2	Hennessy 2
19/02/00	Lincoln City	Home	4-0	Albiston, Hennessy 2
26/02/00	Scarborough	Away	2-3	Evans, Welsh
04/03/00	Wrexham	Away	2-1	Evans, Hennessy (pen)
11/03/00	Preston North End	Home	2-5	Evans 2
25/03/00	Burnley	Away	1-1	Clare
31/03/00	Carlisle United	Home	1-1	Ross
08/04/00	Bradford City	Away	0-1	
15/04/00	Hull City	Home	3-0	Evans 2, Welsh
22/04/00	Mansfield Town	Home		

Football League Youth Alliance North Central Conference

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sheffield Utd	16	10	5	1	31	12	35
Port Vale	16	9	4	3	32	19	31
Rotherham United	16	10	3	3	33	20	33
Mansfield Town	16	6	6	4	26	23	24
County	15	6	5	4	41	27	23
Wrexham	16	5	4	7	25	34	19
Chester City	16	3	5	8	19	31	14
Chesterfield	15	3	2	10	17	25	11
Lincoln City	16	1	2	13	10	43	5
TOTAL	142	53	36	53	234	234	195

Merit League Division One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scarborough	7	5	2	0	18	5	17
Burnley	7	3	3	1	14	5	12
Preston NE	6	4	0	2	14	13	12
Carlisle Utd	6	3	2	1	7	7	11
Bradford City	8	3	0	5	9	16	9
Mansfield T	7	2	2	3	11	11	8
County	7	2	2	3	11	12	8
Wrexham	7	2	1	4	8	15	7
Hull City	7	0	2	5	5	13	2
TOTAL	62	24	14	24	97	97	86

HERE IT IS...

The Bull From Bellis

JASPER CARROTT LOOKALIKES, EGGS IN CUPS AND CARAMAC

It's been a funny old sea'son although at times not exactly hilarious - certain referees have seen to that. Whilst the draws against QPR and Wolves away from home might seem creditable results they will stick in the craw for a long time. In essence three awful refereeing decisions cost the club four valuable points and whilst I am sure we are not alone in our feelings of being hard done by - decisions such as these were very hard to swallow. But as the current season draws to a close let us reflect on the positives rather than the negatives. The December win at Maine Road was unbelievable and I'm still not convinced it really happened, similarly the win at the Reebok was particularly pleasureable.

But we had been treated to a major highlight much earlier in the season Friday August 27th to be exact when Sky TV visited Edgeley Park for the visit of Birmingham City.

Now the man who manages Birmingham happens to be a Jasper Carrott lookalike who appears to have something permanently stuck up his nose and gets right up mine. To hear his sycophantic commentary on Sky is enough to make me want to poke my own eyes out as a viable

alternative and to get the opportunity to make him sick on TV - fills me with glee. To be honest multi million pound Birmingham battered us on the night but failed to hit the net. With the game heading for a stalemate young Aaron Wilbraham leapt off the bench to smash the



ball in the back of the net to the delight of the County faithful. Poor old Trev must have been gutted when Laurent D'Jaffo made it two - he was positively suicidal and there we had it - a night of pure ecstasy that resulted in a 3am taxi home, a severe ear bashing from the Mrs and a bloody great big smile on Saturday morning. When you haven't won for 18 games or so - it is easy to forget such moments - but all I have to do to console myself is remember Trevor's face that night.

Well it's that time of year again when quite a serious religious celebration gives lots of companies the opportunity to fleece the general public and like lambs to the proverbial slaughter we all fall for it. I am referring of course to the 'Easter Egg'.

These come in various sizes but all share one common factor - they are ridiculously expensive. Take the traditional egg in a cup variety. The mugs can be bought for less than £2 on their own but put a cheap, thin, empty easter egg in it and wrap it in cling film and hey presto - it's worth £4.99. Alternatively you can take the same thin, cheap, empty egg - put four chocolates in it - stick a box round it and as if by magic £6.99 appears.

It's a right royal rip off and one which I've fallen for again. My personal favourites are those mini eggs - which are incredibly morish and as long standing sufferers of this column will know - my pet hate at this time of year is the Caramac egg - it really is the lowest of the low and a sure sign that the person who bought it you - doesn't actually like you.

Steve Bellis

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Carling OPTA

Sean Connolly v Mark Robinson

Sean Connolly may sound a bit like Sean Connery, but there is nothing secret about the ability of Stockport's right-sided defensive agent.

Swindon's Mark Robinson has coped well in what has been a very difficult season for Swindon Town, although a recent revival has at least boosted spirits around the County Ground.

Connolly has been the better of the pair in front of goal with two strikes to his name and he has also passed with a higher degree of accuracy and has created two goals more than his Swindon opponent.

Robinson has spent his season in the weakest defence in the Division, so he has been under a lot of pressure, explaining why his passes have been less accurate and why he has been unable to have as many shots as Connolly.

Both players have impressive dribble completion statistics, which would indicate that they have not been the players who have dribbled into trouble and lost possession for their respective sides.

Connolly is a constant thorn in the side of the player he is marking as he loves to tackle and clear the danger from the Stockport penalty area. As Stockport play with four at the back and Swindon tend to play with a five-man defence, Connolly has the greater defensive responsibility which explains why he has been the more persistent tackler and made more defensive clearances. Both players have been booked quite often this season, but this is hardly surprising considering how difficult it has been for Swindon this season and for Stockport since the New Year.

	Connolly	Robinson
Minutes On Pitch	3,327	3,213
Goal Attempts		
Goals	2	0
Shots On Target (inc goals)	6	1
Shots Off Target	4	5
Blocked Shots	3	3
Passing		
Goal Assists	2	0
Total Passes	1,365	1,564
Pass Completion %	62%	53%
Crossing		
Total Crosses	55	123
Cross Completion %	25%	28%
Dribbling		
Dribbles & Runs	58	47
Dribble Completion %	97%	96%
Defending		
Tackles Made	103	81
Tackles Won %	43%	28%
Blocks	68	30
Clearances	230	134
Interceptions	95	20
Discipline		
Fouls	43	32
Offside	0	0
Yellow Cards	7	8
Red Cards	0	0

Shining Wits

More Managerial Moans

It's been too long since we had our old chum Aldo in this column. The Tranmere boss saw his side slump to a 3-1 defeat at Swindon and instantly had a ready made excuse. It was all down to the Prenton Park sides cup exploits.

Poor old Aldo! Strangely, I don't

remember our former boss Dave Jones moaning when we had to play a mammoth 67 League and Cup games in the 1996/97 season resulting in our Coca Cola Cup Semi Final appearance and promotion to Division One. So come off it John - for once in your life just admit that your team were well beaten. You can do it you know!

You are refereeing a recent Premier League fixture between Tottenham Hotspur and Aston Villa at White Hart Lane. Shortly after half time Villa win a corner which is swung in and volleyed towards goal but strikes the hand of a Spurs player not 4 inches from the place where the ball was volleyed from. Do you:-

- Apply the rules properly and wave play on as the incident was obviously a case of ball to hand.
- Apply some common sense and wave play on as the incident was obviously a case of ball to hand.
- Make a right Town Halls of the whole thing and award a penalty which completely changes the course of the match.



Answer: C

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Nationwide

FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Top Teams Stumble

With Charlton Athletic failing to guarantee promotion the previous night by losing at home to Huddersfield Town, last Saturday saw the other sides at the top trying to secure that second spot. To them, the Huddersfield win was the worst result that could come out of South East London, as in reality it is still just a question of when and not if with regards to promotion for the Valiants. Much better for the other top of the table sides if the Terriers had not picked up any



Alan Pouton... levelled against City.

points, but they did and are fifth in the table as a result. Indeed, there is now a five gap between Birmingham in the play-off place of sixth and Wolves one place below them. In effect, with only two games left after today, the top six look likely to remain unaltered with the only issue to be resolved that of who secures the second automatic spot with Charlton. Manchester City dropped two points last week with the 1-1 draw at Grimsby, in a game which saw the Mariners largest crowd of the season, at 8,166. The Blues got off to the perfect start when Spencer Prior headed his second goal in two games since moving from Derby County when he headed home in the sixth minute following a Mark Kennedy free-kick and a Richard Jobson lay-off. At that point City should have wrapped the game up, but instead allowed Grimsby to dictate and it came as no surprise when Alan Pouton levelled 10 minutes later. Jobson was probably the best player in the City side, which does not auger well for next season if a 37 year old defender is your top man in a Premiership defence.

