

Tuesday August 22nd 2000

Kick-off 7.45pm

vs Exeter City



Cup Issue - Price £1.50
Official Swindon Town F.C.
Matchday Magazine
2000-2001 Season

Inside track...

**Mark Robinson
interview**

**Tonight's
visitors**



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Swindon Town FC
(In Administration)
The County Ground
County Road
Swindon
Wiltshire

STFC Club Directory

Chairman:
TERRY BRADY

Directors:
CLIFF PUFFETT
SIR SETON WILLS BT

Chief Executive:
PETER ROWE

Team Manager:
COLIN TODD

Assistant Manager:
ANDY KING

Reserve Team Manager:
MALCOLM CROSBY

Youth Team Coach:
VIV BUSBY

Youth Development Officer:
PHIL CANNON

Physiotherapist:
DICK MACKEY

Company Secretary:
MIKE SQUIRES

Commercial Manager:
JACKIE KENT

Stadium Manager:
RON TOPP

Head Groundsman:
MARK PAINTER

Conference and Banqueting:
BRIAN WOOD

Bars and Catering:
CHRIS ABROOK

Safety Officer:
CLIVE DOYLE

Football in the Community:
CLIVE MAGUIRE

Enquiries

Administration: (01793) 333700
Fax: (01793) 333703

Sales Department: (01793) 333718
Fax: (01793) 333719

Ticket Office: (01793) 333777
Fax: (01793) 333780

Community Office: (01793) 421303

Club Superstore: (01793) 333778

Conf & Banqueting: (01793) 333741

A Warm Welcome:

Memories of '69

Welcome to our first cup game of the new season in a competition Swindon have a proud track record in.

As the Football League Cup we all remember that great day at Wembley in 1969 when a Don Rogers' inspired Town beat Arsenal 3-1.

The Worthington Cup, as it is no known, is an integral part of football no matter what some national newspapers may say. It gives all 92 professional clubs the opportunity to play for a place in Europe.

Leicester City will be this year's representatives in the UEFA Cup after their thrilling win over Tranmere Rovers last season. Despite the feeling among some journalists that this competition is one too many in an already overcrowded fixture list, it is a perfect example of the distribution of monies down to the smaller clubs - something even the Premier League's chief executive Richard Scudamore is keen to preserve.

Worthington and Bass Brewers are to be congratulated for their involvement in this great tournament - let's hope we can progress beyond the first round and hopefully draw one of the Premier League 'big guns' in a future round.

A week is a long time in football, so they say, and that comment is particularly apt for all of us at the County Ground. Expectations were high leading up to our opening game of the season and although a few fans were 'disappointed' with the 0-0 draw, all I can say is Rome wasn't built in a day. It will take time for our new players to get together and I know that Colin believes we have the nucleus of a quality side this term.

Last week I had the privilege to be

invited to speak at the STFC Supporters' Club (Disabled Branch) meeting. I always enjoy meeting fellow Town fans to discuss what is going on at the club and I thoroughly enjoyed the evening. I can assure all Swindon fans that we are working our socks off to build the foundations to take this club forward and as I said last week, we're doing it together: TEAM. Together Everybody Achieves More. Make sure your part of 'The' Team!

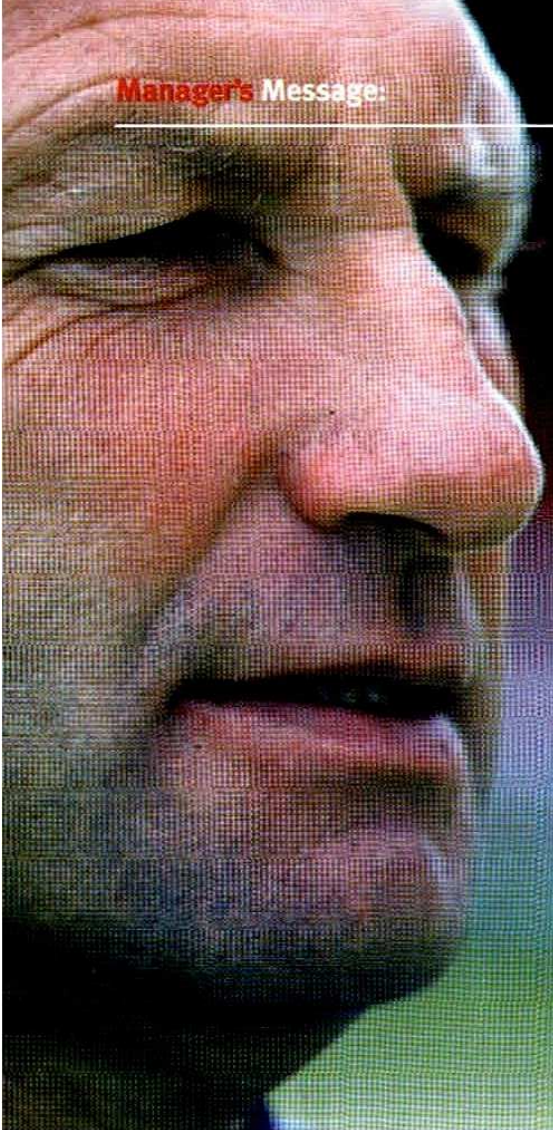
Finally, I would like to extend a warm welcome tonight to the directors, players, management and supporters of Exeter City. I hope you enjoy your visit to the County Ground and we look forward to making the return trip down to Devon in a couple of weeks time. Team, Our Town!

Peter Rowe
Chief Executive



We are Mitel Semiconductor

stfc3



“I can assure you it is not a waste of time for me and it is not a waste of time for Swindon Town.”

Good evening ladies and gentleman and welcome to the County Ground for this Worthington Cup fixture against Exeter.

- I thoroughly enjoy the cup games and see this match as the doorway to a good run in the competition. Exeter are bound to make life difficult for us and may I take this opportunity to welcome Noel Blake, the players and the Exeter fans who have made the trip up to Wiltshire.

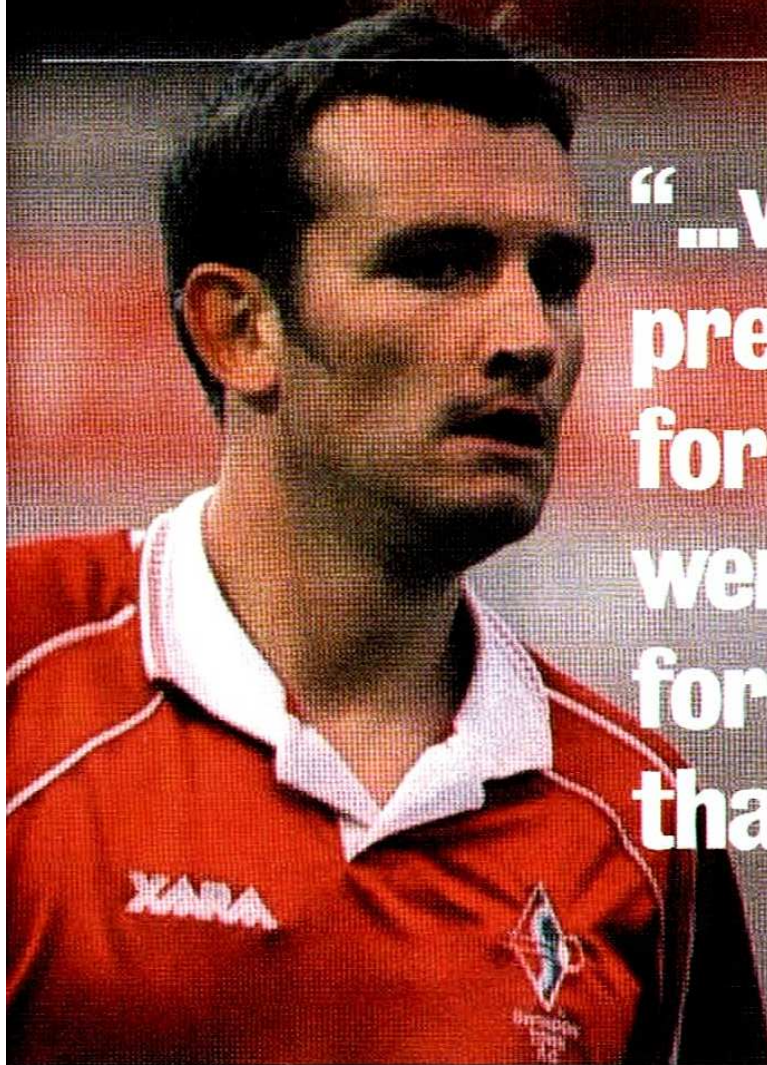
While Exeter lost their first fixture of the season we were able to get off the mark with a 0-0 draw against Colchester. The performance was maybe not what we were all hoping for. Maybe we just did not fulfill the expectations of the fans on the day. The supporters, rightly so, have high hopes and we know that as players.

