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TOP SCORE 6 from 49

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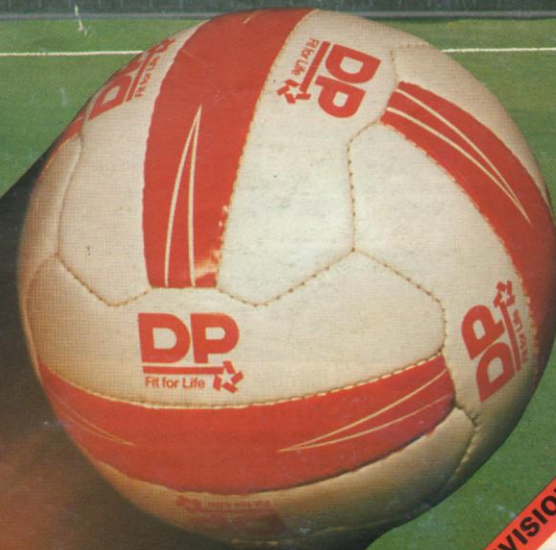
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JOHN BOND

Manager, Swansea City Football Club

We are starting a new season and everybody will be very expectant, hoping that things will happen in terms of us being nearer the top of the table this season rather than at the bottom.

I think the lads did a marvellous job in keeping the club in the Third Division last year, but because it happened the way it did and everything revolved around the last match, the euphoria that went with that match against Bristol City, and the way the fans felt afterwards because we had survived the Third Division... people will naturally think that we have a chance of doing well in the Third Division this year.

I, myself, feel that we have assembled one or two useful players at the football club now and there's a fair amount of ability and a fair amount of skill here.

What we need is a good attitude from all the players from the very start, a belief that they can do well, a willingness to want to do well, and just have a little luck at the start and I'm sure we can see ourselves doing quite well.

I will be very very disappointed if we don't finish in the top six or eight in the Third Division, anything higher I must say at this time would be a bonus... but you never know what can happen in football, and if we do get off to a good start, just anything could happen.

I have been very encouraged by the support we have had in terms

of season tickets during the summer. It shows still that this football club can be and would be a well supported club if we can have a bit of success again.

I just want to make it perfectly clear and plain to everyone connected with the Football Club that I am not here for fun. I'm here because Swansea have got a chance and I want to achieve something with them, and I just want everybody connected with the club, and that means everybody, from the office staff, the Directors, the players and everybody else connected with the football club, to feel exactly the same way.

Let's all go into it together and I think there's no reason to believe that success can't come to this football club again!

I must say that I have enjoyed my first six months in Wales and particularly in Swansea. People have been very kind and nice to me. I just hope that I can repay their hospitality and kindness and give them something to shout about by the end of the season.

There have been trying moments for us all but I feel if we knuckle down and do it together then we've got a chance.

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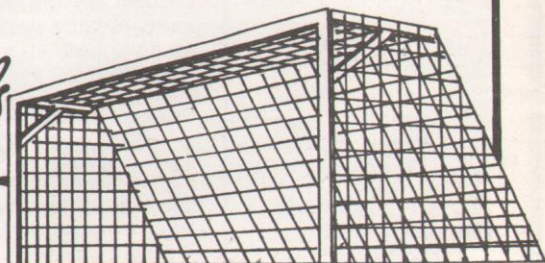
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FROM
AUSTIN ROVER

David Farmer writes...

MUMBLES & WIGAN?

Well, it is still holiday time. The headline reminds us of that even though today we start our 1985/86 season in earnest. What's it all about? Well, there was a famous piece of literature about the Road to Wigan Pier and, whilst we don't have one (either) at Swansea, there seems little harm in marrying the imaginary with the real. And, after all, Mumbles isn't very far outside our city border.

Last season, I mentioned in the match day programme that the game was the first meeting between our two clubs. I meant by that that it was our first *League* game; indeed, our first competitive game. That comment resulted in a letter from Rod Prescott, of Wigan, reminding me that we *had* played each other in pre-season friendlies during John Toshack's reign. It just shows you, you have to be precise as far as the true football fan is concerned. Thank you Rod.