Ipswich therefore made two points on City after their 1-0 win here at Edgeley Park but elsewhere at the top other teams stumbled. Barnsley went to Vale Park to face a Port Vale surely on the way down, but could only return to Yorkshire with the one point. Vale went ahead in the 9th minutes thanks to Sagi Burton before Craig Hignett levelled matters two minutes from the break. John Curtis then put the Tykes ahead in the 66th minute only to see Chris Morgan handle in the box in the final minute to allow Tommy Widdrington to hit home the penalty to

give Brian Horton's team some hope of staying up. Birmingham City lost at home to Nottingham Forest, who seem to have finally hauled themselves out of any threat of another relegation. The sad side of this game was a bad injury to 35 year old Forest defender Colin Calderwood, who broke a leg in three places and whose career may be in the balance as a result of his injuries.

At the depressing end of the table, most teams had a decent weekend with the bottom five all acquiring at least one point for their efforts. Today's visitors from Swindon showed they will battle all the way with a 3-1 home win over Tranmere, only the fourth home three pointer of the season. They had the G-force to thank for the win, the goals coming from Griffin, Grazioli and Gray. Despite this, the drop beckons as West Brom only need another win to send the



Last gasp leveller for Tommy Widdrington.

Robins into Division Two. Despite losing Lee Hughes for the season to injury, Albion hit the net four times at the Hawthorns for the visit of Bolton, only to see a last minute Bergsson goal see the game finish in a thrilling 4-4 scoreline. Port Vale took a point from Barnsley, as mentioned above, and Walsall came from two down to take a point from Crystal Palace in a thrilling finish at the Bescot. Losing to goals from Forsell and Mullins, the Saddlers took what may prove to be a vital point with goals from Matias in the 83rd minute and another from Paul Hall right at the death. Crewe Alexandra managed a very necessary win with the 2-1 success over QPR at Gresty Road, goals from Smith and Rivers enough to earn the points despite an earlier Langley equaliser.

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Charlton	42	27	8	7	76	38	89
Man City	42	23	10	9	69	37	79
Ipswich	42	22	12	8	64	38	78
Barnsley	42	22	10	10	84	61	76
Huddersfield	42	20	11	11	60	40	71
Birmingham	42	20	10	12	61	43	70
Wolves	42	18	11	13	57	46	65
Bolton	42	17	13	12	60	48	64
Fulham	42	16	15	11	45	36	63
Blackburn	42	15	15	12	52	44	60
QPR	42	14	16	12	55	50	58
Norwich	42	13	14	15	42	46	53
Tranmere	42	14	11	17	53	62	53
Sheff Utd	42	13	12	17	55	66	51
Portsmouth	42	13	10	19	51	59	49
Grimsby	42	13	10	19	39	63	49
Nottn Forest	42	12	12	18	47	52	48
Crystal Palace	42	11	15	16	53	62	48
STOCKPORT	42	11	15	16	46	61	48
Crewe	42	12	8	22	39	61	44
West Brom	42	8	18	16	38	57	42
Walsall	42	9	13	20	49	72	40
Port Vale	42	7	14	21	47	64	35
Swindon	42	7	11	24	34	70	32



Mark Rivers... earns three vital points.

Easter Monday's First Division fixtures:-

- Barnsley v Norwich City
- Birmingham City v Walsall
- Blackburn Rovers v Charlton Athletic
- Bolton Wanderers v Wolverhampton Wanderers
- Fulham v Nottingham Forest
- Ipswich Town v Crystal Palace
- Port Vale v Huddersfield Town
- Portsmouth v Manchester City
- Sheffield United v Crewe Alexandra
- Tranmere Rovers v Queens Park Rangers
- West Bromwich Albion v Grimsby Town

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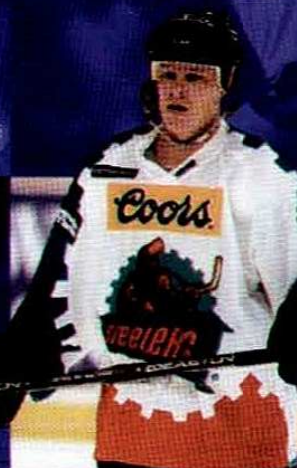
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FOOTBALL in the Community



First of all may I wish you all a happy Easter from everyone in the Community Office. You can still send us some Easter Eggs if you want!!!

STAFF

As some of you know we lost the services of Gary Williamson to Macclesfield Town FC recently which led to some re-jigging of the current staff as follows:

- 1 Mark Frankland - responsible for activities at schools in Central and North Stockport.
- 2 Mike Smith - South and West Stockport.
- 3 Dave Wardle - South and East Stockport.
- 4 Alan Clinton - Tameside and Glossop areas.
- 5 John Williams and Ian Cosier - North Cheshire area.
- 6 Rick Makin - High Peak District.

As you can see we cover a very large area in and around Stockport, if you have any queries or require any information on our vast range of activities contact the relevant member of staff on 0161-282-2971 and I am sure they will be able to help you out.

SOCCER COURSES

A big hello to all the participants who attended our Soccer Courses last week at Woodley, Two Trees, Chapel and Moorfield. Hope you all enjoyed yourselves and enjoy today's game. We still have four more courses left during these school holidays starting tomorrow at:

- 1 Davenport College
- 2 Marple Hall High
- 3 Etchells Primary, Heald Green.
- 4 William Hulme Grammar

All venues start at 10am and finish at 3pm and cost £35.00 per

child with plenty of give-aways such as 2 x tickets to see SCFC in action plus a limited edition mug amongst other things - so hurry down and join in all the fun and games, see you there!!

IN TERM COACHING

After this weeks courses we are back on the in-term schools coaching programme, unfortunately its only a four week term as opposed to the normal six-seven weeks.

Anyway we will be visiting the following schools next term:- St Benedicts - Handforth, Hursthead - Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Flowery Field - Hyde, Yew Tree - Denton, Brookdene - Handforth, Globe Lane, St Thomas, Arden, Peak Dale, Willows - Wythenshawe, Leigh St - Hyde, St Pauls - Poynton, Gatley, Dove Holes, St Pauls - Brinnington, Adswold, Brookhead, Russell Scott - Denton, Orrishmere, St Mary's - Reddish, Mersey Vale, St Mary's - Marple, Etchells, Queens Road and finally St Stephens - Denton.

We look forward to seeing you all again.

PRIZE DRAW

Welcome to our winner of a corporate day out here at Stockport County, Chris Johnson along with his family who are our guests today in the Firstec Restaurant, Chris' name was the lucky one out of the hat which was drawn at half-time versus Barnsley - enjoy your meal and the game, Chris, well done we will be drawing the winner for the next prize of a day out at SCFC at half-time during the game against Forest. All of you who replied early enough to qualify for this Easter Soccer Courses will be entered into the hat - good luck to all of you.

AND FINALLY.....

Well that's all for now folks have a good day and we'll see you back at Edgeley Park for the visit of Nottingham Forest. Take care.

Yours in Sport.

Mike Smith
Community Officer.

S.C.E.P.A.

Stockport County Ex Players Association



The girls from Glossopdale Community College in action during the Adidas Predator Cup area finals - U13's girls up in Oldham taking on Stoke City



And Scoring!!!



Mike Smith and Ian Cosier receiving a cheque from representatives from S.C.E.P.A., who very kindly sponsored our Easter Soccer Courses - Thank you to all at S.C.E.P.A.



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More about Moore

The latest from our Disabled Supporters Club

Welcome to today's crucial game against Swindon Town.