But I was happy that the team showed that passion, commitment and resolve to dig deep when things were going against us. We are now looking forward to a good run in the Worthington Cup because it is important for this football club, not only in revenue, but also in terms of football because a good run breeds confidence. We want a good winning habit to develop in the squad. We do not want a losing habit.

People talk about the Worthington Cup being a waste of time, but I can assure you it is not a waste of time for me and it is not a waste of time for Swindon Town. What we have got to do is progress and look forward to facing one of the top clubs. That is an important goal. We will be treating every game as we would any other game to make sure that we are in the hat for the next draw.

I will always look for clean sheets without being negative. We have got to be positive and people have to do their jobs properly because the Worthington Cup is a competition that I regard very highly. Supporters might look upon it as a nothing competition in the early stages but if you make progress then they are going to get the excitement as well as the management and players. I had some great runs while at Bolton as we knocked out Tottenham, we knocked out Chelsea and we got to the final in my early days there. People do knock it but it is an opportunity for this football club to put some fear into other clubs and who knows what a good cup run could do for the morale of everyone involved.

Colin Todd



“...with our pre-season form, I think we were looking for a little more than that...”

I had an up-and-down season last year but I was very pleased to get in the side towards the end of the campaign.

In a way it was lucky that I was because it was around that time that Colin Todd was checking out the squad of players before he took charge in the summer. I worked very hard to get into the side and as a profession it is what you have to do to improve. The supporters expect it; so do your fellow players and especially the coaching staff. I like to think that it was that attitude that got me into the side and then what earned me a new contract under the new manager.

There were a few players that were not as fortunate as I was, so I'm very pleased to be here at Swindon Town. Especially as it seems to be a

completely different club this season - things have really turned around. The new training facilities are first-class which helps a great deal and the arrival of Mr Brady has meant that the squad has been strengthened and the remaining players have got a new lease of life because of that.

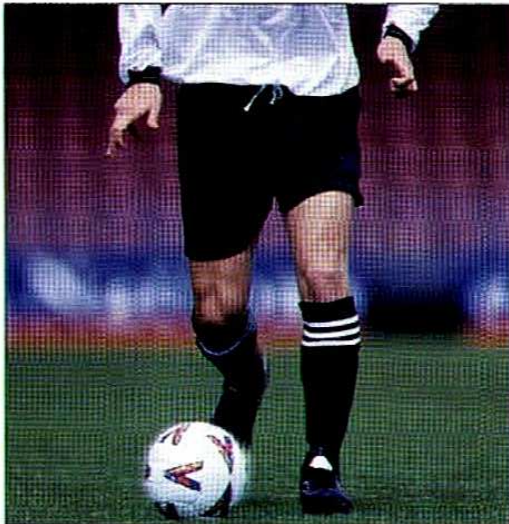
We now have at least two very good players challenging for each position which wasn't the case last season and the squad may even be added to further. Players can now come in at any point and can be relied upon to do a good job for the team.

From a players point-of-view last Saturday's result was a bit disappointing, especially as we had done so well in pre-season. Although, we can look at the positives and say that we kept a

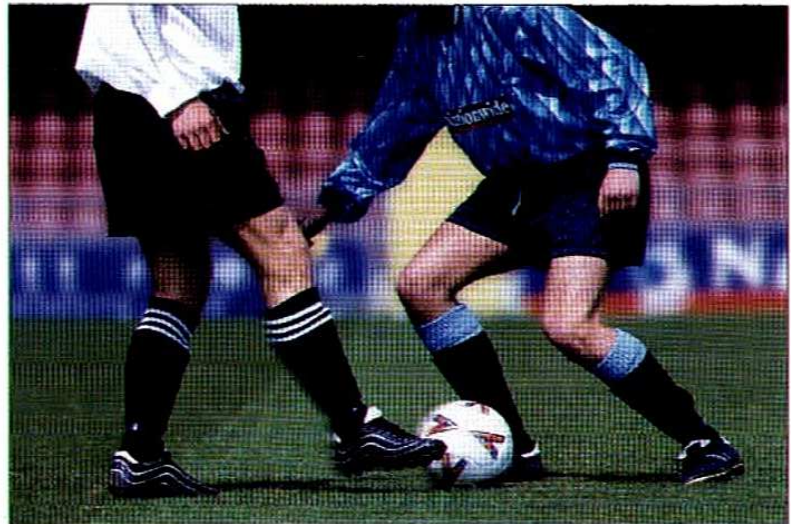
clean sheet and got our first point of the season but as I've mentioned, with our pre-season form, I think we were looking for a little more than that.

The lads were a bit quiet after the game but it was good for us all to release some of the tension that had built-up prior to the match. We were, perhaps, a little nervous but we know we have to relax slightly and enjoy playing football in the up-and-coming matches. We have several games close together now which will be tough. There will be no let-up or easy games in the league and the cup competitions will be equally as hard.

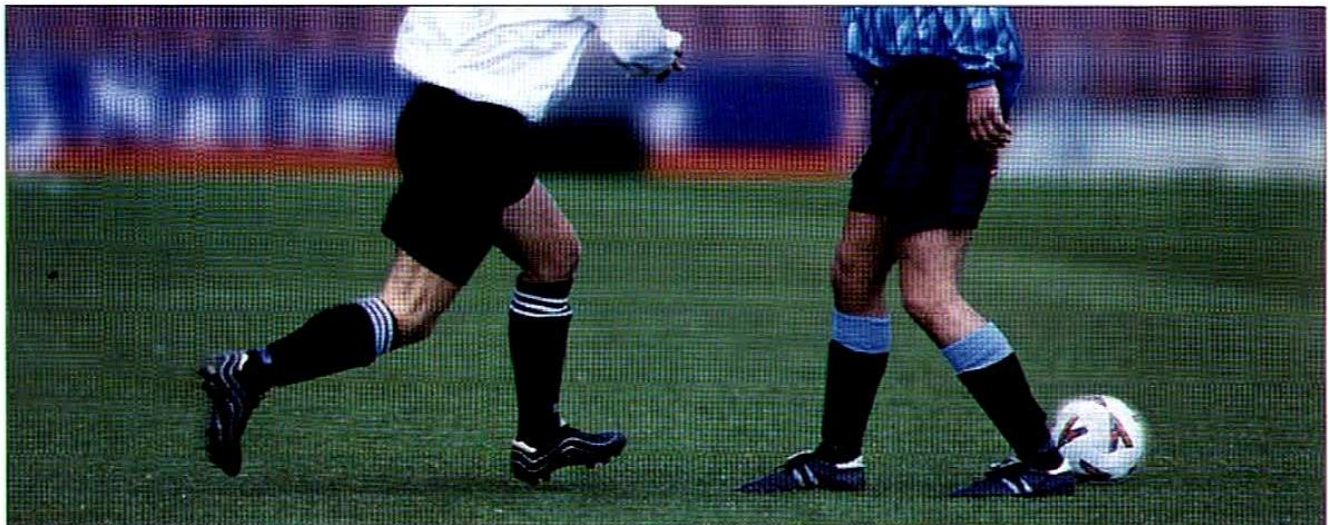
The two years that I've been at the Club we have been knocked out in the first round both times so it would be nice to have a bit of a cup run this time around.



STEP 1. Approach defender with ball under close control.