Clearly, since we met (in the League) for the first time last season, we have very little to look back on. Our sole previous home game took place here on 3rd November, 1984. The result was 2-2, and I think it is fair to say that we were rather fortunate on that day to get a point. Nonetheless, we did, largely through fine goalkeeping by Jimmy Rimmer, and one of those unbelievable goals which Steve

Mardenborough hit home for us. If only he had had that bit extra in the football sense to add to his pace and power!

I had not seen Wigan play before that game but they looked to me a very workmanlike side. I was particularly impressed by their Scouse midfielder who was of the stamp of Everton's Reid.

The teams last season were:—

Swans: Rimmer, Evans (W), Hough, Hughes, Stevenson, Richards, Saunders, Williams, Marustik, Mardenborough, Loveridge.

Wigan: Tunks, Cribley, Knowles, Kelly, Walsh, Methven, Butler, Bennett, Johnson, Newell, Langley.

Scorers: **Swans:** Speedy Mardenborough; **Wigan:** Butler, Barrow.

Today, of course, is a new day. John Bond will start his first full season at the Vetch with high aspirations. Like all Swans fans, I wish him every success as we do our players.

As far as we supporters are concerned, let's get behind our boys as we did that night against Bristol City. What a joy it was to "feel" that support; no daft chanting at the other side's supporters, just plain old-fashioned cheering. Let's keep it going throughout this season and we, too, will get our rewards!

Up the Swans!

PAUL MURRAY OF SKETTY AND DUNVANT

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Club News...

All supporters wish John Bond and the Swans a happy and successful season.

SWANSEA CITY F.C. thank
MARTHA'S VINEYARD
for their generous help in organising the
Disco/Dance on 15th August.

Friends of Swansea City Football Association (FOSCAF) membership renewal forms for the 1985/86 season are available at the North Bank kiosk at home matches, and from Myra at the Swans Shop, 33 William Street, Swansea (Telephone: Swansea 462584) — £1/person.

A Blackpool trip with hotel accommodation, is being arranged for week ending 31st August, combining the Swans away match and the famous Blackpool illuminations. Depart 7pm, Friday, 30th August; returning after lunch Sunday, 1st September. Cost: £4 incl. Enquiries — Peter Hill, 795588, and Ugo Vallario, 54534.

The North Bank kiosk will also have old programmes for sale (swops available). As usual, our team of sellers will operate around the ground on match days, and we look forward to your continued support for our Top Score, raffle and bingo tickets, which enable our Supporters Club to raise much needed revenue for the parent club.

During the close season, the Association of Chief Police Officers has worked with the Government, the Football Association, the Football Trust, Transport Authorities, and others involved, to co-ordinate an effective response to the problems of football hooliganism. Four key areas will receive particular attention by police.

(1) **The Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol) Act.** Under this Act, it will be an offence to: be drunk or in possession of alcohol on a public service vehicle carrying passengers to or from a sporting event; possess alcohol or a controlled container on entry to a designated sports ground or in any part of the ground; sell or supply alcohol at designated sports grounds subject to certain limited exceptions. The police will enforce these provisions as fully as possible. (2) **Close Circuit TV.** (3) **Safety Standards.** and (4) **Intelligence Gathering.**

The Supporters Club unites all genuine football supporters, improves the image of the game and its supporters, and promotes friendship and sportsmanship between rival supporters... COME AND JOIN US!

Many thanks to the East Bank supporter who kindly sent a Fiver and three £1 coins to help the Swans' finances, and to all loyal fans, business firms and clubs, who have also given their generous support in many different ways.

Saturday, 4th January, 1986 — BURY
Away — At Gigg Lane, Bury
Due to restrictions placed on the ground by the local authorities, it will be necessary for all visiting supporters to purchase a ticket prior to the fixture from their own club.

For all enquiries relating to Match Day Sponsorship, Ground Advertising, Programme Advertising, Match Ball Donations, Lottery Agencies, or anything of a commercial nature, please get in touch with **Reg Pike** on **Swansea 462584**, or write to the **Commercial Office, 33 William Street, Swansea, West Glamorgan, South Wales.**

SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS CLUB

Welcome to the Vetch old and new supporters, players and staff. Membership of the Supporters Club may be obtained at the North Bank Shop or from any committee member around the ground — Adults £1, OAPs 75p, Cygnets 75p. Membership of the Cygnets Club includes a signed birthday card from your favourite player for any boy/girl under the age of 16 before 1st September, 1985. For information about Cygnets membership, please contact Cheryl Archer on 73322, or membership forms are available at the ground, which should be returned to the Cygnets Club, Swansea City Supporters Club, c/o Vetch Field, Swansea, enclosing an SAE.

