

At the Vetch Today — Croeso i'r Vetch

Referee:
Mr. R. L.
HAMER
Bristol

Linesmen:
Mr. S. P.
BROWN
Merthyr Tydfil
(Red Trim)

Mr. A. V.
STONE
Bristol
(Yellow Flag)

Reserve Official:
Mr. N. A. Richards

Result:

H. T. Score:

Attendance:

Scorers:

Swansea

- 1 Lee Bracey
- 2 David Hough
- 3 Chris Coleman
- 4 Andrew Melville
- 5 Terry Boyle
- 6 Robbie James
- 7 Gary Cobb
- 8 David D'Auria
- 9 Stewart Phillips
- 10 John Salako
- 11 Paul Raynor
- 12 Simon Davey
- 14 Des Trick

Reading

- 1 Steve Francis
- 2 Adrian Williams
- 3 Steve Richardson
- 4 Stuart Bevan
- 5 Martin Hicks
- 6 Darren Wood
- 7 Linen Jones
- 8 Scott Taylor
- 9 Trevor Senior
- 10 Michael Gilkes
- 11 Lee Payne
- 12 To be announced
- 14 To be announced



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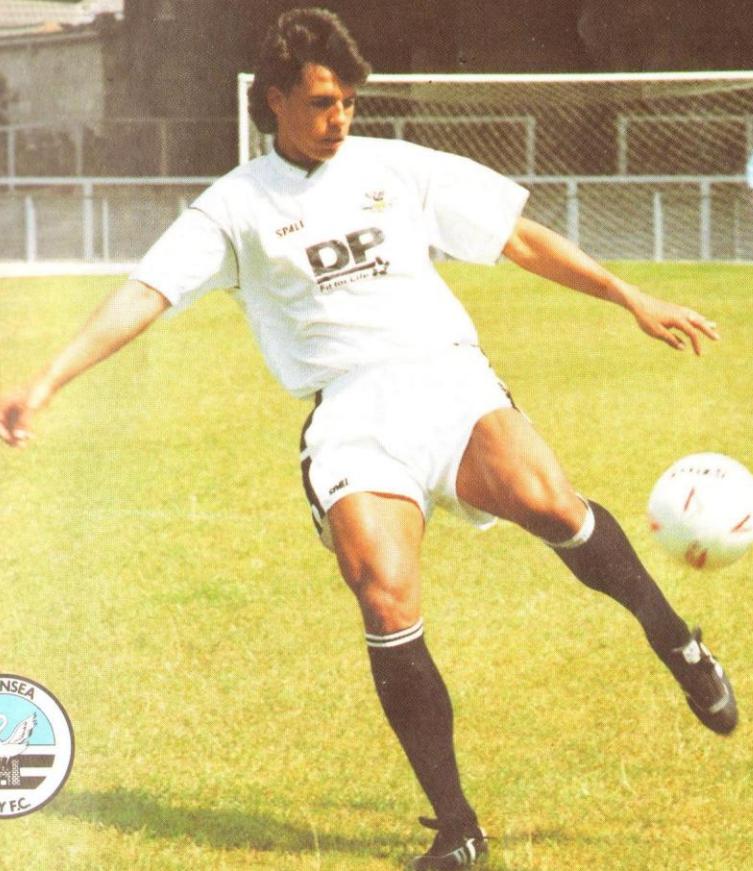
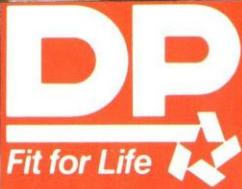
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READING

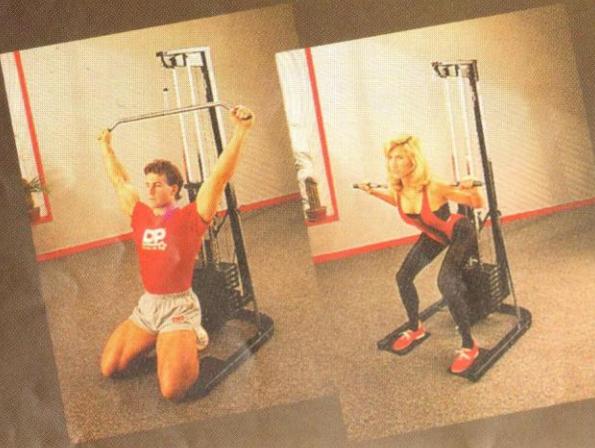
Saturday, 23rd September, 1989
Kick Off 3.00 p.m.

WELCOME TO THE VETCH • BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

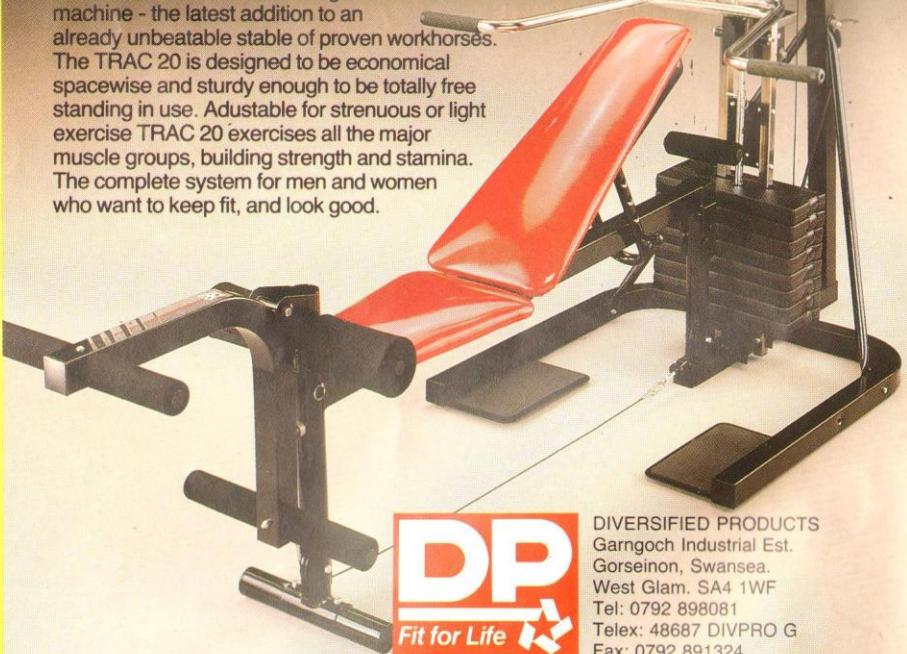
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Programme Editor:
REG PIKE I.S.M., T.D.