STEP 2. As defender prepares to tackle, wait for perfect moment.



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Getting it right



I think the squad and the team have shaped up very good with the pre-season games and the results. Southampton in particular, and the way we came back against West Ham late after the nerves had held off, and at West Brom I think the expectation levels being so high may seem as a bit of a down but the positive sides are there. The positives are that we kept a clean sheet, people had made their league debut and all played in a competitive

match together for the first time - friendlies always lack a biting edge. The expectancy was high, everyone thought we would win Saturday's match including us. But we have to be honest and accept that the opposition did very well. They made it awkward for us from the start in the way they lined-up. They played a system that was new to us, by that I mean we didn't come up against it in pre-season. We started with 4-4-2 and they came at us with a 3-5-1 formation, so it was a quick learning experience for what is, in the main, a new team. What we did see was the commitment and desire to win and work hard for each other and in matches it's those qualities that bring you through games when you are not playing so well. We're pleased to get that first match out of the way and we're still pleased with the result. Football is a game of 'ifs' and if we

had got the first goal, we would have gone on and won the game. That fact that we didn't, invited them to come at us and they created a number of chances themselves but we were fortunate enough to hold out at the back. We know the players have got the potential to play better and I'm sure they will this season. The matches are going to come thick-and-fast now and it is up to us to stamp our authority on this division and show everyone that we're a quality side. As I understand it, this club hasn't had a good cup run in years and it would be nice to progress through the competition but the real target for myself and Colin has to be the league. Winning breeds confidence and our aim is to get up in those top places and lead from the front.

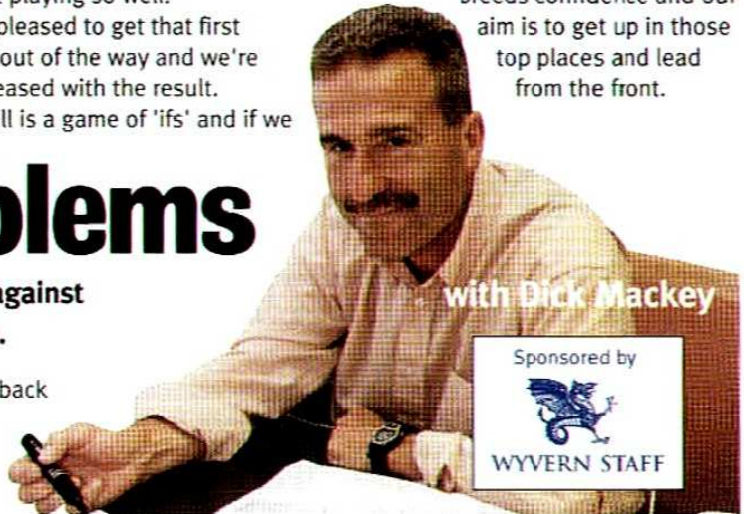
Virus Problems

Welcome to this evening's first leg tie against Exeter City, I hope you enjoy the match.



Antoine van der Linden is now back in training after suffering a sprained ankle late in July. We would like him to be involved in the reserve match against Wycombe Wanderers Reserves on Wednesday 16th. If he comes through that without any problems then he should be in contention for both the Reading and Exeter matches.

Recently we've had quite a few players withdraw from training because of viruses. It is something that is rather common at this time of year when the lads get back together and working their bodies extremely hard after the summer lay-off. I'm not entirely sure why it happens but after a couple of days in bed, keep their fluid levels up they are usually feeling better and ready to get back into training.



with Dick Mackey



The only other worry we have is still **Gareth Davies** and his knee problem. We have provisionally booked in Gareth to return to Lilleshall next week. We want to move him on to some rotational movements because most of the work he has done thus far has been straight line running. We did introduce some curved runs into his training to which he responded well and now he'll have to continue to work hard up at Lilleshall. If he comes through that without any adverse symptoms then we can start getting him back into football training. It has been a long time but we feel as if we might be getting there and Gareth is still in good spirits.

Swindon Town Football Club Supporters' Club



With the season now in full swing we are now able to confirm that we have been able to secure the major sponsorship from the 'Evening Advertiser' for our half time 50/50 draw. This sponsorship will run, as a minimum until the end of the year and will ensure our running costs will be minimal and will allow us to make an even greater contribution from the proceeds of the draw towards the benefit of the Football Club and supporters. We are tremendously grateful to the Evening Advertiser for their support of our initiative.

Regular supporters will be aware that the draw takes place at half time during each home league match and also at selected cup matches (there is no draw this evening). The stake for each draw is just £1 and there are a number of ways in which supporters can participate. Either by regular standing order payments of £6 each quarter, or £24 per annum, additionally payment may be made by cheque for £24 to cover a seasons

contribution. Finally, we also sell tickets on a match day .

Some supporters have commented that they are unable to find sellers on a matchday and although we do try to cover all parts of the ground sometimes this is just not possible with the number of sellers we have at present. If anyone is able to help for an hour or so before kick off please contact us the more help we get the better and bigger the prize fund . Alternatively application forms are always available either by download from our website <http://go.to/swindontown> or from the away travel office if you wish to pay in advance.

STOP PRESS. During this season it is intended that anyone paying in advance will receive a potential additional benefit - more details later, please sign up now to be included in this offer.

Additionally we are also investigating ways of benefiting our matchday sellers in order that we can reach everyone who

wishes to participate and increase our number of sellers. Please ask at the travel office for details.

Finally, a new approach this season will see us having a 'celebrity' making the draw on the pitch at half time adding hopefully a little more spice to your half time cuppa !

Whilst we are all hoping that we can progress to round 2 of the Worthington Cup, should the worst happen, we do have a second chance! Worthington are arranging a knockout 6 a side tournament for supporters clubs to run alongside the major event and we are tasked with finding two teams, any club member who wishes to participate should make themselves known to a committee member, the away travel office or by ringing **01747 840721**.

Derby opener

Swindon Town Ladies start the new season on Sunday 3rd September with a trip to face Bristol City.

The Town's first team will once again play in the South West Combination League, a competition that they have taken part in since the league was formed three seasons ago. Oddly enough the Town finished third last season, the same as in the previous season and Bristol Rovers and Cheltenham Town finished second and fourth respectively as they did in the league's first year.

Newport won the league last year and have been promoted and Bath City were relegated. The league also has two new teams, Clevedon Town who won the South West Region League and Reading who won the Southern Region League.

The Town Reserves, who finished third in the Southern Region League

Northern Division, will play in the Southern Division this season.

Both sides did well last year in their respective League Cups. The Town won the 'Ambassador' South West Combination League Cup for the second consecutive year beating league champions Newport in the final and the Reserves were beaten in the semi-final of the Southern Region League Cup.

New players are always welcome and anyone interested, over the age of fourteen, should contact Roger Reeves on 01793 693045 or John White on 01793 824470.

| South West Combination League Fixtures 2000/2001 | | | |
|--|------|------------------|--------|
| 3rd | Sept | Bristol City | A |
| 10th | Sept | Clevedon Town | H |
| 17th | Sept | Oxford United | A |
| 24th | Sept | Saltash Pilgrims | H |
| 1st | Oct | Denham United | A |
| 8th | Oct | Yeovil Town | H |
| 15th | Oct | Southampton | A |
| 22nd | Oct | Bristol Rovers | H |
| 29th | Oct | "AXA" FA Cup | 1st |
| 5th | Nov | Cheltenham Town | A |
| 12th | Nov | "AXA" FA Cup | 2nd |
| 19th | Nov | Denham United | H |
| 26th | Nov | Reading | A |
| 3rd | Dec | Denham United | LC 2 H |
| 10th | Dec | Portsmouth | H |
| 17th | Dec | Bristol City | H |
| 7th | Jan | Clevedon United | A |
| 14th | Jan | Oxford United | H |
| 21st | Jan | Saltash Pilgrims | A |
| 28th | Jan | Yeovil Town | A |
| 4th | Feb | Southampton | H |
| 11th | Feb | Bristol Rovers | A |
| 18th | Feb | Cheltenham Town | H |
| 4th | Mar | Reading | H |
| 11th | Mar | Portsmouth | A |



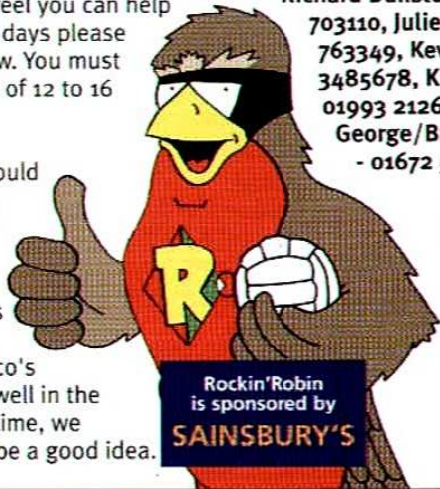
Netti Wyness, who was 'Player of the Season' last year.