AWAY TRAVEL NEWS

WALSALL

Saturday, 24th August — Price £4

Leaving the gasworks at 10am. Pick-ups on request. Bookings taken at the North Bank Shop by JULIA on match days or by contacting her on Swansea 75431 weekdays after 6pm.

MILK CUP — AT CARDIFF

Tuesday, 20th August — Price £2

Depart 4pm

BLACKPOOL

Saturday, 31st August — Price £7.50

Depart 7am

END OF SEASON PRESENTATION DANCE

On 21st May, we held our Annual Presentation Dance at HARPERS Nightclub. Roy Turpin presented John Bond with a gift on behalf of the Supporters Club. John Bond was then given a cheque for £1,200 for the Swansea City FC on behalf of the Supporters Club. The presentation of awards followed: David Hough, Young Player of the Year; Colin Pascoe received Ladies Section Award, and Jimmy Rimmer, Away Player of the Year. Thanks to Harpers Nightclub and all who attended on the night.

Our total contributions for the season — £2,000.

NEWS ITEMS

On 21st July, we held a SPONSORED WALK. Congratulations to everyone who took part and thanks to all our sponsors. We raised £500. At our AGM on 23rd July, Roy Turpin was elected Chairman and Lorraine Corbett, Vice-Chairperson. Good luck to both and the rest of the committee.

MATCH DAY RAFFLE

This will be continuing this season — still only 5p — and all the money goes towards helping the Swans. Up the Swans!

F.O.S.C.F.A. AWAY TRAVEL

20th August — **CARDIFF** — Milk Cup

Depart 6pm — Price £2

24th August — **WALSALL** — League

Depart 9.30am — Price £4

The Managers

No.1 — WALTER WHITTAKER

Since 1912, when the Swans began their professional career here at the Vetch, we have had a total of seventeen managers. Considering the record of some clubs regarding the men who guide their destiny, that's not a bad total for seventy-three years. So who started it all? Who was the first to pick up the managerial cloak at the Vetch?

The man concerned was a big man in every way. A goalkeeper who came to the club from Exeter City, but who had had considerable experience with Blackburn Rovers (then the 'Liverpool' of their day). Whittaker stood 6'3" and weighed in at 14 stones when he came to the Vetch.

Since he wasn't appointed until the middle of July, he had to work fast. Not only did he have to recruit a whole team — the club had not existed before — he needed to supervise the construction of the ground as well.

Whilst keeping an eye on men with picks and shovels, it was Whittaker who signed the legendary Billy Ball from Stoke and W. Jack Nicholas from Derby.

The week before the club's first professional game, Whittaker's men played a trial match on the 'Rec', adjacent to the old Mumbles Railway. 2,000 people watched that game.

At the end of his first season, Whittaker

could have felt well pleased with his work. In the Welsh Cup, his team had beaten many established sides including Wrexham and Merthyr away from home.

By the end of March of that first season, the club was on target for three prizes. In the event, they missed promotion from Division Two of the Southern League but won both the Welsh Cup and the Welsh League. By any standards, Whittaker had made a remarkable start to his managerial career.

In his second season, Whittaker's men established more records. They fought through five qualifying rounds of the English Cup to become the first South Wales club to reach the First Round Proper of the tournament.

Nonetheless, at the end of the season, the club was only fourth in the League and second in the Welsh League — victims of a small squad (as we would say today) and too many games. Clearly, the directors thought that Whittaker had failed and a change was needed, for he left at the end of the term.

Walter Whittaker had just two seasons with the club. He achieved a great deal and, of course, has a special niche in our managerial records for he was the FIRST.