It was great to see the 'Pitchside' enclosure full for our last home game against Ipswich Town, thanks to all that attended.

Today's opponents have had a torrid season both on and off the field. A

cousin of mine, Brenda, is a Swindon Town fan and has written about the club on our web site. After today's game, point your browsers to www.scdsc.freeuk.com and select the snips page from the main menu. On the website you will also be able to find out more about Ian Moore.

As we approach the end of the season we have just one remaining away game against Huddersfield Town, we are running transport to this game for disabled fans. Please get in touch with me if you require any further details. Huddersfield have great disabled facilities but it can

get cold sat on the corner of the ground so please wrap up if you are going.

I would like to ask all supporters to support our request that get well cards be sent to one of our members who is in Pendlebury Childrens Hospital.

Carl Cockbain has had spinal surgery and is still in intensive care and feeling very down. We would like you to send get well cards to help cheer him up and lift his spirits. Please send them to: Carl Cockbain, c/o ICU, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, Pendlebury, Manchester. A number of football clubs have also supported our request with cards and messages of support coming from Blackpool, Manchester City, Grimsby and Bury and we hope to receive many more.

Hope you enjoy today's game and cheer County on to that long, long awaited win.



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Chris Williams
General Secretary, SCDSC

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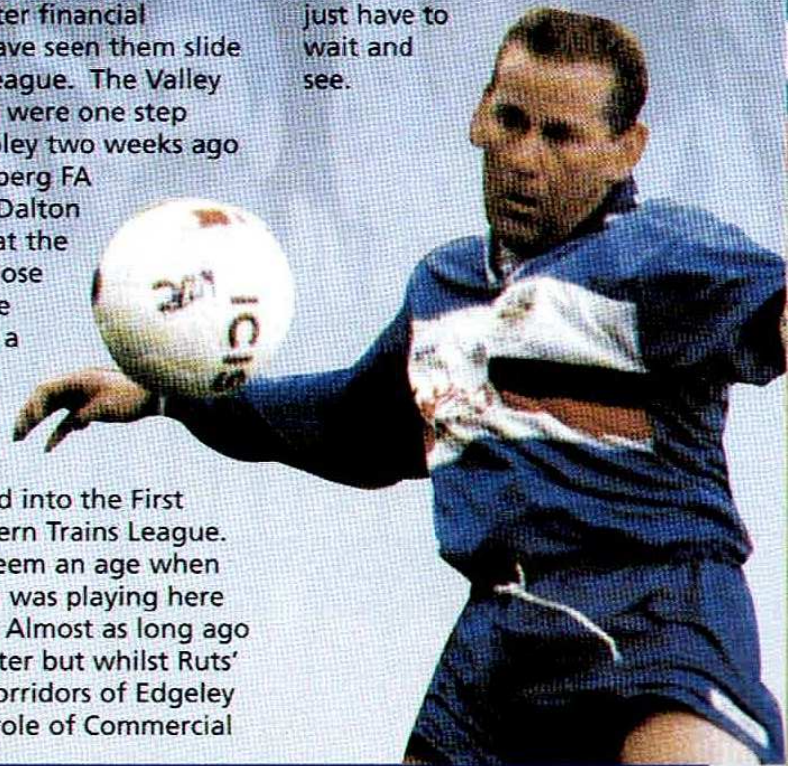
Chris Davies' non league round up

After Hyde United looked dead and buried they are suddenly in with a great chance of gaining promotion to the Conference and they may have to thank Droylesden supremo David Pace. It has always been the wish of Pace to be the top dog in Tameside but he could have inadvertently handed Hyde the title. After beating leaders Leigh RMI and taking a point off Gateshead he may have derailed the Leigh bandwagon and their seven point lead at the top of the table has been whittled down to just one as Hyde suddenly come good again. It really looked all over two weeks ago with Leigh going so well and Hyde in the middle of a mini slump. Doesn't it go to show that two weeks in soccer can be a long time. Now there really is going to be a great climax to the season in the Unibond League with the prize a mega one.

Radcliffe Borough were looking good for promotion from the Second Division of the Unibond but a defeat last Saturday at Belper has put a spoke in the wheels. Another 'big' club in this Division is

Accrington Stanley and with just under a thousand at their home game last week could sneak in to send shivers down the spine of manager John Colman's last club Ashton United. With Witton Albion and Burscough also in the running, Unibond chiefs will be delighted that both their Divisions are going to the wire. At the other end Flixton took to saying goodbye to the Unibond after financial problems have seen them slide down the league. The Valley Parade club were one step from Wembley two weeks ago in the Carlsberg FA Vase when Dalton Steele was at the helm but those dreams have turned into a nightmare as they look certain to be relegated into the First North Western Trains League. Doesn't it seem an age when Dave Logan was playing here at County? Almost as long ago as John Rutter but whilst Ruts' walks the corridors of Edgeley Park in his role of Commercial

Manager, Logan is still turning on the magic for Whitby Town. They have made great progress this last couple of years getting promotion from the Northern League and going up the first time of asking into Unibond Premier Division. They made a bad start but goals from full back Logan have helped Whitby into the comfort zone. How long will the old boy go on for we will just have to wait and see.



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Down to Earth

Ian Moore comes down to earth with a bump against Ipswich. The two goal hero at Palace did everything but score against Town and will be hoping to take his goal tally to double figures today.



Hatters Matters

With Hatters Independent Supporters Club Secretary Billy Byrne

These notes were written before our game at Crewe so hopefully we will have broken our 'non-winning' run, but whatever happened at Gresty Road, today's game is also vital and one that we need to win not only for the three points that will ensure our safety but more importantly for the fans who have continued to support County through this terrible run. I know that like me we will all have our views on exactly what and where it has all gone wrong since Christmas but no matter how disappointed or angry we may be (and I admit to being pretty annoyed after the Ipswich game) now is not the time to turn against the club, we need to pull together and support the boys and then at the end of the season we can try to work out what went wrong and what we ALL can do to make sure that next season we can once again turn Edgeley Park into the ground that no-one wants to play at the County the team that no-one likes to play against. On Wednesday the HISC will be meeting with the Directors and representatives of Stockport County, this has become a regular event where both sides can express and exchange views and opinions on a wide range of subjects, these meetings show the continuing strong links between the club and the HISC and although the discussions can be a little 'heated' at times I hope that everyone realises how important these meetings are to both sides. I'm sure that you will realise that we already have a full agenda for the meeting but if there is a question or view that you want to put to the club please contact Norman Beverley on 0161 285 7736 or Billy Byrne on 0161 406 9524 and we will do our best to put your view across. One thing that we will be giving the club is our own survey on what the fans feel about the

club and the events of the last 12 months and we hope that along with the clubs own survey that if changes are needed then they will be made. I hope to give you a full report of our meeting in the next programme notes. I wrote in the last notes about Imagine FM withdrawing from providing the commentaries for County games, this decision has now been confirmed and I am sure it is a blow to all supporters of County. Despite the best attempts of the HISC we have been unable to get a full explanation for the decision and so far our correspondence to Imagine and Talks Radio (who own Imagine) and The Wireless Group (who own them both) has not even been acknowledged. We have however gained the support of our local MPs and various disabled groups who share our anger and disappointment at the decision so the fight is not yet over. If like me you are NOT female and aged between 10 - 40 (which is what the controller of Imagine has stated is now her target audience) feel free to copy me and retire your radio. This is only a suggestion and is not part of an organised campaign by the HISC to boycott Imagine but if enough people do it off their own backs then who knows what will happen? On a happier note Jim Gannons testimonial year got off to a great start and the attendance at



the First Tec showed that the loyalty shown by Jim to County has not gone unnoticed by the supporters and that 10 years here is something that should be recognised and celebrated. So well done to Jim and I'm sure that all his other events will be as well attended.

HISC FORTHCOMING EVENTS Tuesday 25th April

The Reddish branch will be meeting at the Railway Inn North Reddish, two players will be attending it starts at 8.00pm and as always EVERYONE is welcome.