Ian Evans writes

Dear Supporters,

It seems a long time since my previous notes for the Chester City match on 9 September, 1989 and even as I write my thoughts are firmly fixed on Saturday's match at the Vetch against Reading, followed by the Wednesday visit from ATHENS of the Greek team PANATHINAIKOS and with Notts County on the Saturday. Three vital matches on which so much depends — a lift up the League table and a money spinner.

I was pleased with the team performance and their 2-0 victory over Chester City — two well taken goals by Paul Raynor provided us with a great springboard for our European Cup Winners Cup 1st Round, 1st Leg game in Athens. We left Swansea in high spirits and were well received by the Panathinaikos officials.

For our young team and we have got a very young team — just have a close look this afternoon as they take the field against Reading — it must have been the experience of a lifetime to run out in the OLYMPIC Stadium of Athens before more than 53,000 spectators.

Panathinaikos, Greek League Champions and Greek Cup winners numerous times, European Champion Club's Cup, European Cup Winners Cup and Inter Cities Fans Cup and UEFA Cup veterans with a team of talented first class professionals and training facilities second to none scored three goals without reply and I'm sure our travelling supporters must have felt there were more goals to come from this truly professional side.

Goals came!! One from Paul Raynor and another from John SALAKO as our team took up at the challenge and at the end of ninety minutes it could well have ended in a 3-3 draw. I must thank Crystal Palace for the extension of our on loan player John Salako.

This brings me up to Craven Cottage, Fulham last Saturday which brought us back to the harsh realities of the Barclays League Division 3 and the fight for points. The Cottagers ran out victors by 2-0 and we never quite reached the heights of our game in the Olympic Stadium.

This afternoon I extend a warm welcome to the Reading Directors, Manager Ian BRANFOOT, the team and visiting supporters. Their home defeat 1-0 by Walsall at ELM PARK, Reading last Saturday will certainly make them eager to make amends at our expense.

Enjoy yourselves 'Shout for the Swans' and the team will strive to provide ninety minutes of entertaining our successful soccer.

Ian Evans, Manager

**NEXT HOME MATCH AT THE VETCH
EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS CUP 1st ROUND, 2nd LEG
PANATHINAIKOS
Wednesday, 27th September, 1989. Kick off 7.30 p.m.**

Congratulations Alex Johnson, Stephen Jenkins and Jason Bowen who have been selected for the YOUTH squad to represent WALES in the two away Group 5 European Championship qualifying games against Belgium 17/10/89 and GDR 19/10/89.



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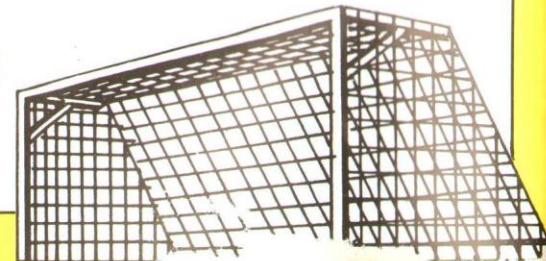
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SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

Good afternoon and welcome for today's game against Reading.

Match day Raffle

The Autographed Football for the Chester City game was won by No.5733. Please claim at Club Shop, William Street, leaving name and address. Thank You. (D. Thomas, 25 College Row, Vstradgynlais).

Away Travel News

Bristol City — Saturday 14th October 1989.

Bury — Tuesday 17th October 1989.

Price and time of leaving when booking at North Bank shop on Match days by Allison.

FOSCFA NOTES — READING

We extend a warm welcome to Reading and their supporters to today's game.

Away Travel

Memberships are still available only £1.00.

Details of our next away matches at Bristol City et al are available from the usual points.

The places for our Blackpool/Bolton weekend are filling up very quickly. This trip has proved very successful in the past. Why not avail yourselves of the opportunity to see the famous illuminations (or something else!) Price for 2 nights B/B is only £58. The Savings Club is in full swing and is a great way to help pay for this trip and for Christmas for example.

Bookings can be made at North Bank, Centre Stand and East Stand (lottery) kiosk or by kind permission of the Club at the shop in William Street or telephone Ugo on 790807 or Peter on 798086

The Fulham trip last week went without incident — however we were disgusted that the open terrace had an entrance fee of £5 (for a 3rd division game!) Perhaps we can reciprocate.

FOSCFA Football Team

Unfortunately due to injuries the team has been depleted and the last two results have been 0-6 and 2-6 respectively. The manager has been pleased with the spirit of the team, and perhaps the "luck" will change.

Other News

Old programmes for sale and wanted — contact the North Bank kiosk!

Why not pay Julie and Evelyn a visit at the Centre Stand kiosk where they have a varied selection of club souvenirs.

Let's give the lads a cheer today, and hopefully we'll have an enjoyable victory!

See you on Wednesday for the cup match which has been set up nicely by the brilliant performance of the team in Greece. Shame about the lack of TV coverage considering we were supposed to be representing the Football League!