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PENALTY COMPETITION WINNERS



Pictured above are Florest, the winning team in the Penalty Competition (17th May, Bristol City match). Presenting them with their trophy is Mr. Christopher Pitson. Also in the photograph are Mr. Albert Howard (vice-president), David Savage (director) and Mel Nurse (director).

(Photograph by courtesy of South Wales Evening Post)

Our next competition starts on 17th September, 1985. For details, ring **Reg Pike** on **Swansea 462584** or write to the **Commercial Office, 33 William Street, Swansea.**

**SWANSEA CITY
F.C.**

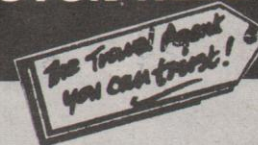
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Line-up 1985-86

Line-up 1985-86

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	Gate	Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Aug. 17	Sat.	Wigan Athletic	*H	4-0	0-1	L											Milk Cup 1st Leg
Aug. 20	Tues.	Cardiff	R	4-2	1-2	L*	MACUSTIK										
Aug. 24	Sat.	Walsall	A		1-3	L	MC HALE										
Aug. 26	Mon.	Plymouth	*H		0-2	L											
Aug. 31	Sat.	Blackpool	A		0-2	L*											Milk Cup 2nd Leg
Sep. 3	Tues.	Cardiff	*H		3-1	W*	RANDELL (2), PASCOE										
Sep. 7	Sat.	Rotherham	*H		1-0	W	HUTCHISON										
Sep. 14	Sat.	Wolves	A		5-1	W	TURNER (2), RANDELL, HUTCHISON, EMMANUEL										
Sep. 17	Tues.	Newport	H		1-1	D	TURNER										
Sep. 21	Sat.	Reading	A		0-2	L											
Sep. 28	Sat.	Bristol Rovers	H		0-1	L											
Oct. 2	Wed.	Derby	A		1-5	L	EMMANUEL										
Oct. 5	Sat.	Brentford	A		0-1	L											
Oct. 11	Fri.	Lincoln	H		3-1	W											
Oct. 19	Sat.	Bolton	A		1-1	D	PASCOE										
Oct. 22	Tues.	Doncaster	H		0-2	L											
Oct. 26	Sat.	Gillingham	A		1-5	L	FRENCH					P	W D L F A	15			Pts
Nov. 2	Sat.	Bury	H		1-0	W	WADDLE					16	4 2 10 15 28	14			
Nov. 5	Tues.	Chesterfield	H		1-1	D	PASCOE (PEN)					18	4 3 11 16 35	15			
Nov. 9	Sat.	Darlington	*A		0-6	L	HARRISON					20	4 3 13 17 41	15			
Nov. 23	Sat.	Bristol City	H		1-3	L						21	5 3 13 18 41	18			
Nov. 30	Sat.	Motts County	A		0-3	L	WADDLE										
Dec. 14	Sat.	York	H		1-0	W											Boxing Day
Dec. 21	Sat.	Walsall	H		P-P												
Dec. 26	Thur.	Cardiff	A		0-1	L											
Dec. 28	Sat.	Plymouth	A		0-2	L											
Jan. 1	Wed.	Bournemouth	*H		1-1	D	MCARTHUR										New Year's Day
Jan. 4	Sat.	Walsall	H		2-1	W	GIBBINS (2)					25	6 4 15 21 46	22			
Jan. 11	Sat.	Blackpool	H		2-0	W	GIBBINS, HARRISON (PEN)					26	7 4 15 23 46	25			
Jan. 18	Sat.	Wigan	A		0-5	L											
Jan. 25	Sat.	Wolves	H		0-2	L											
Feb. 1	Sat.	Rotherham	A		1-4	L	GIBBINS					30	7 5 18 24 57	26			
Feb. 4	Tues.	Doncaster	A		0-0	D						31	8 5 18 27 53	29			
Feb. 8	Sat.	Bolton	H		3-1	W	FOLEY (2) HUGH										
Feb. 16	Sun.	Newport	A		0-2	L	HARRISON, HUTCHINSON										
Feb. 22	Sat.	Reading	H		2-3	L											
Mar. 1	Sat.	Bristol Rovers	A		0-0	D											
Mar. 4	Tues.	Derby	H														
Mar. 8	Sat.	Brentford	H		2-0	W	MCARTHUR, GIBBINS										
Mar. 16	Sun.	Lincoln	A		1-4	L	MCARTHUR										
Mar. 22	Sat.	Gillingham	H		2-2	D	GIBBINS, HARRISON										
Mar. 29	Sat.	Bournemouth	A		2-2	D											
Mar. 31	Mon.	Cardiff	H		2-2	D											Easter Saturday
Apr. 5	Sat.	Chesterfield	A														Easter Monday
Apr. 12	Sat.	Darlington	H														
Apr. 19	Sat.	Bristol City	A														
Apr. 26	Sat.	Notts County	H														
May 3	Sat.	York	A														