Junior Robins

Hello all you Junior Robins, welcome to another cup campaign.

Ball boys/girls; please remember to get to the ground early, this is most important. If you wish to become a ball boy/girl and feel you can help Richard on match days please give him a call now. You must be between the ages of 12 to 16 to qualify.

The committee would like to organise a Halloween/Fancy Dress disco on Sunday 22nd October. As this is school half-term week and our disco's have gone down well in the past around this time, we thought it would be a good idea.



Make a note and come along to support us. There will be a prize for the best dressed junior and lots of raffle prizes for you to enjoy.

Committee members you may need to contact:

Fran Brearley - 01993 213015,
Richard Dunston - 01993
703110, Julie Page - 01793
763349, Kevin Hall - 0777
3485678, Kim Young -
01993 212645,
George/Brenda Chadwick
- 01672 520679.



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- Seats in the Executive Box
- The Chairman's Buffet lunch

For further details call **George Chadwick, Mascot Co-ordinator** on **01672 520679.**

This is YOUR PAGE so send us anything to do with S.T.F.C., pictures of your favourite player, poems, letters, jokes and if we like them, then we'll print them.

Up for the Cup?



Evening Advertiser
— at the heart of Swindon

supporters. The word CUP is simply a no-go area for the fans of Swindon Town. Disasters against Stevenage, Wycombe and Leyton Orient all hang over the club as they have failed to pass the first round of any cup competition for the last three seasons. Town fans have been fed on a bread and water diet as far as

NEVER before have three little letters struck so much fear and dread into the minds and hearts of football

cup competitions are concerned. And when it comes to the Worthington Cup, well you only have to look back at the recent two years to see how appalling our record has been. Wycombe overturned Steve McMahon's men on a disappointing night at Adams Park and then last year not even a Mark Walters penalty could save Jim Quinn's blushes as the reds failed down at Leyton Orient. Let's hope that Colin Todd has more luck against the Grecians. Town will start favourites tonight, but as we all saw on Saturday that does not automatically mean we are going to win by going through the motions. No way. The players found out just how tough lower league football can be as they encountered a battling Colchester on the opening day of the

season. Tonight's clash will be just as difficult as both clubs will be chasing that spot in the second round and the chance to draw a top Premiership club. The feelings of expectancy are high at Swindon Town and so they should be. Last Saturday's result may have been a bit of a disappointment, but let's show a little patience here and get behind the lads with some vocal backing. The Evening Advertiser Town End is once again open with a cheap offer that gives fans the affordable football they crave so please let's hear you screaming out for the Town tonight.

Come on your reds

Matt Reeder
 Sports Editor



Stats

Stats compiled by Football Information Services. Telephone: 0151-632 5679

League Cup Finals 1961-2000

| Year | Winners | Runners-Up | Score | |
|------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1961 | Aston Villa | Rotherham Utd | 0-2, 3-0 (aet) | |
| 1962 | Norwich City | Rochdale | 3-0, 1-0 | |
| 1963 | Birmingham City | Aston Villa | 3-1, 0-0 | |
| 1964 | Leicester City | Stoke City | 1-1, 3-2 | |
| 1965 | Chelsea | Leicester City | 3-2, 0-0 | |
| 1966 | West Bromwich A. | West Ham United | 1-2, 4-1 | |
| 1967 | Q.P.R. | West Bromwich A. | 3-2 | |
| 1968 | Leeds United | Arsenal | 1-0 | |
| 1969 | Swindon Town | Arsenal | 3-1 (aet) | |
| 1970 | Manchester City | West Bromwich A. | 2-1 (aet) | |
| 1971 | Tottenham H. | Aston Villa | 2-0 | |
| 1972 | Stoke City | Chelsea | 2-1 | |
| 1973 | Tottenham H. | Norwich City | 1-0 | |
| 1974 | Wolverhampton W. | Manchester C. | 2-1 | |
| 1975 | Aston Villa | Norwich City | 1-0 | |
| 1976 | Manchester C. | Newcastle United | 2-1 | |
| 1977 | Aston Villa | Everton | 0-0, 1-1 (aet), 3-2 (aet) | |
| 1978 | Nottingham Forest | Liverpool | 0-0 (aet), 1-0 | |
| 1979 | Nottingham Forest | Southampton | 3-2 | |
| 1980 | Wolverhampton W. | Nottingham Forest | 1-0 | |
| 1981 | Liverpool | West Ham United | 1-1 (aet), 2-1 | |
| 1982 | Liverpool | Tottenham H. | 3-1 (aet) | The Milk Cup |
| 1983 | Liverpool | Manchester United | 2-1 (aet) | |
| 1984 | Liverpool | Everton | 0-0 (aet), 1-0 | |
| 1985 | Norwich City | Sunderland | 1-0 | |
| 1986 | Oxford United | Q.P.R. | 3-0 | |
| 1987 | Arsenal | Liverpool | 2-1 | The Littlewoods Cup |
| 1988 | Luton Town | Arsenal | 3-2 | |
| 1989 | Nottingham Forest | Luton Town | 3-1 | |
| 1990 | Nottingham Forest | Oldham Athletic | 1-0 | |
| 1991 | Sheffield Weds. | Manchester United | 1-0 | |
| 1992 | Manchester United | Nottingham Forest | 1-0 | The Rumbelows Cup |
| 1993 | Arsenal | Sheffield Weds. | 2-1 | |
| 1994 | Aston Villa | Manchester United | 3-1 | The Coca-Cola Cup |
| 1995 | Liverpool | Bolton Wanderers | 2-1 | |
| 1996 | Aston Villa | Leeds United | 3-0 | |
| 1997 | Leicester City | Middlesbrough | 1-1 (aet), 1-0 (aet) | |
| 1998 | Chelsea | Middlesbrough | 2-0 | |
| 1999 | Tottenham Hotspur | Leicester City | 1-0 | The Worthington Cup |
| 2000 | Leicester City | Tranmere Rovers | 2-1 | |

1999-2000 Competition Top Scorers

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|----------------|------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tranmere | David Kelly | | | | | | | |
| Fulham | Geoff Horsfield | | | | | | | |
| Villa | Ian Taylor | | | | | | | |
| Wimbledon | Carl Cort | | | | | | | |
| Sunderland | Daniele Dichio | | | | | | | |
| Crewe | Colin Little | | | | | | | |
| Sheff Utd | Martin Smith | | | | | | | |
| Tranmere | Scott Taylor | | | | | | | |
| Villa | Dion Dublin | | | | | | | |
| Villa | Julian Joachim | | | | | | | |
| Villa | Lee Hendrie | | | | | | | |
| Leicester | Matt Elliott | | | | | | | |
| Liverpool | Danny Murphy | | | | | | | |
| West Ham | Frank Lampard | | | | | | | |
| Birmingham | Martin O'Connor | | | | | | | |
| Bolton | Eidur Gudjohnsen | | | | | | | |
| Bolton | Michael Johansen | | | | | | | |
| Fulham | Paul Pescholido | | | | | | | |
| Grimsby | Jack Lester | | | | | | | |
| Man City | Shaun Goater | | | | | | | |
| Walsall | Gabor Bukran | | | | | | | |
| Walsall | Siggi Eiyolfsson | | | | | | | |
| West Brom | Lee Hughes | | | | | | | |
| Bristol Rovers | Jason Roberts | | | | | | | |
| Reading | Martin Butler | | | | | | | |
| Wigan | Simon Haworth | | | | | | | |
| Oxford | Matt Murphy | | | | | | | |
| Chester | Luke Beckett | | | | | | | |