• PAUL RAYNOR shoots to leave Chester City goalkeeper Billy Stewart helpless for goal number one (Vetch 9 September, Swans 2 Chester 0).

Reading — Pen Pictures



READING F.C. SEASON 1989/90

Back Row Left to Right: Tait; Leworthy; Whitlock; Burns; Francis; Payne; Gilkes; Bashir; Middle Row Left to Right: Chatterley; Williams; Conroy; Newman; Hicks; Senior; Gernon; Wood; Haselden; Henderson; Front Row Left to Right: Friel; Beavon; Moran; Cox; Branfoot; Taylor; Knight; Richardson; Jones

IAN BRANFOOT (Manager) Longest serving boss in the Third Division. Arrived at Elm Park in 1983 as first team coach and took over from Maurice Evans at the start of the following year. Enjoyed immediate success as Royals won promotion from Division Two and two years later led the club to the Second Division after a record breaking campaign which included 13 successive league victories from start of the campaign. Lifted first major trophy at Wembley when Royals beat Luton 4-1 in the 87-88 Simod Cup but same season saw side slip back to division three. Last year made sweeping changes at Elm Park as side struggled for consistency and narrowly avoided relegation. Heavy investment in youth policy is beginning to pay off for the Gateshead born boss who previously played for Sheffield Wednesday, Doncaster and Lincoln.

LEW CHATTERLEY (Assistant Manager) Second season at Elm Park as Branfoot's right hand man. Has responsibility for some first team coaching and senior club scout. After distinguished playing career with Aston Villa, Doncaster, Grimsby and Torquay turned to Management and was number two to Lawrie McMenemy at Sunderland before being appointed

General Manager at Southern League Poole Town.

JOHN HASELDEN (Physio/Trainer) Former Rotherham and Doncaster defender forced out of game by knee injury. Previously Chief Coach at Mansfield and spent ten years at Huddersfield in same role before joining ex team-mate Branfoot in 1986.

STEWART HENDERSON (Youth Development Officer) Former Reading full back who is largely responsible for the crop of talented youngsters at Elm Park. Built up extensive youth network which has produced two potential first teamers — Adrian Williams and Scott Taylor — in last year.

STUART BEAVON (Midfield) Born Wolverhampton 30.11.58. In testimonial season at Elm Park after signing from Spurs for £40,000. Made nearly 400 league appearances for Royals and always likely to score goals from Midfield. Club penalty taker.

GARY PHILLIPS (Goalkeeper) Born St. Albans 20.9.61. Moved down M4 from Brentford last summer. Made 24 league appearances last season following injury to Francis. Ended season playing on loan at Barnet in Vauxhall Conference.

STEVE RICHARDSON (Defender) Born Slough 11.2.62. In sixth season at Elm Park and approaching 300 appearances. Pacy full back who can play on either side of back four. Suffered from niggling injuries during last couple of seasons.

LEE PAYNE (Midfield) Born Luton 12.12.66. £60,000 signing from Newcastle towards end of last season. Made immediate impact with some pinpoint crosses from the left flank and also chipped in with three vital goals. Only second season in football league after being snapped up by Newcastle from Barnet.

TREVOR SENIOR (Striker) Born Dorchester 28.11.61. Topper Elm Park goal charts last season after returning from unsuccessful spells with Watford and Middlesbrough. One of the most prolific goalscorers in the business with more than 140 goals in 250 appearances for Reading.

SCOTT TAYLOR (Midfield) Born Portsmouth 28.10.70. Product of Elm Park youth policy. Made debut last season and could be pushing for regular place this time round.

MICK TAIT (Midfield) Born Wallsend 30.9.56. Veteran midfielder who misses

start of the season through injury. In third season at Elm Park during which he played in every department except in goal. Made over 500 appearances during career.

MARK WHITLOCK (Defender) Born Portsmouth 14.3.61. Signed from Bournemouth at tail end of 1988. Another member of the Southampton connection at Elm Park but failed to establish himself in central defence last season. Currently on transfer list.

ADRIAN WILLIAMS (Defender) Born Reading 16.8.71. One of last season's success stories. Youth team skipper who broke into first team at full back, making six appearances. Regarded as one of the best youngsters at the club since the emergence of Neil Webb.

MIKE CONROY (Striker) Born Glasgow 31.12.65. Signed last season from Scottish Premier club St. Mirren. Appearances restricted last year but scored four goals in a dozen appearances.

STEVE FRANCIS (Goalkeeper) Born Billericay 29.5.64. One of Reading's best ever buys at £15,000 from Chelsea in 1987. Fractured elbow last season kept

him out of action for five months.

IRVIN GERNON (Defender) Born Birmingham 30.12.62. Former Ipswich player who moved to Elm Park from Gillingham for £30,000 last September. Spent most of last season in reserves.

MICHAEL GILKES (Striker) Born Hackney 20.7.65. Left sided forward with stunning pace. Checked out by several top clubs last season but tends to be erratic. Scored nine goals last time round and also used as overlapping full back on occasions.

MARTIN HICKS (Defender/Skipper) Born Stratford on Avon 27.3.57. Veteran club skipper who has fought back down severe ankle injuries to make nearly 500 league appearances for Royals. Signed for £13,000 from Charlton in 1978.

LINDEN JONES (Midfield) Born Tredegar, Mid Glamorgan 5.3.61. Former Welsh under-21 international converted from full back to midfield last season. Joined Reading from Newport for £30,000 in 1987.

KEITH KNIGHT (Midfield) Born Cheltenham 16.2.69. Bargain capture from Vauxhall Conference club

Cheltenham for £7,000 last season. Thrown into the first team due to injuries he ended up making more than 20 league appearances and was second top scorer with 9 goals.