CARDIFF CITY - v- SWANSEA CITY — Milk Cup 1985/86: The draw for the First Round of the Milk Cup to be played weeks commencing 19th August and 2nd September, 1985 (two legs).

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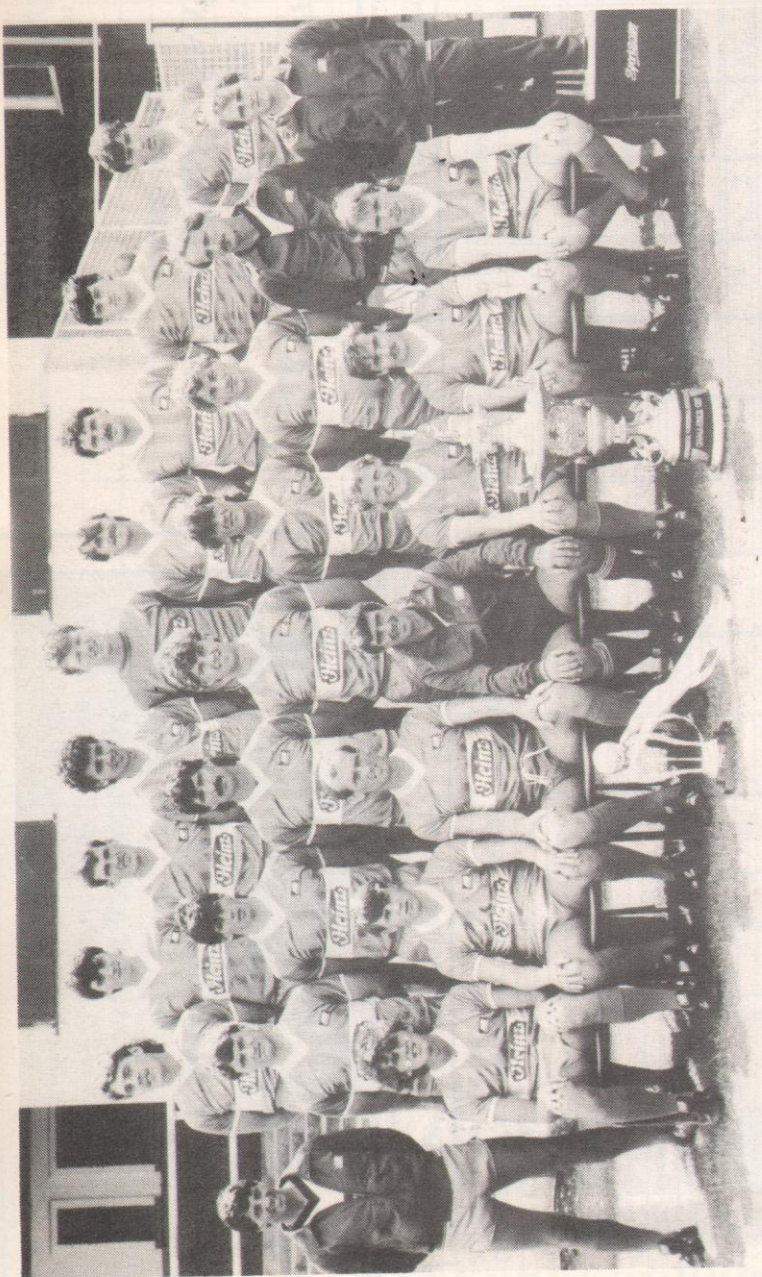
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wish the Swans every success

in the current season

Today's Opponents:



WIGAN ATHLETIC A.F.C. LTD

Back Row (left to right): Barry Knowles, Paul Beesley, Gary Bennett, Paul Cook, Billy Stewart, John Butler, Alex Cribley, Tony Kelly, Warren Aspinall.
Middle Row (left to right): Ray Mathias (Assistant Manager), Jimmy Mitchell, Mike Newell, Graham Barrow, Steven Walsh, Kevin Langley, Mark Schofield, Roy Tunks, David Bingham (Physiotherapist).
Front Row (left to right): David Lowe, Paul Jewell, Colin Methven (Captain), Bryan Hamilton (Manager), Neil Bailey, Ian Griffiths, Steven Wilkes.

Pen Pictures:

Wigan's team is likely to be selected from:

ROY TUNKS (Goalkeeper) — Signed from Preston North End three seasons ago, and has now completed over 550 League games since starting as an apprentice at Rotherham.

KEVIN LANGLEY (Midfield) — A 21-year-old from St. Helens. Kevin is a product of the Latics Youth Policy and attracted the attention of several top clubs last season. A very gifted player, equally at home in defence and mid-field.

ALEX CRIBLEY (Defender) — Joined the Latics in 1980 after considerable experience in Liverpool's Central League side. Alex is a proven utility player who never gives less than 100%.

STEVE WALSH (Defender) — A 6'2" 19-year-old who made his debut at Maine Road against Manchester City. An accomplished defender, he turned down a move to Chelsea, season 1982/83, but continues to be sought after by several big clubs.

COLIN METHVEN (Defender) — A £30,000 signing from East Fife in October 1979, this ex-mineworker shows all the grit and toughness of his profession. He has played over 250 League games for Wigan.

GRAHAM BARROW (Midfield) — The fact that Graham did not enter the League until his early twenties is proof of the wealth of talent that lies in non-League football. Bought from Altrincham for £10,000 in August 1981, he has been a first team regular ever since.

DAVID LOWE (Striker) — The object of several bids from First Division Luton Town, David is a further example of the Latics Youth Policy. He moved from the Latics Youth team to the first team within two months of arriving at the club, August 1982, and has since forced his way into the England Youth side.

BILLY STEWART (Goalkeeper) — This 20-year-old goalkeeper signed from Liverpool FC in the close season. He is 6'2" tall and very promising.

MIKE NEWELL (Striker) — This 20-year-old striker signed from Liverpool FC where he was on schoolboy forms. He made his League debut last season.

PAUL COOK (Midfield) — Age 18, he is a product of our Youth Policy. He signed professionally on his 17th birthday. Paul made his League debut against Reading in May 1985.

TONY KELLY (Midfield) — Aged 20, he is another ex-Liverpool FC player. Tony was a regular member of the Liverpool Reserve team before moving to Wigan.

NEIL BAILEY (Midfield) — Wigan born, but began his career with Burnley. He signed from Newport County last season. He is a very experienced midfield player.

JOHN BUTLER (Defender) — Another player to have turned down a move to Chelsea. John joined Wigan from non-League Prescott Cables. A hard and skilful player who has played in every position on the field, including goalkeeper.

PAUL JEWELL (Striker) — Signed for Wigan Athletic in February 1985 from Liverpool where he was an apprentice and regular reserve team player.

BARRY KNOWLES (Defender) — Age 26. He was signed from Northern Premier League club, Barrow, in October 1984.

GARY BENNETT (Striker) — A young non-contract player, he is quick and scores important goals.

WARREN ASPINALL (Midfield) — Highly promising young apprentice who has just been voted Young Player of the Year. Another product of the Youth system.

BRYAN HAMILTON (Manager) — 50 International Caps for Northern Ireland, nine as captain. Took part in three World Cups. Played for Ipswich, Everton, Millwall, Swindon (player-coach), and Tranmere Rovers (player-manager) during a career of over 500 games.

The New Swans



NIGEL STEVENSON

'Speedy' to his friends and fans alike, has signed a new two-year contract with the club and will continue as team captain when the season kicks-off against Wigan today.

Born in Swansea on 2nd November, 1958, Nigel started playing football whilst attending Danygraig Junior School. He continued whilst at Cefn Hengoed, as well as playing for local clubs Kilvey and St. Illtyd's, although at that time he was playing on the left wing.