1999-2000 Average Attendances

| | 10,000 | 20,000 | 30,000 | 40,000 | 50,000 | 60,000 | 70,000 | 80,000 |
|-------------------------------------|------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------------|
| Final | 1 Match | | | | | | | |
| Semi-Finals | 4 Matches | | | | | | | |
| 5th Round | 5 Matches | | | | | | | |
| 4th Round | 8 Matches | | | | | | | |
| 3rd Round | 16 Matches | | | | | | | |
| 2nd Round | 50 Matches | | | | | | | |
| 1st Round | 69 Matches | | | | | | | |
| Total Attendances: | | | | | | | | 1,376,519 |
| Total Matches: | | | | | | | | 153 |
| Average Attendance per Match | | | | | | | | 8,997 |

The Most Successful Managers

| | Finals | W | L | | Finals | W | L |
|----------------|--------|---|---|-----------------|--------|---|---|
| Brian Clough | 6 | 4 | 2 | Alex Ferguson | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| George Graham | 4 | 3 | 1 | Matt Gillies | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Bob Paisley | 4 | 3 | 1 | Jimmy Hagan | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Joe Mercer | 3 | 2 | 1 | Ray Harford | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Ron Saunders | 4 | 2 | 2 | Tony Waddington | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Ron Atkinson | 3 | 2 | 1 | Bertie Mee | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Martin O'Neill | 3 | 2 | 1 | Gordon Lee | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Bill Nicholson | 2 | 2 | 0 | Bryan Robson | 2 | 0 | 2 |

Winners from the Lower Leagues

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1961 | 1962 | 1967 | 1969 | 1991 |

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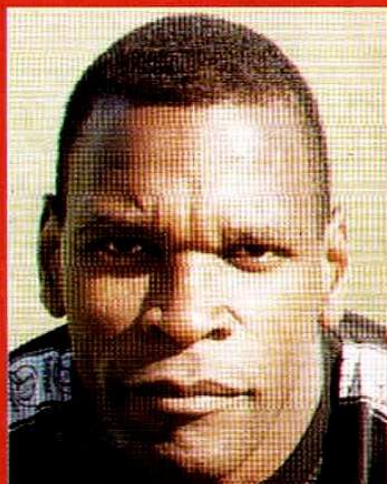


Exeter City Football Club 2000/2001



(From left to right) **Front Row:** John Wilkinson, Glenn Cronin, Robert Speakman, Alex Inglethorpe, Barry McConnell, Mark Rawlinson, Andy Roscoe, Kwame Ampadu, Jukka Vanninen, Paul Buckle, Geoff Breslan. **Middle Row:** Chris Holloway, Graeme Power, Graeme Tomlinson, Jamie Campbell, Steve Flack, Stuart Fraser, John Cornforth, Mark Burrows, Michael Cooper, Jon Aston. **Back Row:** George Kent (Chief Scout), Paul Curry (Asst Physio), Simon Shakeshaft (Physio), Darren Roberts, Chris Curran, Noel Blake (Manager), Jon Richardson (now Oxford), Christian Roberts, Mike Radford (Youth Officer), Tommy Wheeldon (Community Officer), Eamonn Dolan (Centre of Excellence).

The Grecians ...



regular first team place until



moving to Birmingham City in September 1982 though. Noel also had a spell on loan at Shrewsbury Town whilst at Villa Park. He subsequently played for Portsmouth, Leeds United, Stoke City (where he was a team mate of Grecians boss Peter Fox) and Bradford City. Noel, is still registered as a player, but now concentrates on managing and coaching.

Noel Blake joined Exeter City as Player Assistant Manager in June 1995, being released by Scottish First Division Dundee on a free transfer after two years with the Dens Park club. He took over as manager, initially until the end of last season, on the departure of former boss Peter Fox in January 2000. Blake signed a one-year deal in May 2000 and quickly set about re-shaping his playing squad with a whole host of summer signings. Noel began his playing career at Sutton Coldfield Town and after trials with Coventry City and Walsall he eventually signed for Aston Villa where he played in their FA Youth Cup Final team. He didn't win a

The Grecians ...

Exeter City are very much like ourselves - a dismal last campaign, a change of manager and a squad-rebuilding programme.

Last year the then manager Peter Fox's season started brightly, picking up the manager of the Month Award in August. It was downhill from there and long-serving Fox resigned. Noel Blake took over at St James' Park but failed to turn the club around and to prove that he means business this term, he axed 13 of his playing



ClubFACTS...

Name: Exeter City
Nickname: The Grecians
Previous name: None
Ground: St James' Park
Capacity: 10,570
Highest League Scorer (season): Tony Kellow, 129, 1976-78, 80-83, 85-88.

staff during the summer and transfer-listed a further seven. Blake has re-built his squad during the summer months and signed a number experienced players, most of whom on free transfers.

The one shining light for the Grecians' last season was the loan acquisition of our very own Gary Alexander. A big crowd favourite, Gary scored 19 goals in all competitions during his 44 appearances for the club.

Kwame Ampadu - new recruit

A former Republic of Ireland youth and Under-21 international, Kwame began his career with Arsenal where he worked his way through the youth scheme.

Opportunities were restricted to two substitute outings at Highbury, and he had a short loan spell with Plymouth Argyle in 1990. Transferred to West Bromwich Albion for £50,000 in June 1991 and onto Swansea City for £15,000 in February 1994. After featuring in over 150 matches for the Swans, Kwame moved to Leyton Orient in

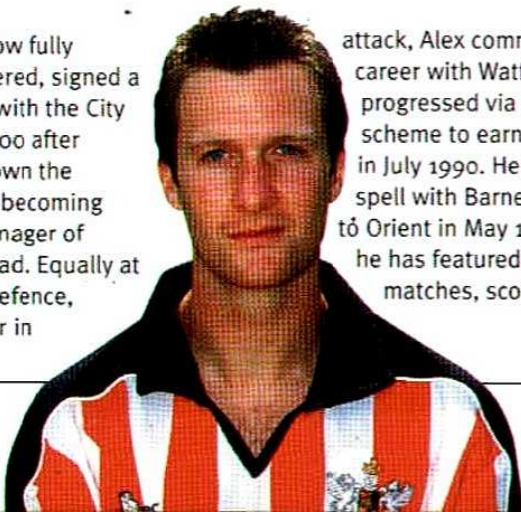


July 1998. Although a regular in the O's side last season, he opted for a switch to Exeter City in June 2000. Excellent passer of the ball and a good outlet for the strikers.

Alex Inglethorpe - cup threat

A long time target of Exeter City, Alex was eventually secured on loan from Leyton Orient in February 2000, but sustained a fractured collar bone in his second match for the Grecians.

Alex, now fully recovered, signed a new deal with the City in June 2000 after turning down the chance of becoming player-manager of Leatherhead. Equally at home in defence, midfield or in



attack, Alex commenced his career with Watford where he progressed via their youth scheme to earn a full contract in July 1990. He had a short loan spell with Barnet, before moving to Orient in May 1995. Since then he has featured in nearly 150 matches, scoring 35 goals.

1 Arjan Van Heusden

Tall Dutch keeper who was signed on a free transfer from Cambridge United in July 2000. Had a trial with Barnsley, prior to joining the Grecians. Manager Noel Blake was keen to sign Arjan after his release by Cambridge. Entered the Football League with Port Vale in August 1994, who paid Noordwijk £4,500 for his services. After a loan spell with Oxford United, Arjan signed for Cambridge in August 1998.

5 Chris Curran

Chris became one of the small band of players who has appeared for all three of Devon's Football League clubs. He commenced his career at Torquay United where he made 152 league appearances. Made a £40,000 switch to Plymouth Argyle in December 1995 and on to Exeter City for £20,000 in July 1997. Chris once again proved last season that he was a bargain signing.