DAVID LEWORTHY (Striker) Born Portsmouth 22.10.62. Close season signing for neighbours Oxford on a free transfer. Former Spurs striker whose league opportunities have been restricted. Looking forward to teaming up with ex-Pompey colleague Trevor Senior.

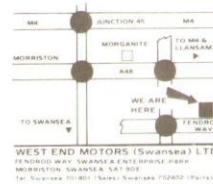
STEVE MORAN (Striker) Born Croydon 10.1.61. Club's most expensive buy at £250,000 from Leicester two years ago. Former Southampton and England under-21 international who has struggled to settle at Elm Park. Averaged goal every three games in around 300 league appearances during career.

DARREN WOOD (Defender) Born Derby 22.10.68. Close season signing from relegated Chesterfield for £50,000. Tall central defender who suffered from injury last season but looking to establish himself quickly at Elm Park.

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David Farmer writes . . .

READING

Having been 'exiled' in Reading for more than twenty years I have known one or two of their fanatical supporters and you would need to go a long way to find a nicer pair than the following. One of them is the Reading Club's Chaplain, Rev. Bernard Railton-Bax, a lovely fellow — larger than life! — Another is schoolteacher David Downs, the author of their club history 'Biscuits and Royals' — a great read and a smashing fellow. So fanatic is David about football that he called one of his houses 'Penalty Spot'. I believe that he has moved from there now and lives in another house called 'Mid-field'. Mind you, he is single, so that he can get away with what one or two of us married chaps would like to have done. It's just possible that David will be here today reporting on the match. If he is best wishes David and please take my best back to Rev. Bax.

But back to today's game — the first early season Swans — Reading game for more than sixty years. (The last time we played them in a home match in August or September was during the 1926-27 season when we won 3-0).

Last season, after winning 2-0 here we lost by the same score at Elm Park, thus honours were even. Conversely, the previous season when we were in opposition (1985-86) Reading won both games. In 1984-85 we won away and lost at home. Before that, excluding an FA Cup match in 1979-80, we have to go back to 1977-78 before we can find

a season during which we played in the same Division. That, of course, was the season during which John Toshack joined us and we were promoted to Division Three. On that occasion we won 4-1 at Elm Park (Robbie James (two pens) Alan Curtis and Morris scored for us, Kearns scored for Reading). However, it is the October game played at the Vetch which is our 'Game to remember' today.

Harry Griffiths was in charge at the time and we were in the middle of an indifferent spell. Indeed, prior to playing Reading we had managed just two wins in nine games. Thus we were far from confident on that occasion. Nevertheless we were well worthy of our win by the odd goal in three (Griffiths and Curtis scoring for us while No 7 Earles was the Reading scorer).

The teams that day were:—

SWANS — Potter; Evans; Bartley; Bruton; May; Morrisey; Griffiths; James (R); Curtis; Charles; Moore; Sub Lally

READING — De'Ath; Peters; Lewis; Bowman; Hetzke; Hiron; Earles; Nelson; Williams; Cumming; Davies; Sub Canchez

Among the relatively few player connections with Reading is Nigel Stephenson. 'Speedy' went to Elm Park on loan but was not fit at the time and a permanent move was not to be.

I've joined two professional teams



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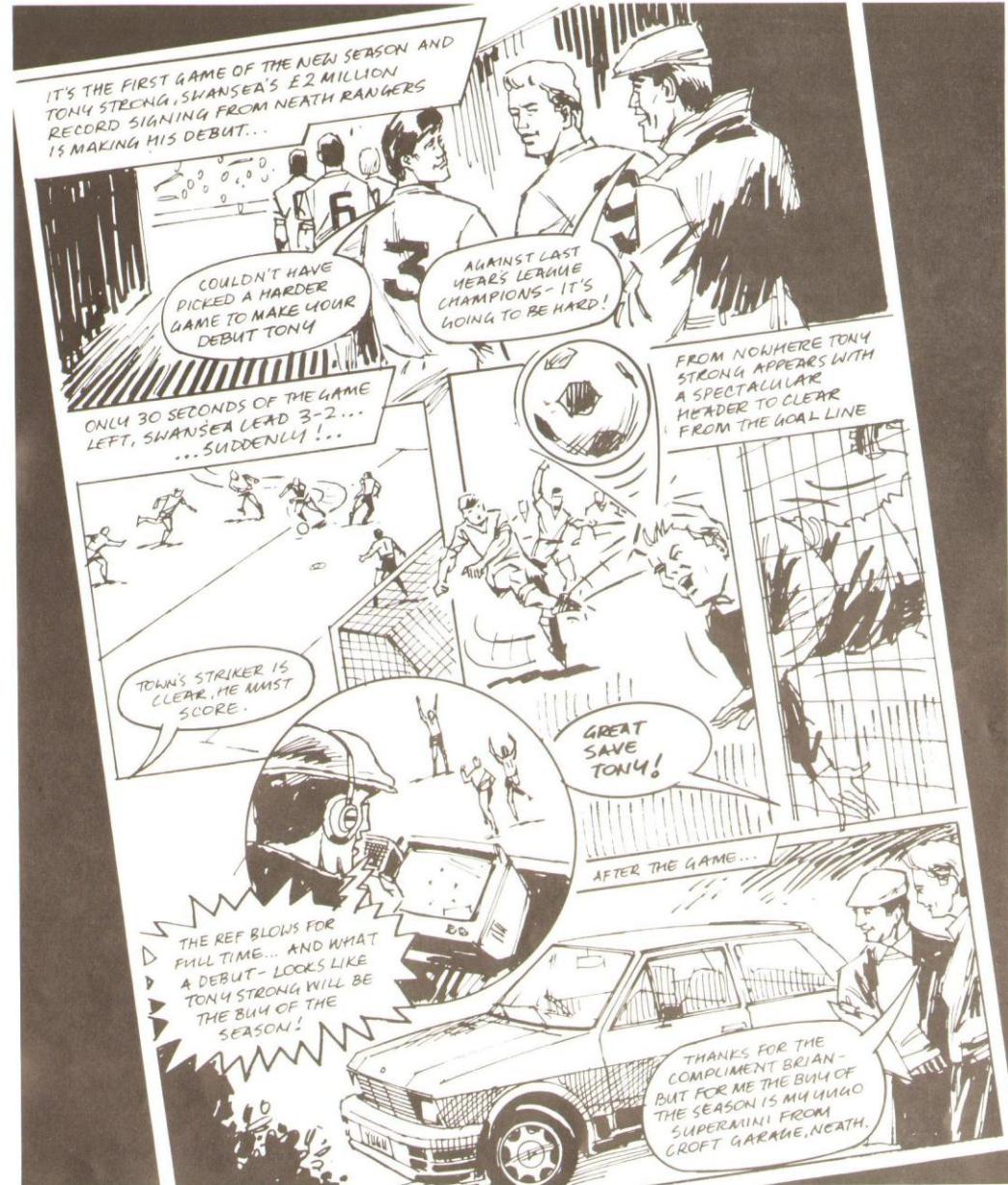
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CAPITAL FINANCE AND LEASING LEAGUE TEAM