Sunday 7th May End of Season Function

This event is almost sold out there are a few tickets still available and cost £4.00 Adults and £2.00 concessions. Please contact any branch for tickets or phone Norman Beverley on 0161 285 7736 or Billy Byrne on 0161 406 9524 if you are having trouble obtaining tickets, this is one event you will not want to miss.

And Finally.....

It looks like I've lost my pre season bets that County would finish in the Top 12 but I could recoup some money by Moss Side City not going up (I'm clutching at straws here) so far that season only Up the Ipswich! - Although if it came to a choice between City and that team that Trevor Francis manages in his spare time when Sky don't need him then I'm afraid that I will gladly lose my money - God what a terrible game Football is. Thanks for reading

Billy Byrne

Noticeboard

Season Ticket Prices Held

Season Ticket holders will get the opportunity to renew their seats this week when the annual season ticket information brochures are mailed out.

The club have decided not to increase prices for the 2000/2001 season and have reduced the prices for students.

Matchday prices have also

been held as a gesture of the clubs appreciation for the support received this season. Season ticket holders will also be able to take advantage of preferential interest rates on loans offered by the clubs new Community Coaching sponsors Colonial, who are offering the same rates as currently offered to existing clients. Also enclosed with the brochure will be a questionnaire about the club



designed specifically for Season Ticket holders.

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County Critics

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In Review: "Cow and Chicken" (video, cert U)
OK, folks, move along. There's nothing to see here. Nothing unusual at all. This is just a normal, everyday story of a brother and sister trying to make their way in a cruel, but ultimately wonderful, world. But here's the twist, and I think I'm right in saying that this is fairly unique even in the surreal, crazy mixed up world of cartoons. Big brother is chicken, and little sister is cow. Hence, the title, "Cow and Chicken". Riiight. Now I

understand. As the theme tune says "Mamma had a chicken, Mamma had a cow, Daddy was proud; he didn't care how." He didn't care that the fruit of his loins were farmyard stock. It didn't occur to him that something may be awry. His problem not mine. Or yours. Anyway, if you can get past the fairly bizarre premise of the thing (and let's face it, it doesn't actually matter in cartoons, does it, otherwise someone would have pointed out that if you pull someone's tongue, it doesn't actually snap back up like a roller blind) this is one of the familiar of the current crop of 'toons. Eye candy for the kids, but with some great throwaway lines aimed purely at adults. Episodes on this compilation (13 on one tape - bargain) include "Who is Super Cow?", "Ugliest Weenie," and "Molting Fairy". That should give you some idea of what we're dealing with here. Enjoy. Or be completely baffled. The choice is yours.



In Review: "Galaxy Quest" (Film, Cert 15)
Well, I guess it had to happen. Star Trek, surely a thinly-concealed spoof anyway, is itself being lampooned in this latest sci-fi blockbuster.

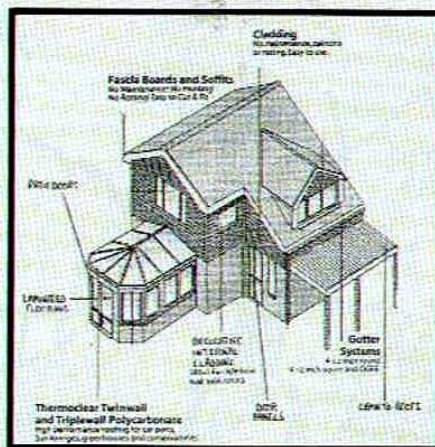
The crew of the N.S.E.A. Protector - otherwise known as the cast of hit TV show Galaxy Quest (very different from Star Trek, you see) - are kidnapped by aliens who are big fans of the show and are in a spot of intergalactic trouble. Sounds like a possible turkey - the road to Hollywood is littered with spoofs which either miss the point or are simply not funny. But this is a sharp satire which works on many levels. The level that it works for me is that Sigourney Weaver's in it. But maybe that's just me. There's plenty here to keep anyone who's seen any episode of Star Trek occupied. The use of ventilation shafts as a means of escape, the captain ripping his shirt early on in a fight, the presence of a po-faced, pastie-headed logical alien (played by Alan Rickman). Spoofing is a very dangerous thing to do, as you risk alienating the core target audience (in this case, Star Trek fans) if you go too far. But Galaxy Quest, I feel is on it's way to cult status, joining other genre masterpieces like "Attack of the Killer Tomatoes", "Amazon Women on the Moon" and "Lobster Man from Mars". But they are reviews best left for another day. Specifically, a day when I'm really desperate for something to review. Galaxy Quest is a cut above that. It has budget, it has cheesiness and it has its own special charm. A box office winner if ever I saw one.



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The Fairly **Secret Diary**

Albert Roger Sidebotham Age 10

12th April, Wednesday

Mr & Mrs Smith from next door have moved house today. They have gone to live in Bournemouth in a retirement apartment (they must both be really old!) Dad says they have moved to get away from us as we make too much noise. Mum says they have probably moved away from Dad because he shouts when County miss or concede a goal while he is listening to away games on the radio. I hear that Imagine FM will not be doing County commentaries next season. I think it is sad and they will lose a lot of listeners. Dad is devastated. He says he will have to go to more away games which will cost more money which, in turn means there will be less in the way of Christmas presents and pocket money. I hope he is joking! Cool and dull day.

13th April, Thursday

Phew! If today was tomorrow, it would be Friday 13th!!! There is a film called Friday 13th which is pretty scary. One day I will watch it with Monica. Dad was off work today and had a row with a man who came to the door selling ironing board covers and dusters at tea-time. Dad told him to go away or he would stick the dusters...and then he put his hands over my ears so I couldn't hear where Dad was going to put them. City fans at school are getting really excited. Justin Hough thinks City will get the necessary points to go up automatically but Paul Ouser says his brother is going to cause a riot if they don't beat Grimsby on Saturday. Bright and a bit warmer today.

14th April, Friday

The new people moved in to Mr & Mrs Smith's old house today. There are four kids - two girls and a boy who look a bit older than me and a boy who seems about my age. Mum made them a cup of tea as Mr Smith has had the electricity cut off and has

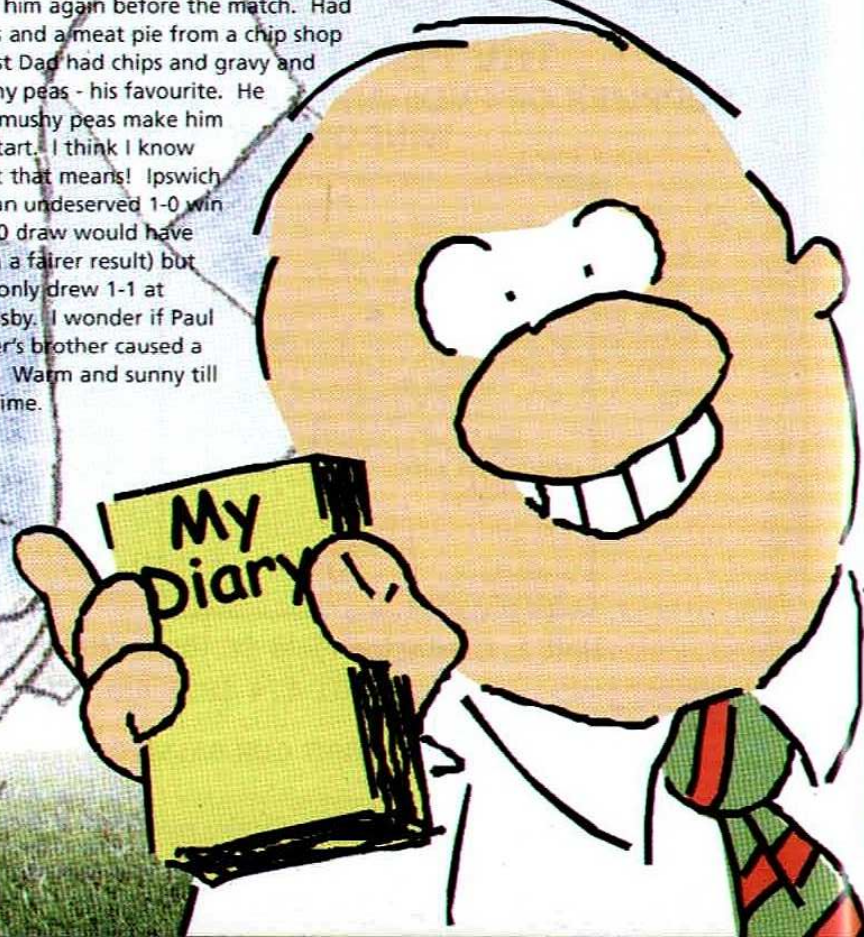
taken all the light bulbs. Mum told the new neighbours that we always had trouble with the Smiths and it was nice to see some bright, young faces around. Dad will be devastated though, when he finds out they are United fans - apart from one of the girls who supports Chelsea. Mum found out they are from Weymouth (so the teams they support figure) and are called Smart. One of the boys is called Jack (I said Hi, Jack) and he shook his head in mock anguish before grinning at me. They seem OK. Broke up from school for two weeks for Easter Holidays today so I hope the weather is going to be good. Dry and sunny with a breeze.

