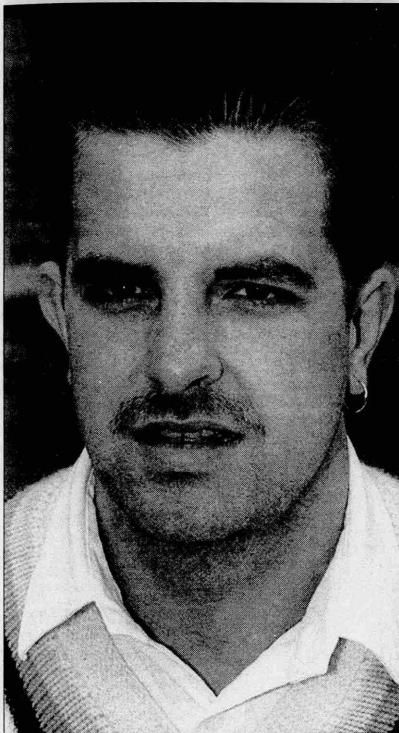


CRICKET

Batsman is the Staffs of life

HERO TOMMO
IN CUP BLAST

● Anthony Thompson . . . tons of runs

A BLISTERING Anthony Thompson century held Burton to victory away to Potteries club Sneyd in the first round of the Staffordshire Cup.

After winning the toss, Sneyd decision to ask Burton to bat seemed justified but when Thompson arrived at the crease with the score on 60-3 the complexion of the game changed.

Thompson simply pummeled the home attack and finished with a magnificent 102 off just 76 balls.

He crashed 17 fours and a six and aided by a solid 20 from skipper Mick Haynes, Burton were able to reach the 200 mark.

Sneyd's batting crumbled against the Burton bowling attack. Anthony Adams ripped through the top order taking 3-15 aided by some strong fielding from the Burton side.

The highest score for Sneyd was 45 made by D.Meigh whose wicket fell to Haynes before Dave North cleaned up the tail to take 4-14 as the home team folded for 137.

● **BURTON** Tiles Division Two leaders **TUTBURY 2ND** made it four wins in a row by convincingly beating **CENTRE SET** at home.

Batting first, Tutbury stormed ahead with Malc Close finishing nine runs short of a century on 91 alongside Jez Redfern who made 55 as Tutbury amassed 211-7. Phil Troman (4-56) and Mike James (3-28) were the wicket takers for Centre Set.

Centre Set struggled from the start and despite a magnificent 104 from Brian Fisher the visitors only reached a total of 149.

The main wicket takers for Tutbury were Mick Edwards (4-26) and Jeff Roberts (3-47).

A tight match between **HOPWAS** and **SWADLINCOTE** left the Tamworth team still unbeaten. Hopwas struggled with the bat and made meagre 123, Stewart Norchi making an invaluable 34 not out.

Bowlers Dave Taylor and Fern put Swadlincote in a strong position but Norchi emerged as man of the match clinched victory with impressive figures of 7-17. Top scorers for Swadlincote were Martin Bridge 38 and Glyn Newbold 33. **TRENTSIDE**, at home to **ELFORD**, posted a total of 201-5 with both Chris Lowe and Kevin Bailey making 60 runs. Elford's lead wicket taker was Rob Drabble taking 3-42.

Elford were not deterred by the target set and went on to make a winning total of 204 with the loss of only four wickets. Leading the way were Brian Fick (59) and Mark Twomlow (53 no).

BARTON claimed victory at home to **ROBIRCH PHOENIX**. Playing at home Barton were all out for 216, the main run makers were John Hall 67 and Mike Bennett 54. Phoenix skipper Adam Tomlinson took 4-40.

The visiting side's efforts were not enough. Dave Green hit 44 and Neil Bloor 32 but the team finished on 168.

DRAYCOTT & HANBURY 2nd gained another home win over **IND COOPE 2nd**. The home side were dismissed for 176 as Javed Omer claimed 6-63.

Ind Coope tried hard but failed to reach the total by 21 runs. For the visitors Paul Bullock took 4-49 and Mark Dennis 2-9.

KINGS BROMLEY won at **BURTON 2nd**, who were all out for 141 despite Niall Bradfield's unbeaten 66. Kings Bromley easily reached this target with their captain Roger Fanshawe hitting 64.