Back Row Left to Right: Davies; Johnson; Meacham; Toshack; Prew; Jenkins; Thomas; Front Row Left to Right: Evans; Lloyd; Chappell; Bowen; Needs; Baldwin



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Spotlight on the Reserves and Youth Team by Ron Walton

Reserves:

On the Vetch on Monday 11th September we fielded possibly the youngest team ever in a Reserve match against Plymouth Argyle. At half time we were down 3-0 in spite of a pretty good performance. In the second half Nicky Baldwin scored a penalty only to concede one later in the game. Final Swansea 1 Plymouth Argyle 4.

Team: Meacham; Evans, P; Johnson; Jenkins; Prew; Lloyd; Needs; Chappell; Bowen; Toshack; Davies, W; Subs: Baldwins, Thomas, J (Picture Opposite)

The following Monday 18th September we travelled to play YEOVIL TOWN and a very fine team performance resulted in a 5-0 victory. Stewart Phillips (4) to be presented with the Match Ball and Cameron Toshack completed the scoreline.

Team: Heeps; Evans; Johnson; Jenkins; Trick; Lloyd; Davey; Prew; Wade; Toshack; Phillips; Subs: Bowen; Chappell.

U/18 National Youth League

Played at PONTLOTTYN and included Tommy Hutchison as our over age player. He had sustained a rib injury but came through the game well. We won 7-0.

Scorers: Coates (3); Chappell (2); Needs; Bowen.

Last Sunday at the Morfa Stadium, Swansea we entertained AFAN LIDO in the Group Cup and won 2-0.

Scorers: Coates; Bowen.

Thursday night we played Skewen Athletic in the Group Cup and won 7-3.

Scorers: Bowen (2); Coates (2); Needs (2); Davies.



• **GREGORY FISHER** from Belgrave Road, Loughor, Swans Mascot for the Chester match pictured with his favourite player **ROBBIE JAMES** (Sponsored by D. J. D. Edwards and Associates, Architectural Surveying Consultants)

Leading out the Swans this afternoon will be **PAUL THOMAS** from New Road, Jersey Marine, Neath. With him in the Centre Stand will be his father, mother and grandmother. Hip Hip Hooray — it's his tenth birthday today!

NEXT U/18 LEAGUE MATCH AT THE MORFA STADIUM

ABERAMAN

Sunday 24th September. Kick off 3.00 p.m.

followed by an Away game at NINIAN PARK, Cardiff in the Group Cup on Wednesday 27th September against CARDIFF CITY. Kick off 2pm

Cygnets:

Won 12-0 against BRUNSWICK

Scorers: Robinson (3); Thomas (2); Thompson (2); Jones (2); Miller, Gammon; Elsey.

On Saturday they registered another victory 3-2 over CWM ALBION

Lost 2-1 against Fforestfach after leading 1-0 for most of the game. This very young side now plays in the 2nd Division of the Sunday League. Last Sunday they won 5-0 against Glamorgan.

Scorers: Davies (2); Coates; Barnhouse OG

CAPITAL FINANCE & LEASING LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Points
Plymouth Argyle	4	3	1	0	12	4	10
Swansea City	5	3	1	1	13	8	10
Yeovil Town	5	3	1	1	9	7	10
Torquay United	4	3	0	1	9	5	9
Bristol City	3	1	1	1	7	3	4
Hereford United	4	1	1	2	7	12	4
Bristol Rovers	4	0	3	1	5	7	3
Exeter City	3	0	1	2	2	6	1
AFC Bournemouth	4	0	1	3	1	6	1
Cardiff City	2	0	0	2	2	9	0

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TODAY'S REFEREE

A warm welcome to Mr. BOB HAMER from St. Anne's Park, Bristol. Mr. Hamer, a self-employed newsagent, is married and they have three children — Sarah (21), Anna (19) and Danny (15).

He commenced his refereeing career in Bristol in 1966. Progressed through Western League, Football Combination and Gola league to Referees List of Football League in 1985.

The most important matches in which he has officiated are— Linesman World Cup 1985, New Zealand v Australia; Linesman FA Charity Shield 1981, Aston Villa v Tottenham Hotspur; Linesman FA Cup Semi-Final 1981, Wolves v Tottenham Hotspur; Linesman FA Cup Semi-Final 1986, Everton v Sheffield Wednesday; Referee FA Youth Cup Semi-Final 1987, Coventry v Manchester City.