15th April, Saturday

Went with Dad to get some chippings for the garden. Dad tried to joke with the man at the builders yard by saying: "You've got the Jewson lot here!" but the man just looked at him and pulled a funny face. Dad took me to the pub with him again before the match. Had chips and a meat pie from a chip shop whilst Dad had chips and gravy and mushy peas - his favourite. He says mushy peas make him jam tart. I think I know what that means! Ipswich get an undeserved 1-0 win (a 0-0 draw would have been a fairer result) but City only drew 1-1 at Grimsby. I wonder if Paul Ouser's brother caused a riot? Warm and sunny till tea-time.

16th April, Sunday

Dad's friend Kevin from Northampton who is a Crewe fan phoned Dad to see if he wanted a free ticket to watch next weeks games at the Alexandra Stadium (a posh name for Gresty Road these days it seems). Amazingly, Dad said yes and didn't ask if there would be a ticket for me. I am not speaking to him now. County have now gone 18 games without a win due in the most part to some bad luck. The paper reported that Andy Kilner said Ipswich were the strongest of the pressing promotion pack even though they didn't play well on Saturday. Dad has seen Ipswich beat us twice this season by 1-0 each time and he says they are not good enough to go up. It seems to be a very poor first division this season so, why are we sixth from bottom of it? Mum allowed me to stay up till 10.30 as no school tomorrow. Warm sunshine but cold east wind today. (Dad says I do sound like a weatherman!).



County Clubbers

Junior Supporters Club News

**ADULT
FREE
ZONE**

A Happy Easter to you all. I hope you've all had plenty of choccy eggs and probably like me you will have already eaten them all. A warm welcome to Swindon Juniors who have made the trip today we hope you enjoy your short stay and have a safe journey home.

Due to the printing deadlines I am writing these notes just after the Crystal Palace match. What a great fight back from 3-0 down a pity we could not get the fourth still by the time you read this we may have got that long time in coming soon. We held our regular monthly meeting here at the club a week last Sunday which again was very well attended. Our thanks to Ali Gibb for coming along and joining in so well. Don't forget we hold our meetings throughout the closed season. Second Sunday in each month.

That's all for now.
Enjoy the match.

Ian Butterworth
County Juniors

Meetings

Your next Juniors Meeting will be held here at Edgeley Park on Sunday 14th May usual time of 10.45am. As usual we will be holding meetings throughout the closed season. Second Sunday in each month. Dates are as follows:-

Sunday 11th June
Sunday 16th July
Sunday 13th August
Sunday 10th September

Away Travel

Our last trip of the season to

Huddersfield next Saturday is fully booked with a waiting list. Those members and parents who have travelled with us this season will I am sure join me in thanking Brenda for all her hard work throughout the season. It really is a nightmare most trips the week before the game and you will agree that Brenda has done a brilliant job yet again. Thanks also to Brenda's husband Dave who has also had to put up with all the hassle!!!

Questions for Ali Gibb at our last meeting

Just a few of the questions put to Ali at our April meeting

Did you play football at school - what position?

Yes, up front and centre midfield

How long have you been playing professional football?

I've been with a professional club from the age of 11 and I signed a contract at 18

Which clubs?

Southampton, Norwich and Northampton

If you could play for any club who would it be

A C Milan

If you were Manager for a day who would you sign?

David Beckham or Roy Keane

Which teams did you support as a child?

Manchester United and Southampton

Who is the best player you have played

against?

David Ginola

Favourite Band

R.E.M.

What boots do you wear?

Fila

What is your favourite food?

I like curries

Do you have a goal celebration?

No - I'm just shocked when I score.

One to One

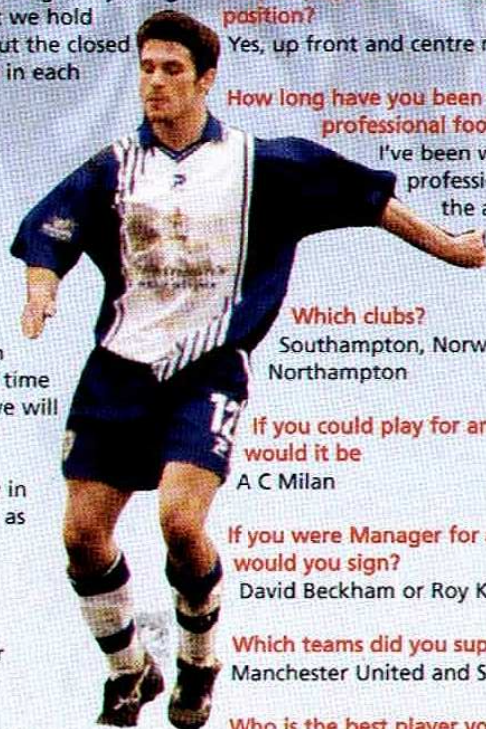
Both our questions today are from Anton Partington. Firstly to Carlo Nash:- Being a goalkeeper it's important to stop the other side from scoring. What do you think of when you miss a save?

Secondly to Ian Moore. You must have been on a high when scoring the first goal at Palace. What did you feel like scoring your second to make the score 3-3?

Answers

Carlo - I always try to forget any mistake and increase my concentration so I don't repeat it.

Ian - Scoring is always a great feeling but when it completes such a fantastic comeback it's a little more special.



mascoots



PAUL DERRICK IS 11 YEARS OLD. AND HE ATTENDS VERNON JUNIOR SCHOOL. HIS HOBBIES INCLUDE FOOTBALL. HE PLAYS FOR THE SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE AND TABLE TENNIS. HIS FAVOURITE PLAYERS ARE CARLO NASH AND IAN MOORE.



CHRISTOPHER ASHCROFT IS AGED 7 YEARS OLD. HE ATTENDS GREAVE COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL. HIS HOBBIES INCLUDE FOOTBALL, GYMNASTICS AND SWIMMING.



CHLOE LAURANNA JANE FULLER IS AGED 5 YEARS OLD. SHE ATTENDS ST BURNADETTE RC PRIMARY SCHOOL. HER HOBBIES INCLUDE RIDING HER BIKE, PLAYING OUTDOORS AND PLAYING ON HER PLAY STATION. HER FAVOURITE PLAYER IS IAN MOORE.



JOHNATHAN J. BILLINGHAM IS 5 1/2 YEARS OLD. HE ATTENDS ST JOHN'S G OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL. HIS HOBBIES INCLUDE FOOTBALL, MODEL CAR RACING, SWIMMING AND WALKING. HIS FAVOURITE PLAYERS ARE IAN MOORE AND CARLO NASH.



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NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE:

Wolverhampton Wanderers 2 County 2

Following our disastrous visit to The Pub The Beer Forgot a couple of years ago, our very own Stato and Pub Picker, Gozzer, again opted for a 'Staffordshire dining pub of the year'. A brave decision indeed and what a good one. My good friend Stella was there and, fortunately, Doug McLure was not. We all opted for mixed grills which arrived on plates the size of bin lids. If we were not such greedy so-and-so's, I'm sure there would have been enough food left over to fill several baskets.