He joined the Vetch field staff straight from school, made his League debut at the age of 17, and has played in all four divisions during his 232

appearances for Swansea. Speedy has four Wales international 'caps', having played twice at under-18 and twice at under-21 levels. His ambition is to continue in football in a coaching capacity when his playing days are over. His hobbies outside football are photography, squash and music, but above all, he enjoys the time he can spend with his family, wife Jane and five-month-old son Ashley.

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Radio Vetch

THE VOICE OF
THE SWANS with
JAMES LEWIS



It's bad enough in the summer months being without football, but with the abysmal weather we've been having as well, the summer of '85 should best be forgotten!

Needless to say, it's good to be back! The usual Radio Vetch team, plus a few new names, will be doing their best to keep you entertained. Gordon Lewis will be giving his own personal analysis of the day's Canon League fixtures; Tony Nakonecznyj will look at the local football scene; Paul Rogers will be in charge of the half-time penalty-ball competitions, and Jeff Thomas will look after the 'extel' half-time results service. All in all, a top-class package that cannot be beaten at any football ground in the Canon League.

To start the season off, a special Radio Vetch competition! The Top Ten Singles will go to the first person to write in and tell me WHO said this and about WHOM:— "He can't run, he can't tackle, and he can't head a ball. The only time he goes forward is to toss the coin."

Radio Vetch: James Lewis, Swansea City FC, Vetch Field, Swansea. Tel: 474114.

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Guest Writer...



TOM LYONS

The Mirror

The build-up to this new season has been the quietest I can recall since League football resumed after the last war.

Years ago, long before television took over our lives, there was always plenty of close-season activity. That was in the days when clubs had playing staffs of up to 60 or 70, 1st Division crowds were never below 50,000 every match, and gates in the other two divisions (there was no 4th Division) were often between 30,000 and 35,000.

In fact, the two biggest attendances in the season were invariably on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. There was always a full League programme on both days, usually local derbies.

Few people owned cars, public transport always ran over Christmas, thus ensuring all clubs had full grounds.

The start of the season in years gone by could not come quickly enough for Soccer's millions of fans. Newspapers printed special slip pages in their

circulation areas reporting on clubs' activities for weeks before the big kick-off. Fans could not read enough about their favourites.

Alas, all that excitement and fervour has gone. The only football news we have read about this summer were the results of the Brussels inquiry, the Bradford City fire inquiry, the Birmingham City riot inquiry, the banning of English teams from world football and the rejection of Liverpool's appeal. What a transformation in football over the past few years!

League football mirrors the violent and lawless times in which we live, and while I'm not saying this is a make-or-break season for League football, it's certainly a crucial one. Football must do more to put its house in order, and one way obviously is to start on the field with more attractive, entertaining football.

While the fans' behaviour is currently low, standards on the field have also sunk alarmingly. Individual ball skill isn't what it used to be, and managers and coaches should strive to raise standards with encouragement from club directors.

Swansea has produced some of the finest footballers in the history of the game. Players like Ivor Allchurch, John Charles, Jack Kelsey, Cliff Jones, Trevor Ford, Roy Paul, Terry Medwin, Ray Daniel — to mention a few.

There are not many around these days with that kind of ability. Nevertheless, it's up to club managements to do a good job with the talent they have at their disposal.

Even if a player isn't blessed with the brilliance of Allchurch, the versatility of Charles or the quickness of Jones, he can be taught good sportsmanship and self discipline on the field. It's in the interest of the clubs anyway to have players' self control. Players banned for two or three games are of no use when the chase for promotion or to avoid relegation is on.

I'm sure the fans will appreciate better behaviour on the field, and it also might encourage more law and order on the terraces. It's worth trying!

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TODAY'S REFEREE

Mr. N. S. BUTLER (Surrey)

Banker. Married with three children. Commenced refereeing in 1963 progressing via Spartan and Isthmian Leagues. Interested in reading and playing squash. Refereed 1981/82 FA County Cup Youth Final and linesman at 1983/84 FA Cup Final. 1984/85 linesman, Italy -v- Portugal.