His interests and hobbies are, most sports, particularly golf, squash and snooker.

He is the Administrator of a large Bristol Church.

Facts 89/90

Figures 89/90

Results 89/90

Tables 89/90

BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION 3 F.A. Gate



AUG.	19	HUDDERSFIELD (Sat)	(A)	0-1	5775
	23	EXETER CITY (Wed) L.C.	(A)	0-3	2777
	26	NORTHAMPTON (Sat)	(H)	1-1	3495
	29	EXETER (Tue) L.C.	(H)	1-1	1987
SEPT.	2	BIRMINGHAM (Sat)	(A)	0-2	8071
	9	CHESTER CITY (Sat)	(H)	2-1	2738
	13	PANATHINAIKOS (Wed) ECWC	(A)	2-3	53500
	16	FULHAM (Sat)	(A)	0-2	4520
	23	READING (Sat)	(H)		
	27	PANATHINAIKOS (Wed) ECWC	(H)		
	30	NOTTS COUNTY (Sat)	(H)		
OCT.	7	CREWE (Sat)	(H)		
	14	BRISTOL CITY (Sat)	(A)		
	17	BURY (Tue)	(A)		
	20	TRANMERE ROVERS (Fri)	(H)		
	24	MANSFIELD (Tue)	(A)		
	28	WALSALL (Sat)	(A)		
	31	ROTHERHAM UTD. (Tue)	(H)		
NOV.	4	BOLTON WANDERERS (Sat)	(A)		
	11	PRESTON (Sat)	(H)		
	18	F.A. Cup First Round			
	25	BRISTOL ROVERS (Sat)	(A)		
DEC.	2	BLACKPOOL (Sat)	(H)		
	9	F.A. Cup Second Round			
	16	WIGAN ATHLETIC (Sat)	(A)		
	26	CARDIFF (Tue)	(H)		
	30	BRENTFORD (Sat)	(H)		
JAN.	1	SHREWSBURY TOWN (Mon)	(A)		
	6	LEYTON ORIENT (Sat) F.A. Cup Third Round	(H)		
	14	NORTHAMPTON TOWN (Sun)	(A)		
	21	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN (Sun)	(H)		
	26	CHESTER CITY (Fri) F.A. Cup Fourth Round	(A)		
FEB.	3	READING (Sat)	(A)		
	10	FULHAM (Sat)	(H)		
	13	BIRMINGHAM CITY (Tue)	(H)		
	17	BLACKPOOL (Sat) F.A. Cup Fifth Round	(A)		
	24	BRISTOL ROVERS (Sat)	(H)		
MAR.	3	LEYTON ORIENT (Sat)	(A)		
	6	NOTTS COUNTY (Tue)	(A)		
	10	MANSFIELD TOWN (Sat) F.A. Cup Sixth Round	(H)		
	17	CREWE ALEXANDRA (Sat)	(A)		
	20	BRISTOL CITY (Tue)	(H)		
	23	BURY (Fri)	(H)		
	30	TRANMERE ROVERS (Fri)	(A)		
APR.	7	WALSALL (Sat) F.A. Cup Semi-Finals	(H)		
	10	ROTHERHAM UNITED (Tue)	(A)		
	14	SHREWSBURY TOWN (Sat)	(H)		
	16	CARDIFF CITY (Mon)	(A)		
	21	WIGAN ATHLETIC (Sat)	(H)		
	24	BRENTFORD (Tue)	(A)		
	28	PRESTON NORTH END (Sat)	(A)		
	5	BOLTON WANDERERS (Sat)	(H)		
	12	F.A. Cup Final (Sat)	(H)		

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Bristol Rovers	5	3	0	7	2	1	0	1	1	1	12	
Bury	5	1	2	0	6	3	2	0	0	4	2	11
Huddersfield	5	2	1	0	3	1	1	1	0	6	5	11
Rotherham	5	2	1	0	6	3	1	0	1	4	2	10
Shrewsbury	5	2	0	6	2	1	1	1	5	5	10	
Bristol City	5	2	0	3	0	1	1	1	4	3	10	
Fulham	5	2	0	1	4	2	1	1	0	3	2	10
Tranmere	5	2	0	5	1	1	0	2	3	4	9	
Birmingham	5	3	0	7	1	0	0	2	0	3	9	
Leyton Orient	5	2	0	4	2	1	0	1	5	5	9	
Northampton	5	2	0	4	1	0	2	1	1	2	8	
Bolton	5	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	3	2	8	
Walsall	5	1	0	2	4	6	1	1	0	3	2	
Reading	5	1	1	1	4	4	0	2	0	1	6	
Mansfield	5	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	2	4	6	
Notts County	5	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	6	6	
Chester	5	1	1	1	5	6	0	1	1	2	5	
Crewe	5	0	1	1	3	4	1	0	2	4	4	
Swansea	5	1	1	0	3	2	0	0	3	0	4	
Blackpool	5	0	1	2	1	4	1	0	1	2	4	
Wigan	5	0	1	1	3	0	2	1	2	3	3	
Brentford	5	0	1	1	2	0	1	2	2	4	2	
Preston	5	0	1	1	5	6	0	0	3	2	9	
Cardiff	5	0	1	2	2	7	0	0	2	0	4	

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New Zealand Visitors

A warm welcome to the Vetch this afternoon to Andrew John on holiday from New Zealand — and to his children Gareth (12) and twins Alistair and Rachel. Andrew, originally from Loughor, attended Gowerton Boys Grammar School, obtained his PhD in America (Illinois University) and is currently carrying out research into agriculture at Palmerston North, near Auckland, NZ. Gareth, pictured, plays for Palmerston North U/14s, represents his District in Cross Country running. The local soccer team is coached by Andrew and his wife Diane and the twins play soccer with the local U/11s. Have a nice afternoon!