It began well, with a fast pace and both teams passing the ball accurately. Wolves had a couple of good chances early on with Nielsen heading over from a great occasion and Emblem firing wide when unmarked in the box. County also had their fair share of possession in the opening 15 minutes and, unlike the home side, took the opportunity that came their way. There was a bit of luck about the goal as the ball fell kindly for Nicholson but his cross was perfectly placed on to the head of Lawson. The header down was equally as good as the cross, bouncing just inside the near post and giving Oakes no chance.



Wolves fought back and pressured the County defence but, assisted from midfield, County defended well and always had an outlet in one of Gibb, Cooper, Lawson or Moore who found themselves space on a big pitch. Unfortunately, despite their best efforts, County could do nothing to prevent a Wolves goal as they were ably assisted by referee Styles and an uneven bounce. Branch and Taylor were involved in a chase for the ball with Branch just about having the edge. Taylor challenged Branch outside the box, he fell in the area and the referee immediately pointed to the spot. Keith Curle took the kick, Nash went the right way but a cruel bobble carried the ball over his outstretched hand.

Despite this setback County kept their heads up and were much the sharper team during the opening exchanges of the second half. Dinning won the ball in midfield and slipped a pass into the path of a well timed run from Moore. His shot had Oakes beaten but just went wide of the far post. A couple of minutes later Gibb had half a chance following a cross from Cooper but again the shot was off target. Wolves were obviously a little worried and made a change bringing on Akinbiyi for Nielson. Within five minutes County presented him with a great opportunity to give Wolves the lead but Nash showed excellent reactions to make a fine save. Within a minute County



themselves took the lead after pressuring Wolves in their own half. Moore touched the ball into the path of Dinning and he powered in a low shot from 25 yards which found the bottom corner of the net.



For the remaining minutes of the 90 both sides kept attacking but were thwarted by some good defending and goalkeeping. The best opportunity for Wolves fell to Akinbiyi who controlled and shot following a corner but a combination of Nash and Dinning kept the ball out. At the other end great vision from Taylor picked out a run from Moore who carried the ball into the box before unleashing a shot which Oakes did well to turn round a post. As the game went into injury time County still held the lead but Wolves were awarded a corner. Another deep one again found Akinbiyi and as he looped a header towards goal Curle pushed Nash to the floor and Emblem arrived to score off his thigh. It should not have been allowed to stand but protests from Nash fell on deaf ears and very dodgy eyesight.

It was an exciting and enjoyable game but someone please call the police, we were robbed.

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Haynes heads home for Ladies



The First Team

After a few bad weeks - their season has mirrored the lads - the County Ladies first team won again last Sunday, beating Wigan 4-3. County's first goal was scored by Donna Haynes who despite being one of the smallest players on the pitch managed to get her head on to a corner ball.

Some super football between Macca & Foxy resulted in a good goal from Macca to double the lead. Foxy then grabbed a third with a volley over the keeper and Jo Sigley made it 4-0 with another volleyed shot. County had several other chances and could have been 7 or 8 up with 25 minutes to go. Because the team faced another two games in midweek the Manager decided to use all three of his subs. This seemed to inspire Wigan, though, and they pulled it back to 4-3 just to make the County girls worry a bit. The girls now face Bury home and away

during the week. The Thameside League concluded last week for the junior teams. In a close match the U12's girls lost 4-5 to Stockport Ladies. Our U12s Blues who have been getting stronger every week and who played some super football lost 6-2 to Dukinfield Youth. They kept the score to 2-2 for most of the game, though, and lost goals as they tired and we had a couple of injuries towards the end of the game.

The U14s will be playing 11-a-side football next season and as they had finished all of their league games we arranged a friendly 11-a-side against Oldham. This proved to be an excellent game with both sides adapting to the change much better than we had anticipated. It is quite a jump for them from 7-a-side matches on a small pitch. County ended up winners by 3-2 and there was some super football played by both teams.

Centre of Excellence

The Centre moved last week to our new venue at Marple Hall School and we were visited by Rachel Pavlou from the FA to do a monitoring inspection. Rachel was very pleased with the way the Centre is progressing.

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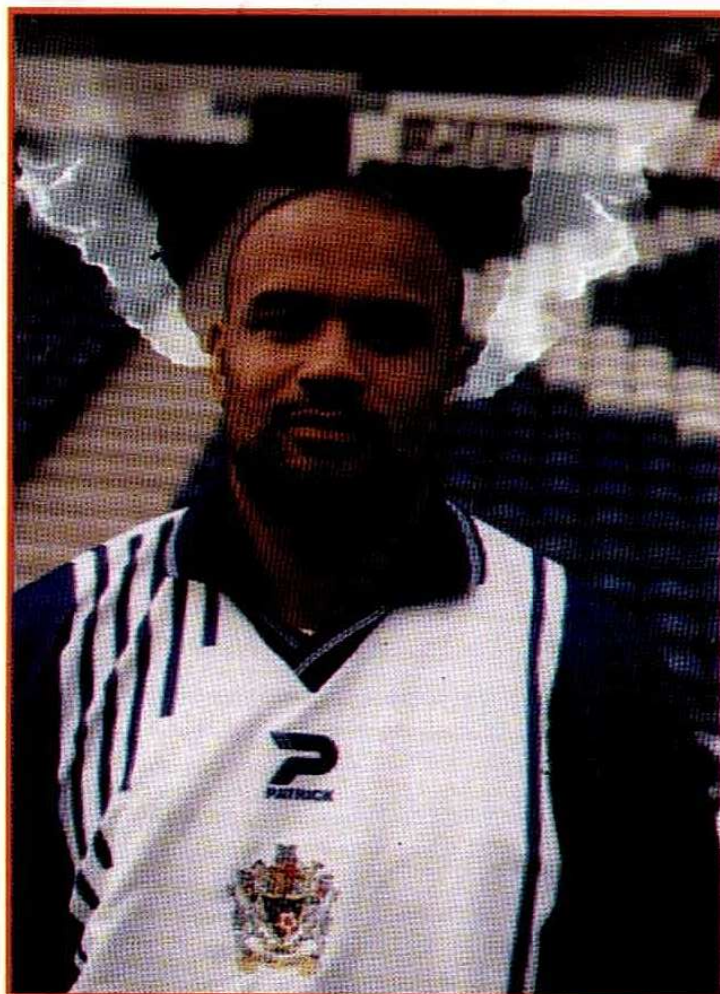
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Centre Spot

Centre of Excellence latest with Mick Wiblin

Today I would like to introduce you to one of our up and coming stars from the Centre of Excellence. His name is Chris Davis from the Burnage area. Chris is 14 years of age and has been at the Centre since November 1998. Soon after he joined the Centre Chris' potential was soon spotted and he signed a long term contract with the Centre. Chris has continued to progress, to the extent that he has now been offered a 2 year Y.T.S. and 1 year professional contract with the club. I am glad to say that Chris has accepted the offer and has pledged his immediate future to the Club.

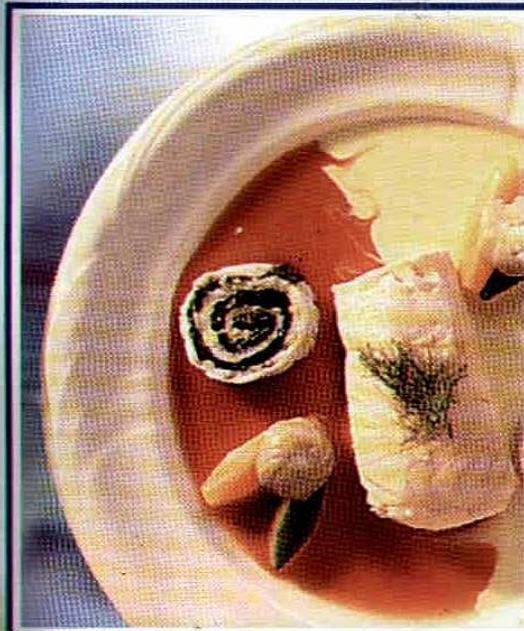
Arrangements are well in hand for our close season tournaments in Sweden and Aberystwyth for the U12's/13's and U16's age groups respectively. My

thanks go to our Sponsors and the Club who have made these vital trips possible.

