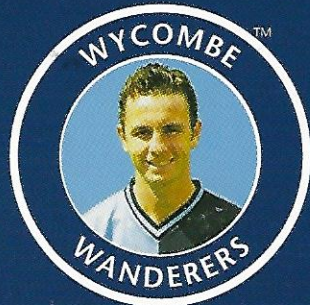


After our excellent start to the season at Swindon we now prepare to meet Oxford United in our next match. This will be at Adams Park on Tuesday 4th September, kick off 2pm. For the match at Swindon we did have a strong side out containing some very experienced players mixed with some youngsters. This is the only way for the younger lads to learn by playing in a side that has experienced individuals. In Keith Ryan, Dave Carroll and Chris Marsh we had three players over 30 who had seen every facet if the game imaginable. Along with Paul Emblen, who is on the way back from injury, helped the rest of the team settle down. We have some very good young players coming through our ranks. At the back goalkeeper Marc Osborn looks a good prospect for the future, Roger Johnson is hoping to press his claim to replace Jamie Bates in the centre of the defence. In midfield Ian Simpamba is good in the air and covers the pitch with his work rate, up front Leeyon Phelan scores goals. If the progress of these players goes to plan we can expect them to become the basis of a team for the future.

It is far too early at the moment to make any judgments on the season but if we can win our match with Oxford it will be the best start to the Avon Insurance Combination since joining four seasons ago.

With the league made up of 25 clubs it promises to be another interesting season, we play everybody once, some at home others away. What usually happens is the teams we played at home last season we play away this and vice versa. We meet Crystal Palace, Millwall, Portsmouth, Gillingham and Norwich City from the First Division with Luton, Leyton



RESERVES

by Mick 'Brucie' Forsyth,
Reserve Team Manager

Orient, Cheltenham Town, Bristol Rovers, Oxford United and Southend from Division Three and Barnet, who are now members of the Nationwide Conference. From our own Division there is Brentford, Q.P.R., Bristol City, Cardiff City, Reading, Swindon, Northampton Town, Colchester United, AFC Bournemouth, Peterborough United, Brighton & Hove Albion and Cambridge City.

From the first series of matches Crystal Palace lead the table after their 6-1 win over Cheltenham, Reading are second following a 4-0 win over Norwich and Gillingham are third having beaten Peterborough 3-0. The Blues are in sixth place, our highest ever position, after the 3-1 win at Swindon. As I have said, it is far too early to predict what might lay ahead but things are moving in the right direction and we now look forward the our match with Oxford United next week.



RESERVE FIXTURES

AUG 15	Swindon Town	a	3-1	19	Peterborough U	H	2pm
29	Barnet	H	2pm	JAN 16	Luton Town	a	2pm
SEPT 4	Oxford United	H	2pm	22	Millwall	a	2pm
11	Portsmouth	H	2pm	FEB 6	Leyton Orient	H	2pm
26	Brighton & H A	a	7pm	13	Gillingham	a	2pm
OCT 3	Bournemouth	H	2pm	20	Cardiff City	H	2pm
10	Bristol Rovers	a	7pm	MAR 13	Reading	a	2pm
17	Norwich City	H	2pm	20	Crystal Palace	H	2pm
31	Cheltenham Tn	a	2pm	26	Brentford	H	2pm
NOV 7	Colchester Utd	H	2pm	APR 10	Bristol City	a	2pm
14	Southend Utd	a	2pm	All home games played at Adams Park			
27	Queens Park R	a	2pm				
DEC 5	Northampton Tn	H	2pm	Dates and Kick-off times liable to change			
10	Cambridge Utd	a	2pm				

DIVISION ONE

(Up to and including 17/8/01)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	G/D	Pts
Crystal Palace	1	1	0	0	6	1	5	3
Reading	1	1	0	0	4	0	4	3
Gillingham	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
Luton	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
Q.P.R.	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
WANDERERS	1	1	0	0	3	1	2	3
Bristol City	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
Bristol Rovers	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
Cardiff	1	1	0	0	3	2	1	3
Leyton Orient	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	3
Portsmouth	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
Millwall	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
Northampton	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
Oxford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southend	1	0	0	1	2	3	-1	0
Cambridge	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0
Brighton	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
Swindon	1	0	0	1	1	3	-2	0
Bournemouth	1	0	0	1	0	2	-2	0
Brentford	1	0	0	1	0	2	-2	0
Barnet	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0
Colchester	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0
Peterborough	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0
Norwich	1	0	0	1	0	4	-4	0
Cheltenham	1	0	0	1	1	6	-5	0