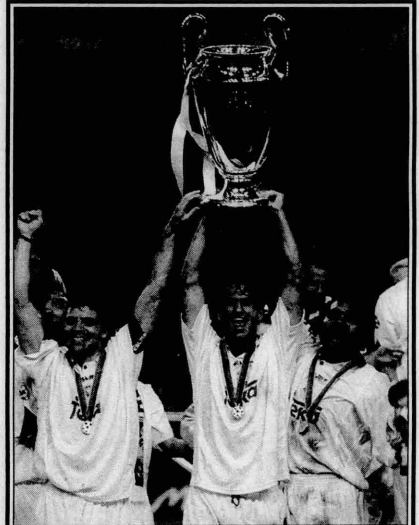
▼ COALVILLE FOOTBALL

J Fern c Newbold b Fearn 3	Moore b Strange 19
S Hussellbee c Simmonds 29	Bullock c Wood b Omer 0
B Caswell c Newbold b Fearn 15	Dennis not out 18
A Thompson b Taylor 0	Ashmore b Omer 12
R Collett b Taylor 13	Lee not out 3
S Norchi not out 34	Extras 15
S Rainsford b Newton 7	Total (9 wickets) 176
B Hudson lbw b Taylor 1	Fall: 1-0, 2-39, 3-80, 4-93, 5-106, 6-133, 7-136, 8-143, 9-167
C Thompson b Taylor 0	Bowling: Wayne 6-1-24-1; Rockcliffe 5-1-12-0; Omer 17-1-63-6; Salt 5-0-18-0; Strange 12-2-49-2.
Extras 9	IND COOPE
Total 123	Grieve c Jones b Lee 4
Fall: 1-14, 2-22, 3-22, 4-53, 5-55, 6-63, 7-93, 8-116, 9-119.	Wood c Cox b Bullock 0
Bowling: S Newton 10-2-21-2; T Witham 8-3-10-1; G Fearn 11-0-47-3; D Taylor 13-1-37-4.	Barracough c Herbstritt 8
SWADLINCOTE	b Bullock 18
G Simmonds b Norchi 4	Salt b Bullock 20
S Fearn b Rainsford 0	Omer c Herbstritt b Ashmore 8
G Mansfield c Thompson 12	Wharton run out 10
b Norchi 38	Stranger b Dennis 29
M Bridge lbw b Collett 12	Mercer b Dennis 11
S Newton c Thompson b Norchi 0	Rockcliffe b Bullock 33
G Newbold b Norchi 33	Blackwell not out 0
D Taylor c&b Collett 1	Extras 14
P Binningham b Norchi 0	Total 155
B Towse not out 1	Fall: 1-2, 2-23, 3-24, 4-45, 5-57, 6-67, 7-81, 8-98, 9-151.
T Witham b Norchi 0	Bowling: M Lee 9-0-32-1; P Bullock 9-2-49-4; S Ashmore 9-0-34-1; M Dennis 6-2-1-9-2; N Moore 5-0-27-1.
G Newbold b Norchi 0	Draycott & H (Bpts) beat Ind Coope (4pts) by 21 runs.
Extras 12	Tutbury 2nd v Centre Set
Total 101	TUTBURY
Fall: 1-0, 2-10, 3-17, 4-21, 5-85, 6-99, 7-99, 8-99, 9-100.	J Lees st Catterill b Trowman 0
Bowling: S Norchi 11-3-4-17-7; P Rainsford 11-5-22-1; R Collett 13-2-37-2; J Fearn 9-0-21-0.	S Wesson b Trowman 10
HOPWAS (Bpts) bt Swadlincote (4pts) by 21 runs.	J Redfern c Willingham b James 55
DRAYCOTT & H 2nd	
v Ind Coope 2nd	
DRAYCOTT & HANBURY	
Roberts b Omer 18	M Close b James 91
Jones b Wayne 0	D Boddy b James 5
Herbstritt st Wood b Omer 35	S Wesson b Trowman 8
Baylis c Wharton b Omer 20	T Bentley c — b Trowman 19
Cox c&b Omer 30	G Knight not out 1
Ede c Wood b Strange 6	A Fell not out 1
	Extras 10