As the season draws to an end for the Centre arrangements are already underway for next season's campaign. This will continue throughout the close season and I intend to improve the Centre even further. Our reputation has spread throughout the country and I have received positive feedback from many sources, which is all good news for the club and the future.



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HOW TO MAKE A LEATHER SUCKER

A leather sucker is one of the cheapest and simplest of toys to make, because if we have an old boot and a piece of stout string we have all the material necessary for it, except a good sharp knife to cut the leather cleanly.

The leather must not be less than 3 inches across each way; it may be fairly stout leather, but not too thick, and the first thing we do is to soak it well in water to make it soft. We may let it lie in water all night or longer. When it is pliable, we must make a hole in the middle of it. We can use a thin round wire nail to do this, driving it through the leather with a hammer.

The next thing is to make the leather round. We can mark the circle using compasses, with the hole that we have already made at the centre; but there is a simple way of marking the circle without compasses. We take a short piece of string

and make a loop at each end, so that the loops are from 1 to 2 inches apart. Then we put a nail through one loop and the hole that we have already made, and put another nail through the other loop, pressing its point through the leather. Keeping the string to its full extent, we now move the second nail right round in a circle, pressing all the time, and it will make a circular line. By cutting the leather at this line we make a disc, which is the sucker. A good stout string, say, about 3 feet long, should be put through the hole, and a knot made on its lower end to prevent it from slipping out again. The sucker is now ready for use. We must soak it in water well, then place it on a large smooth stone and press it down with the foot. The stone can easily be lifted by pulling the string, the power of the sucker being great enough to resist the weight of the stone.

Why does the sucker act in the way that it

does? Its behaviour is explained by what we know of the weight, or pressure, of the atmosphere. The force with which we pull the string tries to draw the leather away from the stone, but instead away from the stone, but instead of doing so it creates what we call a vacuum, or a space without air, under the leather and the pressure of the outside air on the stone makes the stone cling very tightly to the leather. Of course, the larger the sucker is the thicker should be the leather, but a very thick one is difficult to use, and in any case there are limits to the size of a sucker that can be manipulated satisfactorily.

A sucker might be used in quite a different way, this time for a competition. We show the sucker to our friends, and afterwards ask each to draw on a sheet of paper, with compasses, a circle the same size. Simple as this sounds, it is doubtful if anyone will be quite correct.



Victoria Victorious

Victoria Park had everything to play for when they faced the Supporters Club football team last Sunday. A win would guarantee promotion to the Premiership whilst for the supporters it was all a matter of pride.

The pre match news was not ideal. Stalwart centre half Damian Whyatt was ruled out after straining his back leaning over too quickly to get a bottle of HP Sauce out of the cupboard to go on his daily mound of bacon butties.

He joined Craig (I can never remember his second name) on the bench alongside Player Manager Mark Grimsditch. Grimsditch wasn't on the bench for too long thanks to his brother Stuart who managed to

twist a sock and rupture an eyelash early in the first half.

Despite the swapping of Grimsditch for Grimsditch the supporters played quite well and were a shade unfortunate to be a goal down at the break. But Park stepped up a gear and early in the second half had trebled their lead on the sun basked and baked St. Thomas' pitch. Tony Varley pulled back a consolation goal for the Supporters with 25 minutes left but there were no real signs of a comeback.

It hasn't been the most memorable of seasons for

the Supporters Club and a few harsh decisions will have to be made in the summer if the next campaign is going to be different.

Despite the nucleus of a good side, the Supporters have failed to attract enough quality new blood since the start of the season and on too many occasions they have turned out an all too bare eleven. It could be an interesting summer!

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Damian Whyatt ... on a good hair day.

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This Afternoon's Match Sponsors: National Childrens Safety Books

This afternoon we welcome Alan Smith and his colleagues and guests from National Childrens Safety Books as our main match sponsors. NCSB have sponsored the club for many years and have developed an excellent reputation in the world of safety awareness publications.

NCSB specialises in producing informative and fun safety publications for schoolchildren from key stage 1-3 level. This essential safety information is provided free of charge thanks to the generous support of sponsors throughout the country - enhancing beneficial links between schools and businesses. The productions include Exter and friends a space age character aimed at providing safety messages for key stage two. Red Alert gives comprehensive fire safety information to 7-11 year olds, Will Power tackles self esteem and drug education to key stage 1 and 2 while Deedee and Dennis the Dragon introduces fire safety to key stage 1. These excellent publications are produced in association with the support of the emergency services

including Lancashire Fire Brigade, Humberside Ambulance Service, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, Merseyside Fire Brigade, West Yorkshire Fire Brigade and West Yorkshire Police.

The scheme benefits thousands of children in those areas. We are delighted to have National Childrens Safety Books as our principal guests and hope they have a very special afternoon with us.

For more information on NCSB call 0345 413592 or visit their website at <http://www.ncsb.co.uk>

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Welcome

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TODAY'S MAN IN THE MIDDLE Mr. Michael Dean

This afternoon we welcome Mr Michael Dean to Edgeley Park for this season's penultimate home fixture against Swindon Town. Mr Dean began refereeing in 1986 and progressed through the Birkenhead Sunday League & West Cheshire League to the Unibond League in 1992. From there he moved on to the football league line in 1995 and was promoted to the National List of Referees two seasons later. During his career Mr Dean has been involved in some important matches such as the 1995 F.A. Youth Cup Final and the 1997 Second Division Play Off Final - Crewe v Brentford. Michael Dean, a 30 year old shift supervisor is married with 2 daughters. He enjoys a wide variety of hobbies in his spare time including cycling, gardening, going to the theatre & cinema and eating out. We hope that he enjoys his day at Edgeley Park and wish him and his family the very best for the future.

Stats Entertainment Who did what and when.

APPEARANCES AND GOALSCORERS 1999/00

	League		Cup		County League Career	
	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals
Chris Allen	10(6)	-	0(1)	-	10(6)	-
Brett Angel	5	-	2(1)	1	182 (14)	78
Alan Bailey	5(9)	1	1(1)	1	5(9)	1
Tom Bennett	8(1)	-	1	-	105 (5)	5
Kent Bergersen	10(5)	-	1	-	10(5)	-
Keith Briggs	4	1	2	1	4	1
Chris Byrne	11(5)	2	1	-	43 (10)	11
Sean Connolly	38(1)	2	4	-	277 (8)	5
Kevin Cooper	40(2)	3	2(3)	1	108 (22)	15
Laurent D'Jaffo	20(1)	7	2	1	20(1)	7
Jon Daly	0(4)	-	-	-	0(4)	-
Tony Dinning	39(1)	12	3	1	149(31)	25
Stuart Elliot	3 (1)	-	-	-	3 (1)	-
Tony Ellis	1(3)	-	1 (1)	-	17 (3)	6
Mike Flynn	42	1	5	-	312 (1)	14
Karim Fradim	15 (2)	1	-	-	15 (2)	1
Kevin Francis	4	-	-	-	15(15)	88
James Gannon	20(9)	-	3(1)	-	350 (33)	52
Ali Gibb	9(1)	-	-	-	9(1)	-
Kevin Gibbens	1(1)	-	2	-	1(1)	-
Ian Gray	8(2)	-	1	-	14(2)	-
Ian Lawson	9(2)	2	-	-	9(2)	2
Martin McIntosh	17(3)	-	2(1)	-	96(3)	5
Sean Mannion	-	-	-	-	0 (1)	-
Rob Matthews	3(1)	1	-	-	22(5)	3
Gary Monk	2	-	2	-	2	-
Ian Moore	32(4)	8	5	1	64(10)	11
Carlo Nash	34	-	4	-	77	-
Shane Nicholson	38	1	4	-	38	1
David Smith	7(2)	1	1	-	24(2)	2
Martin Taylor	3	-	-	-	3	-
Aaron Wilbraham	12(13)	2	3(1)	1	26(32)	3
Colin Woodthorpe	12(13)	-	3(1)	1	78(16)	3
Own Goals	-	1	-	-	-	-