9 Darren Roberts

Keen to return to the Football League, Darren linked up with the Grecians from Conference side Scarborough in June 2000. An experienced front runner who began his senior career with Wolverhampton Wanderers, who had signed him from Burton Albion. Darren went on to play for Hereford United (loan), Chesterfield and Darlington and is a player who has been tracked by Exeter for some time.

10 John Cornforth

John was signed on an 18-month deal in February 2000 from Scunthorpe United, where he had been on a monthly contract since joining them from Wycombe Wanderers in the summer of 1999. A full Welsh international, John commenced his career with Sunderland and then signed for Swansea City for £50,000 in August 1991. After making 149 league outings he was transferred to Birmingham City for £350,000 in March 1996, but was on the move again nine months later, to Wycombe, who paid £50,000 for his services.

11 Andy Roscoe

A free transfer signing from Mansfield Town in June 2000, Andy featured in 250 League and Cup matches for Rotherham United

before making the move to the Stags during the 1999 close season. He began his career with Liverpool, such was the competition at Anfield, however, that he had to wait for his League debut until transferring to Bolton Wanderers in July 1991. Moved to Rotherham for a fee of £70,000 in October 1994.

12 Jon Ashton

Made the short move from neighbouring Plymouth Argyle on a free transfer in June 2000. Jon had been associated with Argyle as a schoolboy, finally earning himself a full professional contract. Made his league debut in September 1998 and went on to feature in 43 matches. His first season at Home Park was interrupted due to injury, but now fully recovered. A quick and determined ball winner.

14 Steve Flack

A former professional boxer who was signed by Exeter for a fee of £10,000 from Cardiff City in September 1996. He had previously played for non-leaguers Foxton and Cambridge City, moving to Ninian Park midway through the 1995-96 season. Was the club's leading goalscorer in 1998-99, and that attracted six-figure offers from Hull City and Bristol Rovers during the course of the campaign.

17 Graeme Tomlinson

Reunited with Noel Blake at Exeter following his free transfer move from Macclesfield Town in June 2000 - the pair having been team mates at Bradford City.

Graeme made a £100,000 switch to Manchester United in July 1994, but found first team outings limited at Old Trafford and therefore had loan spells with Luton Town, AFC Bournemouth and Millwall. Moved to Macclesfield in July 1998.

18 Robert Speakman

Leading scorer in the Exeter City under-18 team two seasons ago, Robert signed a one-year deal with the club after completing a period as a trainee with the club. He made his first team debut as a substitute at St. James' Park against Leyton Orient in April 1999 and scored his first League goal in the opening fixture of last season against Hull City.

23 Jamie Campbell

Arrived at St. James' Park on a free transfer from Brighton & Hove Albion after just one season with the Withdean club. Jamie, started his

career with Luton Town, where he made 36 League outings. He had loan spells with both Mansfield Town and Cambridge United, before signing for Barnet in July 1995. After over 70 matches for the Bees, he signed for Cambridge United in August 1997, where he enjoyed a regular run in their first team, missing just one game in two seasons.

27 Glenn Cronin

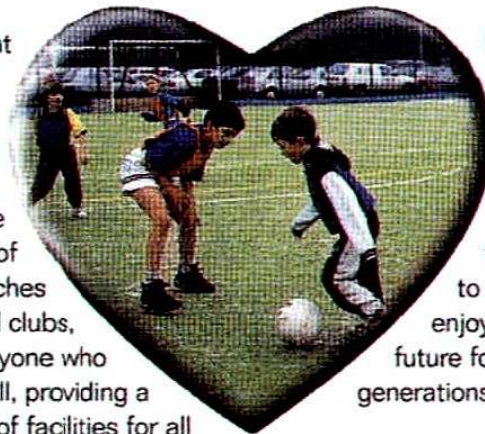
Capped by the Republic of Ireland at Under-18 level last season, Glenn has made excellent progress via the youth ranks at Exeter City, and on completion of his spell as a trainee was signed on a full contract during the summer of 2000. A regular member of the reserve and youth teams last term, Glenn is expected to become a valuable member of the first team squad this season.

30 Lee Zabek

Lee became manager Noel Blake's fourteenth summer signing as he agreed a two-year deal with the Grecians following his free transfer move from Bristol Rovers in August 2000. A central midfield ball-winner, Lee was originally a trainee with Rovers, gaining a full contract in July 1997. However, his first team outings have been limited to illness and injury, although was noted by Exeter after he scored against them in the FA Cup in 1998.

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Faces in the crowd

First game of the season and we introduce a special deal in the Town End - 'lets do some face painting' they said.

You get the picture, lots of small boys grinning madly into the camera, Swindon Town logo vivid and symmetrical in the sunlight. In my experience 'the truth is out there' but it is rarely as we imagine it. My colleagues and I had offered our services in the mistaken belief that anything an ageing hippy (all cheese-cloth and nose rings) can do so effortlessly on Tesco fun days and church fetes, we could do 'only better' for our beloved club - wrong!

To start with the Swindon Town logo is not that easy to draw from memory on a clean sheet of A4 add the dimensions and changing contours of small boys faces and the degree of difficulty becomes more acute. We didn't start too well really, we had intended to do lots of practice faces and someone had seen a simple 'how to' book at Early Learning, which made the whole thing as easy as paint by numbers. However, as all our children are now grown up it had been some time since we saw the simple how to book on the shelves. This was doubly unfortunate, because we left it until the morning of the event

to go and get it, and it was unavailable as it was out of print in 1989! however a last minute substitution was on hand and as it was a large, grossly expensive, bound volume we felt it would 'do nicely' it didn't! This was a book of face painting so advanced that it would flummox the make up team of Star Wars. In fact, I think the first example was a 'wookie'. OK then chaps, we said tolling up our sleeves, we can always 'wing it'. I must admit my heart sank when I looked at our meagre collection of paint sticks. It is a valuable lesson to learn that when face painting at Swindon Town make sure that above all else you have a good supply of red and white paint!

Now men do not have the highly developed sense of colour and tint that women do. They have no need and certainly no interest to know the fact that tangerine and turquoise are totally different shades and that you can't wear blue socks with a black suit. When it comes to football colours they suddenly all develop the sensibilities of Jean Paul Gautier if their team play in a particular shade of red no other colour will do, no matter how young and inexperienced the fan is - pink or maroon will not be good enough if their home strip is scarlet.

As with home decoration an often overlooked and frequently bitterly regretted, one should always prepare the surface you are about to work, making sure it is both smooth clean and dry. It is therefore important to remember sharp angles will be distorted when drawn over pimples and spots. The residue of sugar and soft drinks will not take on any colour at all. By far the biggest pit-fall of this activity is a subject with a head cold - there is nothing worse than smearing mucus and tears coloured bright red on an expectant child's face and neck.

We felt that after 20 minutes or so and with only one child each with very wobbly Swindon logos (one back to front, one very smudged) and a queue stretching from us to the middle of the following week.

It was time to speed up the operation every other child was offered an England logo and in order to use a few colours up we instituted blue and black stripes as a sort of tribute to our away kit.

It was only when a five year old asked for the name of his local club on his face and that team turned out to be Forest Green Rovers, that we retired defeated.

“I just hope that I can do the armband proud...”

As the longest serving player for the club I found last season the hardest to bare.

It was a real anti-climax and a massive disappointment but there were other factors involved in it rather than just football matters, but hopefully that's all behind us and we can look forward now.

I had the prospect of a contract coming up and at the time I didn't know where I was going to be. It wasn't a nice time at all and the uncertainty was very worrying, but that's football. Especially now that I'm in my thirties it gets a bit cut throat, but that's the way of the world. Now things have turned out quite favourable and I'm very pleased. When Colin Todd came in and offered me a contract with two

or three of the other lads that were in the same boat, although they were a bit younger than I am, we were really pleased. Not just getting the new contracts but also with the way the football club is shaping up. With the confidence and the buzz of a new manager coming in and then being appointed captain was a massive boost. I just hope that I can do the armband proud - as it were, and make a good job of it. I felt in good shape coming back after the summer break. Over the last three or four years, as I get a little older, I keep training over the summer, not really hard but I've kept my body ticking over.