Total (7 wickets) 211	Under 16s
Fall: 1-0, 2-32, 3-166, 4-181, 5-182, 6-187, 7-208.	P W D L F A P I
Bowling: Trowman 10-0-56-4; Fisher 11-1-20-0; Goodman 8-0-45-0; James 7-0-28-3; Sodha 9-0-52-0.	Moira United 16 13 2 1 67 15 41
CENTRE SET	W Bridgford Colts 16 10 4 2 48 22 34
A Catterill b Roberts 7	Marlborough Row 16 8 4 6 68 27 28
B Fisher c Knight b Edwards 104	Barnstone Colts 16 6 4 6 40 36 22
M James b Roberts 6	Whitwick Junrs 16 6 2 8 35 66 20
M Willingham st — b Fell 6	TS Sports 16 5 1 10 33 50 16
A Freeman lbw b Roberts 3	Shepherd Am 16 2 3 11 25 64 9
P Jones b Close 20	Marlborough Row 16 8 4 6 68 27 28
A Goodman c Close b Edwards 1	Bardon Hill Jun 16 0 1 15 12 98 1
P Trowman c Lees b Close 2	Under 15s
K Sodha lbw b Edwards 2	P W D L F A P I
D Willingham not out 1	Anglesey Rovers 22 18 3 1 121 21 57
C Thurstfield c Roberts 5	Aston Juniors 22 16 2 4 95 28 50
b Edwards 5	Kegworth Imps 22 14 2 6 102 31 44
Extras 3	E Shilton Alb 22 13 2 7 101 43 41
Total 149	Whitwick Junrs 22 13 1 8 121 64 40
Fall: 1-7, 2-9, 3-46, 4-61, 5-138, 6-141, 7-144, 8-148, 9-149.	Hastings Boys* 22 13 1 8 105 58 36
Bowling: A Fell 7-0-31-1; J Roberts 13-5-47-3; M Close 11-2-43-2; M Edwards 6-2-0-26-4; M Seabourne 1-1-0-0.	Istock Youth 22 11 3 0 94 62 36
Tutbury (10pts) beat Centre Set (2pts) by 62 runs.	Donkey Hill 22 10 3 9 79 47 33

▼ TABLE

Division Two	P	W	D	L	T	A	P I
Tutbury 2nd	4	0	0	0	0	42	0
Hopwas	4	3	0	0	1	34	0
Elford	4	2	1	0	1	24	0
K Bromley	4	2	1	0	1	24	0
Barton 2nd	4	2	2	0	0	23	0
Barton 2nd	4	2	2	0	0	23	0
Draycott 2nd	4	1	1	0	1	22	0
Ind Coope 2nd	4	1	0	2	0	21	0
Swadlincote	4	1	2	0	1	16	0
Rob Phoenix	4	1	3	0	0	14	0
Trentside 2nd	4	0	3	0	1	12	0
Centre Set	4	0	3	0	1	10	0



● Viva Espana . . . Real trio Fernando Morientes, Christian Panucci and Christian Karambeu lift the European Cup

Real boss may still lose job

REAL Madrid ended a 32-year wait to be crowned kings of the continent again when they beat Juventus 1-0 in Amsterdam to claim the European Cup for a record seventh time.

But Yugoslav striker Predrag Mijatovic's first goal in this season's competition, which gave Real the Cup for the first time since 1966, still may not be enough to keep coach Jupp Heynckes in his job.

"I think this must be the first time that a coach has won the European Cup and then had to face a load of questions about his future," said the German. "And anyway, these questions should be for the president of Real Madrid."

Victory evoked memories of the great Real side that lifted the trophy in each of the first five years of the competition from 1956 to 1960.

The 67th-minute strike also cancelled out a frustrating season in Spain, where Real finished fourth in the Liga, well behind their arch-rivals and champions Barcelona.

But defeat spelled bitter disappointment for Juventus, who also lost last season's final 3-1 to Borussia Dortmund after winning the Cup in 1996.

Real Madrid's success lay in their ability to stifle Juve's feared strikeforce, Alessandro Del Piero and Filippo Inzaghi, who have scored nearly 60 goals between them this season.

And they took the best chance which came their way from a well-organised Juventus defence, which just 10 days' ago had guided the Turin club to their 25th Italian league title.

Heynckes said that strict discipline and order was the key to his side's long-awaited success.

"In the Champions' League this season, we have only lost one match and that was to Rosenborg in very bad conditions," he said.

Premier price fears

FIGURES released by the Premiership show a rise of 2.65 per cent in top flight attendances in 1997/98.

But chairman Graham Bean fears that the gate increases could be prove to be a licence for chairmen to raise admission prices.

"We would like to see something given back to the supporters to encourage even more fans to come through the turnstiles," Bean said.

"But with these figures I can't see that happening because people in charge will say they can raise their prices to whatever they want because the fans will still come."

FA strike £50m deal

THE Football Association today agreed England's biggest ever strip deal in a £50m tie-up with Umbro.

Lancaster Gate opted for the five-year deal with the Manchester-based firm despite big-money bids from American kit manufacturer Nike and German company Puma.

Supporters' representatives will have a say in the design of future England kits, which will change on a strict two-year cycle.

And as part of the deal, the FA will make a £20m investment in youth football aimed at giving English football a head-start going into the 21st century.