• Gareth John



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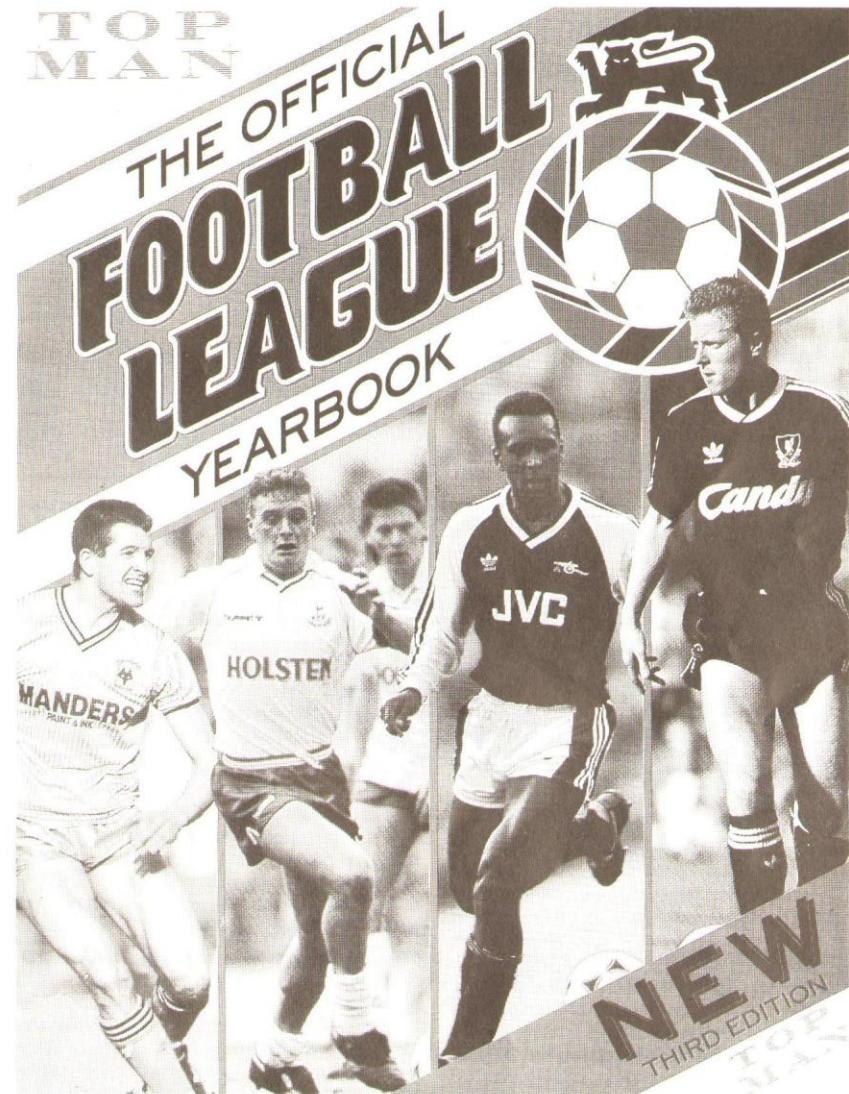
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SCENE THREE with TONY NAKONECZNYJ

Reading arrive at the Vetch Field for this afternoon's fixture on a high following their midweek 3-1 home victory over Second Division Newcastle United in the 2nd Round 1st Leg of the Littlewoods Cup. Before a season's best crowd of a little under eight thousand, the home side romped to an emphatic victory courtesy of two goals from Senior plus another from Taylor which gives "The Royals" a great deal of encouragement when they go to St. James Park for the return leg in ten days time. Somewhat surprisingly in view of his prolific goalscoring achievements of the past, Senior's goals this season to date now amount to just three with the other credit coming in the 1st Round of the Littlewoods Cup against Bristol City. Let's hope that Messrs Boyle and Melville can keep that unwanted record intact for at least another ninety minutes this afternoon. In the corresponding fixture played at the Vetch on January 2nd this year, the Swans gained a 2-0 victory with goals from Wade and James to keep them in fourth position in the table.

Already this season after just five games, no club in the Division can boast a 100% record and I cannot imagine any club running away with the title as Wolves managed to do last season which all adds up to more interest for the fans. Saying that Bristol Rovers are once again leading the field following their emphatic 3-0 home win over struggling Preston last Saturday with ace striker Gary Pennie collecting his third goal of the season to add further credence to his valuation of somewhere around the £500,000 mark — at least that is the figure reported to have been offered by 1st Division Wimbledon for the Rovers best man. Spare a thought for Preston — they have conceded three goals in all five league matches this season plus a further seven in their two legged Littlewoods Cup tie with Tranmere and currently sit next to bottom of the table.

Two former Swans players who seem to have played a magnificent part in their new club's fortunes are Alan Knill (now at Bury) and Dudley Lewis (at Huddersfield). Bury outplayed their opponents Mansfield to register a 3-0 home win with all three goals coming in the first period to move in second spot whilst Huddersfield maintained their unbeaten record this season with a solitary goal win over much fancied Brentford to go level on eleven points but one place lower.

Elsewhere in the Division Birmingham City maintained their impressive home form with a 2-1 victory over Tranmere with summer signing Dennis Bailey showing once again that he is a bargain buy at £80,000 by netting the winner making it five goals in seven games for the St. Andrews team, now under the astute management of former Spurs idol Dave Mackay.