FIRST DIVISION HOT SHOTS

1999/00 Season

	League	Cup	Total
Goater (Manchester City)	21	6	27
Hunt (Charlton Athletic)	23	1	24
Taylor (Manchester City)*	18	3	21
Hignett (Barnsley)	19	0	19
Johnson (Ipswich)	18	1	19
Roberts (Norwich)	17	2	19
Smith (Huddersfield Town)**	14	5	19

* Includes 18 goals scored for Gillingham

** Includes 15 goals for Sheffield Utd

1999/00 SEASON DIVISION ONE DATABASE

Largest Win Home: 7-1 Huddersfield Town v Crystal Palace (28/8)

6-0 Manchester City v Sheffield Utd (21/8)

6-0 Barnsley v Portsmouth (28/8)

6-0 Sheffield Utd v WBA (19/2)

Away: 4-0 Bolton Wanderers (27/10)

Highest Crowd: 33,027 Manchester City v Blackburn Rovers (23/10)

Lowest Crowd: 3,737 Port Vale v Grimsby (5/9)

Penalty Scorers: (5) Cansley (Blackburn), Dinning (County)

(5) Ashcroft (Grimsby), Barnard (Barnsley),

Holdsworth (Bolton), McLoughlin (Portsmouth)

(4) Two players, (3) Six players, (2) Nine players,

(1) Seventeen players

Total Successful Penalties: 52 (Home Team 68, Away Team 24)

EDGELEY PARK GOAL SUMMARY

(League & Cup) 1999/00

	Cheadle End	Railway End
For	18	15
Against	14	17

COUNTY GOAL TIMINGS (League) 99/00

Minutes	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	Total
Goals scored	7	8	7	9	6	9	46
Goals conceded	5	7	15	4	13	17	61

OUR VISITORS (League) 99/00 Swindon Town

Minutes	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	Total
Goals scored	9	6	6	3	5	5	34
Goals conceded	8	15	13	11	8	13	70

STATISTICAL SHORTS

• County have failed to score at the Cheadle End since Tony Dinning successfully converted from the penalty spot against Portsmouth way back on 22nd January.

• Whilst County fans have had little to cheer since Boxing Day, we are still some way short of clocking up the worst ever sequence of football league results. Cambridge United are the unenviable holders of this record, going 34 matches without a win in the 1983-84 season.

FIRST DIVISION ATTENDANCES

AND LEADING LEAGUE GOALSCORERS 1999/00

	TOTAL	HIGHEST	AVERAGE	1998/99	LEADING LEAGUE
	ATT	ATT	ATT	AVERAGE	GOALSCORER
Barnsley	321620	22650	15315	15269	Hignett 19
Birmingham City	454955	29050	21665	20794	Hughes 9
Blackburn Rovers	392723	24743	18791	25501	Cansley 8
Bolton Wanderers	290751	21671	13846	18196	Gudjohnson 11
Charlton Athletic	408728	20043	19511	19810	Hunt 23
Crawley Alexandra	129869	10666	6184	5269	Cramb, Tait 6
Crystal Palace	324820	22577	15468	17123	Morrison 10
Fulham	274585	19623	13080	11387	Horsfield 7
Grimsby Town	129621	8742	6172	6680	Ashcroft 12
Huddersfield Town	292206	18173	12915	12972	Wijnhard 15
Ipswich Town	385343	21760	18350	16888	Johnson 18
Manchester City	672329	33027	32016	28261	Goater 21
Norwich City	234944	19948	15474	15761	Roberts 17
Nottingham Forest	362779	25836	17275	24363	Freedman 9
Port Vale	123582	10250	5885	6991	Rougher 8
Portsmouth	284523	17667	13549	11973	Clardie 14
Q.P.R.	259442	19002	12354	11793	Wardley 11
Sheffield Utd	292982	23862	13952	16241	Bent 15
STOCKPORT COUNTY	157328	11212	7492	7900	Dinning 12
Swindon Town	146761	12397	6989	8651	Hay 10
Tranmere Rovers	145045	13208	7259	6930	Allison 15
Walsall	138611	9422	6601	5456	Ricketts 10
W.B.A.	298036	21097	14192	14585	Hughes 13
Wolves	452649	25500	21555	22620	Akimyij 14

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A full-page photograph of a soccer player in motion. He is wearing a white jersey with blue sleeves and blue shorts. The jersey has a crest on the chest and the number '2' on the back. He is running towards the right side of the frame. The background is a blurred crowd of spectators in a stadium.

With the season reaching its conclusion the polls are out on the front runners for the player of the year awards. One player certainly in the running is Tony Dinning who has been superb in midfield this season.

In The Running . . .

Stockport County was brought to you today by...

The Chairman: Brendan Evans
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Team Manager: Andy Kilner
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Reserve Team Manager: Craig Madden
Youth Development Manager: Nigel Stanley
Centre of Excellence Director: Mick Wilson
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SCFC Website address:
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**Airing
your
views**

We thank you for choosing to visit Edgeley Park and we hope you have an enjoyable time with us. We have done our utmost to ensure that your visit is both safe and enjoyable but if there is anything - no matter how small - that you feel we could do to improve future visits then please write to Steve Bellis

c/o Stockport County FC, Edgeley Park, Hardcastle Rd, Edgeley, stockport, SK3 9DD
DISCLAIMER

The views expressed by the contributors to our matchday magazine are not necessarily views of Stockport County FC.



Emergency Evacuation

In the event of an emergency evacuation we ask all spectators to listen closely to the PA announcements which will direct you to the exits which are to be used. In the first instance you may be asked to enter the playing area via the pitch perimeter gates, where further instructions will be given. Please respond to the announcements and to the requests of the stewards and police officers to ensure safe evacuation of the stadium.

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Who's who on the park - Squad Check

Head to Head



Carlo Nash	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Frank Talia
Sean Connelly	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Mark Robinson
Shane Nicholson	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	Gareth Hall
Tom Bennett	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Scott Leitch
Mike Flynn	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Gareth Davies
Martin Taylor	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Bryan Smith
Kevin Cooper	7	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Bobby Howe
Ian Moore	8	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	Giuliano Grazioli
Kevin Francis	9	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12	Alan Reeves
Chris Byrne	10	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	16	Lee Collins
Colin Woodthorpe	11	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	17	Steve Cowe
Ali Gibb	12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	18	Steve Mildenhall
Ian Gray	13	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	19	Adam Willis
David Smith	14	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	20	Charlie Griffin
Rob Matthews	15	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	21	Sol Davis
James Gannon	16	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	23	Phillipe Cuervo
Tony Dinning	17	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	25	Frazer McHugh
Ian Lawson	18	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	29	Alan Flanagan
Aaron Wilbraham	19	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	30	Paul McAreavey
Sean Mannion	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	32	James Williams
Adam Lillis	21	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Ben Johnson	22	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Alan Bailey	23	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Keith Briggs	24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Karim Fradin	25	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Glynn Hancock	26	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Neil Ross	27	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Chris Allen	28	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
John Daly	30	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Stuart Elliott	31	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Kent Bergersen	33	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Referee: Mr M L Dean

Asst Referee: Mr C J Meads (Yellow)

Asst Referee: Mr D Whitby (Red & Yellow)

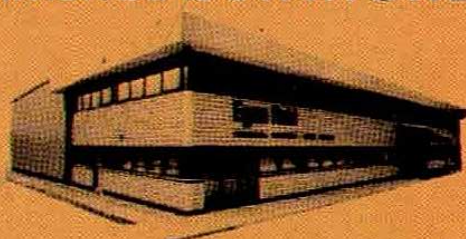
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