With the investment in new players the squad seems to be shaping up very nicely. It's a young

“It's a young inexperienced squad but I think it's got heaps of potential.”

inexperienced squad but I think it's got heaps of potential. I have stated before that we need to have a half-decent start just to get the confidence with the new players and help the team to gel. I believe that if we can make a good start then we can go on to good things this season.

The squad is shaping up very well indeed, I think it is essential for all the new signings like Juan Cobian



in the right back position to offer strong competition for first team places. Colin Todd has tried to get two players in every position and at present I think he's looking for another centre half and that's the way it's got to be. It's modern football. There will be injuries and suspensions and loss of form and just because I've got the captain's armband I'm in no different situation to any of the other lads.

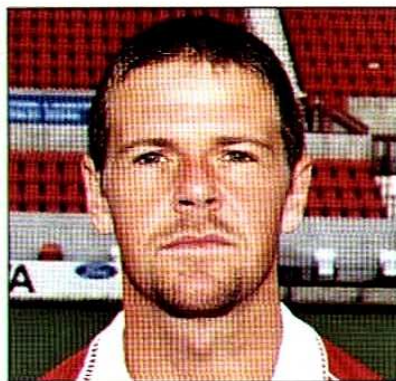
The first game was an important

one for us. After doing so well in pre-season everyone thought we would roll Colchester over and walk away with the three points, but it wasn't to be. Colchester were well organised on the day and we now

against Exeter City.

I'm looking forward to getting a few games in quick succession and putting some sort of rhythm together. It's quite unusual to have

a weeks break at this stage of the season, usually we're straight in to the Worthington Cup games. Once we've had around 6-10 games and won a few and drawn a few, we can set ourself a standard for the rest of the



PlayerSTATS...

Born: 21/11/68, Rochdale

Height: 5ft 9

Weight: 12.4

Position: Defender

Signed : July 1994

Previous Clubs:

West Bromwich Albion, Barnsley, Newcastle United.

know every game is going to be a tricky one for us and none more so than the Cup match

season. If we can make that good start as I have mentioned, I believe we can go onto good things.



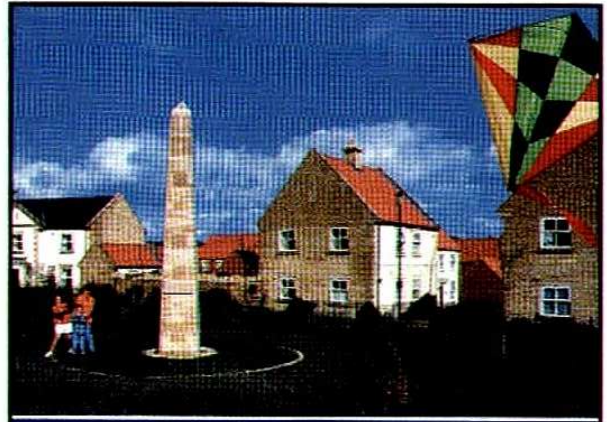
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| Antoine van der Linden 6  Position: Defender Born: - Height: - Weight: - To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 | Keith O'Halloran 7  Position: Midfielder Born: 10/11/75 Height: 5'9" Weight: 12.3lb  To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 | Bobby Howe 8  Position: Midfielder Born: 06/11/73 Height: 6'7" Weight: 10.4lb To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 | Charlie Griffin 9  Position: Forward Born: 25/6/79 Height: 6'0" Weight: 12.8lb To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 | Giuliano Grazioli 10  Position: Forward Born: 23/03/75 Height: 5'11" Weight: 12.0lb  To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 |
| David Duke 11  Position: Midfielder Born: 07/11/78 Height: 5'10" Weight: 11.0lb To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 | Juan Cobian 12  Position: Defender Born: 11/9/79 Height: 5'9" Weight: 11.20lb To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 | Steve Cowe 14  Position: Forward Born: 29/9/74 Height: 5'7" Weight: 10.2lb To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 | Andy Williams 15  Position: Midfielder Born: 06/10/77 Height: 5'10" Weight: 10.30lb To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 | Kim Heiselberg 16  Position: Defender Born: 21/09/77 Height: 5'11" Weight: 11.7lb To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 |
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| Steve Mildenhall 23  Position: Goalkeeper Born: 13/04/78 Height: 6'5" Weight: 13.5lb To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 | Colin Todd Manager  Position: Manager Born: 12/12/48 Height: - Weight: -  To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 | Andy King Asst. Manager  Position: Assistant Manager Born: 12/8/46 Height: - Weight: - To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 | Malcolm Crosby Res. Mngr  Position: Reserve Manager Born: 4/7/54 Height: - Weight: - To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 | Viv Busby Youth Manager  Position: Youth Manager Born: 19/6/49 Height: - Weight: - To Sponsor this kit call the STFC Sales Department on 01793 333718 |

Adam Willis 5

Position: Defender
Born: 21/9/76, Nuneaton
Height: 6'1"
Weight: 12.2

Released by the Sky Blues after failing to make the grade in the Premiership. Adam was called into action from the reserves towards the end of last season to cover for injuries and suspensions. Adam worked very hard in the gym after training to improve his physical presence and it paid off. His confident displays earned him a place in the starting line-up on merit and he was rewarded with a new contract under Colin Todd after being previously told that he could leave the club.



Swindon Town FC Kit Sponsorship 2000/2001



Example

Giuliano Grazioli 10 — Name & Squad No.
 — Player Vital Statistics
 (Middlename: - Position: Goalkeeper Age: 26 Height: 5'6 Weight: 10)
 — Your company name or logo together with any contact details

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Matches from Memory

By Dick Mattick



David Cole was missing from Town's defensive line up and this led to a reshuffle of the Swindon back four with Paul Robert's taking over Cole's position in the centre of defence and Dave Hockaday moving to full back. Swindon took the lead on the half-hour when a surging 40-yard run by Charlie Henry attracted the attention of the Exeter defenders allowing him to set Brian 'Badger' Wade free on the right. Wade ran on to the by-line before pulling back a low cross which Peter Coyne was on hand to knock into the net. Steve Harrower nearly pulled Exeter level moments later when he hit a powerful volley which rebounded off the Swindon crossbar. Seven minutes later hesitation in the Grecians defence saw Colin Gordon dart in between defender and keeper and angle a shot into the net between covering defenders. Exeter, two thirds of the way down the



Mike Walker

"Rarely have I seen an away side dictate a game as much as they did at St James' Park", was Clive King's comment on the match at Exeter on 4th March 1986 which saw Lou Macari's red and white army continue to re-write the Swindon Town record book.

Division Four table, had no answer. Every ball played forward seemed to find a Town defender and had the contest been a boxing match a towel would probably have been thrown into the ring.

"Wade ran on to the by-line before pulling back a low cross which Peter Coyne was on hand to knock into the net."

The second half saw driving rain but it failed to dampen the enthusiasm of the Town supporters behind the goal on the open terracing. Coyne, Gordon and Barnard all went close but the Exeter team which had picked up seven points in their previous three games defended in a spirited fashion. Town fans had a further goal to celebrate in the 83rd minute when Leigh Barnard, who had spent a spell on loan with the Devon club the previous season, took a free kick. Colin Gordon got above his marker to head back across goal and Chris Ramsey was on hand to head home number three.

The victory was Swindon's fifth away win in a row breaking the previous best four achieved in both 1937/38 and 1958/59 seasons. Even more remarkably the clean sheet meant that Swindon had played eight hours and fifty-six minutes without even conceding a goal. With a four point lead over second place Chester and three games in hand as well, things were looking bright,

especially as a new deal with the Council would involve a reduction of the club's debts by £91,000.

Notable in the Exeter team of the time were their eccentric keeper John Shaw whose sense of humour often defused threatening situations, not least with his habit of picking up coins thrown at him and posing with them in his eye sockets. Also playing was Martin Ling later to enjoy two spells with Swindon.