Cardiff City sunk to the bottom of Division Three following their 3-0 home defeat against Bristol City who have not lost at Ninian Park for 18 years. The visitors could even afford the luxury of 41st minute penalty miss when former Bluebird midfiield player Paul Wimbledon drove against the post but even this piece of good fortune failed to inspire the home side. New manager Len Ashurst obviously has a problem or two and is currently on the lookout for an experienced defender to shore up the fragile back line.

Keep an eye on Leyton Orient who made it three wins on the trot with a single goal victory over lowly Wigan. After a disappointing start the campaing Frank Clarks team seem to have adjusted to the style of play in the Division and may well turn out to be one of the surprise packages for promotion this term following their elevation via the play off system last season. T.N.

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The Football Grounds Improvement Trust is responsible for all these measures. Each year it receives half of the £9.5 million donated by Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters from their Spotting-the-Ball competition and spends it on schemes to improve standards at League grounds in Britain.

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Forecast the attendance at the Notts match (30 Sept) and send your entry to "COMPETITION", SWANSEA CITY FC CLUB SHOP, 33 WILLIAM ST, SWANSEA, SA1 3QS by 29 Sept 1989. Our competition offers a fabric strap watch worth £24.99, as prizes. The washable strap looks like a sweatband and has a unique fastener that makes it instantly adaptable to any wrist size, guys' or girls'.



FREE COMPETITION

Radio Vetch

Football for the Family

This season's "Rothman's Football Year Book" will provoke a thousand arguments. To launch the 20th edition of the book, a panel of five judges was invited to select the "Rothman's Allstars".

That is players who represented either England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland between January 1st 1969 and March 29th 1989. Selection was also designed to provide the best individuals for each position rather than those who might fit into a system. The five judges included Ian St John and Ken Montgomery of the Football Interns Association, and the team they chose are:

G. Banks (England); D. McGrain (Scotland); B. Moore (England) capt.; A. Harman (Scotland); K. Sanson (England); G. Souness (Scotland); B. Charlton (England); B. Robson (England); K. Dalglish (Scotland); I. Rush (Wales); G. Best (N. Ireland); Manager: Alf Ramsey; Substitutes: P. Jennings (N. Ireland); Denis Law (Scotland); K. Keegan (England).

Now the arguments start! We don't get further than the goalkeeper before we ask where on earth is Peter Shilton? Not even named as a substitute! The attack is led by Ian Rush though he could not realistically be considered on today's form. Weaknesses lie predominantly in defence; although the back four includes the best of them all, Bobby Moore as Captain. Incredibly, only four of these picked are still playing today.

If you think you can do better than the 'experts' then drop me a line stating your reasons for altering the team, and we'll treat the best two answers out of the bag to a great afternoon out of courtesy of Radio Vetch.

One person who definitely won't be picked is Crystal Palace goalkeeper Perry Suckling. As he lay in bed the morning after the Liverpool match, the telephone rang, a football journalist on the line. "What time is it?" asked Suckling. "Just gone nine" said the unkind scribe.

In fact that defeat seems to have become folklore. Latest joke going the rounds — Why do Michael Jackson and Perry Suckling wear gloves? Answer — For no apparent reason!

Finally, during the first half radio commentary of the game this immortal line was heard by all "... and Liverpool appear to have gone off the boil".

Next week it's European Cup Football at the Vetch. Join us for an exciting night and help the Swans into the next round.

JL

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THE VOICE OF
THE SWANS with
JAMES LEWIS





• Goal number two and it's a powerful header from Paul Raynor for his second goal against Chester City at the Vetch on 9 September

Today BRIAN WADE has been asked to recall his League debut and to share with us something of how he felt on the day. SWINDON 4 — ROCHDALE 0

I can still remember with great satisfaction the goal I scored on my debut — a lob from 20 yards. It would be difficult to single out the most influential player on the day because the whole team were great! I'd have to say a big thank you to Derek Hall for laying on my first League goal. He's just left Southend to sign for Halifax.

Lou Macari was the Manager at County Ground, Swindon and nobody knew what the team was until the Saturday, so I didn't know whether I was in the team against Rochdale. All he said to me was to go out and play my normal game and after the match he simply said that we all played well



and worked hard for one another. Rochdale played well and the player I most admired in their team was goalkeeper Trevor Redfern. He let in 4 goals but if it wasn't for him, there would have been ten.

The Press were very generous with their comments and from my scrapbook I found one from the local Swindon paper — "Perfect tonic for Milk Cup clash with Sunderland in three days time", others were Swindon Swingers, Wade scores on debut and Hand it to Wade!

It was a great day, no wind, dry and the pitch was relatively soft.

My brothers and some friends were at the game. A day I shall never forget.

Bryan Wade in conversation with Dai Swan

Letters to the Editor

I would like to thank you for showing me round the Vetch Field when I was club mascot last Saturday, and allowing me to meet my favourite players.

Please also thank the Chairman, Mr Sharpe, and my Sponsors, D. J. D. Edwards and Associates.

I will never forget that day. I was pleased to see the Swans beating Chester and wish them the best of luck for the rest of the season.

Thanks for everything

Gregory Fisher

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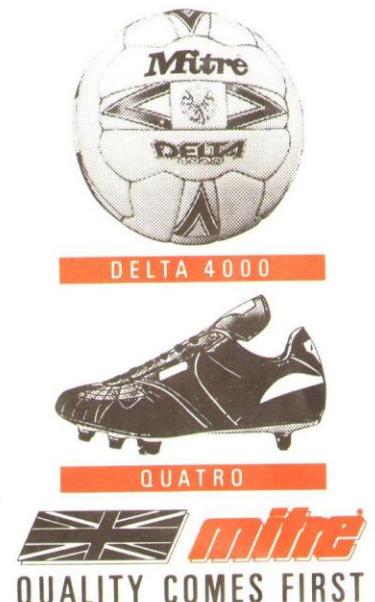


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