Teams:

Exeter: Shaw, Harrower, Viney, McNichol, McCaffery, Marker, Ling, Jackson, Ward, Keough, Crawford, Sub Kellow (for Jackson 72nd minute)

Swindon: Allen, Ramsey, Roberts, Barnard, Wade, Calderwood, Coyne, Henry, Gordon, Kamara, Hockaday. Sub Hall (for Coyne 87th minute)



Peter Coyne

Walsall Football Club



(HOME) Saturday 26th August 3.00pm

Picture: Paul Hall

Walsall followed the Town through the relegation trap door at the end of last season.

The Saddlers have also experienced a change in playing personnel, which has seen experienced players like Mark Robin and Adi Viveash leave. Ray Graydon did a marvellous job of nearly avoiding the drop but eventually it ended in a return to the Second Division at the first time of asking. Not fancied to do much this season but the Saddlers have held onto inspirational players like Gino Padula and Darren Wrack plus the summer signing of Paul Hall should offer the Saddlers' fans some scrap of optimism. Much-travelled striker, Hall, had several



loan spells at a number of clubs last season including Bury, Sheffield Utd and West Brom but it was at The Bescot Stadium where he secured a long-term deal moving on a free transfer. A rising-star with Portsmouth he scored 37 goals, usually from midfield, in 188 appearances before making a £300,000 switch to Premiership Coventry.

However, the 28-year-old only made 10 appearances and soon found his first team opportunities drying up with the constant influx of players filling the forward positions - Cedric Roussel, Viorel Moldovan, Noel Whelan and Robbie Keane to name a few. Hall's pace set up the winner for the Saddlers in their 3-2, come-from-behind opening day victory against Rotherham.



Swindon Town FC Box Office



**Walsall Football Club (HOME)
Saturday 26th August 3.00pm**

Nationwide League Division 2 fixture at The County Ground. Tickets for this match are now on general sale.

Matchday Prices From:

Adults: £14
Concessions: £7
Juniors: £4



**Port Vale Football Club (AWAY)
Monday 28th August 3.00pm**

Nationwide League Division 2 fixture at Vale Park. Tickets for this match are pay on the day.

Matchday Prices From:

Adults: £15
O.A.P.'s: £10
Juniors: £8



**Wrexham Football Club (HOME)
Saturday 2nd September 3.00pm**

Nationwide League Division 2 fixture at The County Ground. Tickets for this match are now on general sale.

Matchday Prices From:

Adults: £12
O.A.P.'s: £6
Concessions: £3



**Cambridge United (HOME)
Saturday 16th September 3.00pm**

Nationwide League Division 2 fixture at The County Ground. Tickets for this match are now on general sale.

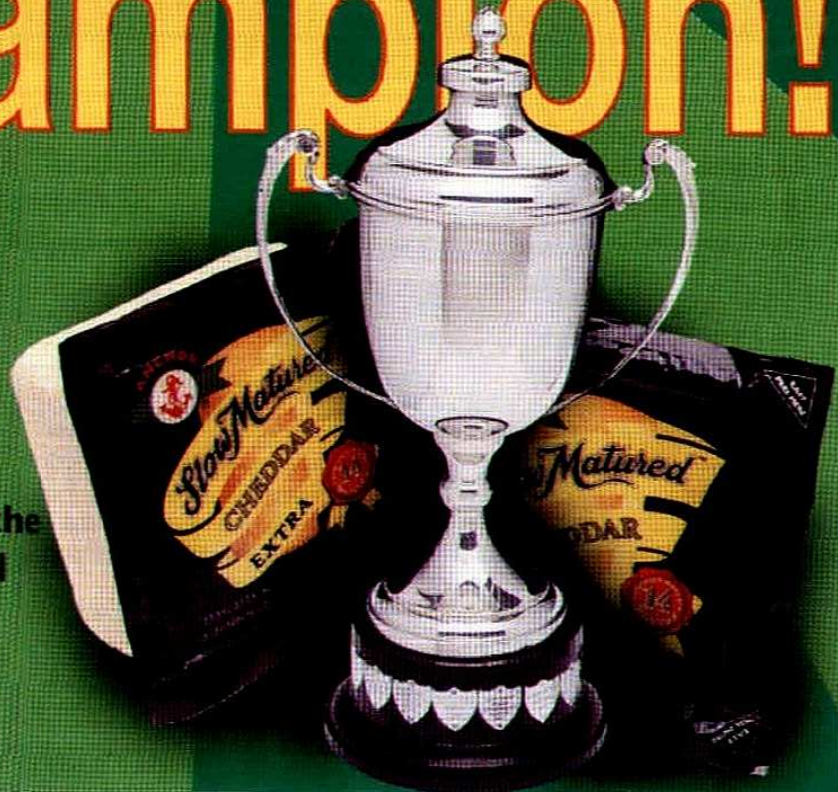
Matchday Prices From:

Adults: £12
O.A.P.'s: £6
Concessions: £3



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Week in pictures

A look back at this weeks sporting moments...

Saturday 12th

Giuliano Grazioli hits the bar in 0-0 season opener against Colchester United.



Monday 14th

Steve McManaman is linked with a move to Manchester United.



Sunday 13th

Mikka Hakkinen wins the Hungarian Grand Prix and goes top of the Drivers Championship table.



Tuesday 15th

Robert Taylor signs for Wolves in £1.5m deal.



Thursday 17th

Harry Kewell signs an improved deal with Leeds which should keep him at the club until 2004. Leeds boss David O'Leary also signs 6-year deal.



Wednesday 16th

George Weah injures Dennis Irwin in his testimonial match. £500,000 softens the blow.



Friday 18th

Blackburn Rovers' multi-millionaire Chairman, Jack Walker dies aged 71.



the squads



Tues Aug 22nd
2000, Worthington
Cup 1st Round 1st Leg



Swindon Town

The Squad

| | | |
|----|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Bart Griemink | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | Mark Robinson | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | Sol Davis | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | Matthew Hewlett | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | Adam Willis | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | Antoine van der Linden | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 | Keith O'Halloran | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | Bobby Howe | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 | Charlie Griffin | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 | Giuliano Grazioli | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 | David Duke | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 | Juan Cobian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 | Steve Cowe | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 | Andy Williams | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 | Kim Heiselberg | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 | Daniel Invincibile | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 | Gary Alexander | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 | Frazer McHugh | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 | Gareth Davies | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 | Alan Reeves | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23 | Steve Mildenhall | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| - | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

The Manager

Colin Todd



Exeter City

The Squad

| | | |
|----|-------------------|----|
| 1 | Arjan Van Heusden | 1 |
| 2 | Neil Whitworth | 2 |
| 3 | Graeme Power | 3 |
| 4 | Paul Buckle | 4 |
| 5 | Chris Curran | 5 |
| 6 | Mark Burrows | 6 |
| 7 | Alex Inglethorpe | 7 |
| 8 | Kwame Ampadu | 8 |
| 9 | Darren Roberts | 9 |
| 10 | John Cornforth | 10 |
| 11 | Andy Roscoe | 11 |
| 12 | Jon Ashton | 12 |
| 13 | Geoff Breslan | 13 |
| 14 | Steve Flack | 14 |
| 15 | Barry McConnell | 15 |
| 16 | Pete Smith | 16 |
| 17 | Graeme Tomlinson | 17 |
| 18 | Robert Speakman | 18 |
| 19 | Mark Rawlinson | 19 |
| 20 | Chris Holloway | 20 |
| 21 | Michael Cooper | 21 |
| 22 | John Wilkinson | 22 |
| 23 | Jamie Campbell | 23 |
| 24 | Stuart Fraser | 24 |
| 26 | Jukka Vanninen | 26 |
| 27 | Glenn Cronin | 27 |
| 28 | Christian Roberts | 28 |
| 29 | Noel Blake | 29 |
| 30 | Lee Zabek | 30 |
| - | | - |

The Manager

Noel Blake

Clarion
CAR AUDIO BEYOND

Match Officials

Referee

D.R. Crick

Assistant 1

D.J. Hine

Assistant 2

I. Harris

4th Official

A.D. Sainsbury

Match Facts...

Half-Time Score

Full-Time Score

Attendance

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next at home...

Saturday August 26th 2000, Nationwide
League Division Two **VS Walsall**