

The

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THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE OF BRISTOL ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB

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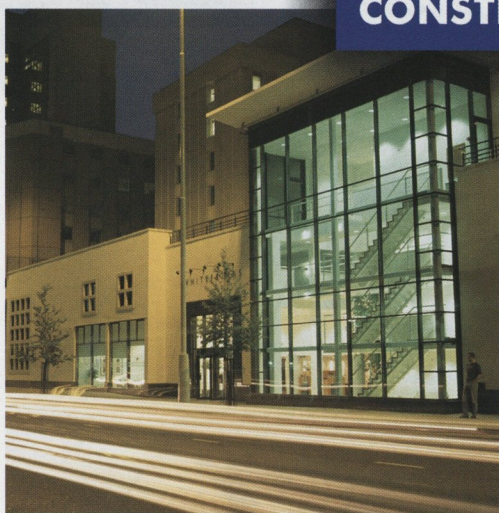
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Cover pic: ... Trevor Challis keeps his eye on the ball

Write from the Top



I think the occasion proved to be a little bit too much for a few of the lads last week, but it was a great experience for them and, for most, it was the biggest game they have ever played in and you can't buy that sort of experience. I think the scoreline flattered Barnsley a little bit and we did one or two things wrong once they got in front, but we did well in the opening twenty minutes and again in the final quarter of an hour, when Gary Penrice went on and we took the game to them. However, I was a little bit upset that we didn't actually believe we could do it and go for it. As half-time approached, I didn't think we were doing too bad, but the second goal really shook me and I didn't know whether to make a change or not. I wasn't planning to, I was simply thinking of making a few points to the lads. We didn't seem to have too many leaders and on the pitch, but when you look at it, I was asking an awful lot of the team that was out there to expect that. Had I played, I wouldn't have been able to do myself justice and I think I have to be able to show faith in the lads who have come through and I believe a fit Jamie Shore is much better than an unfit Ian Holloway. Obviously, some might say that my experience and the way I go about things might have helped us on the day, but I simply wasn't fit. In the week leading up to the game, we said goodbye to Mark McKeever. I think he is an outstanding talent and he will be sorely missed at the club. We enjoyed having him here and I think he played with Premier League quality. Obviously, he belongs to Sheffield Wednesday, but I wish we'd had the money, and noticed him when he was at Peterborough, and have been able to have brought him here. You will know that I have signed an extension to my contract and I'm very, very proud of that. I think we have got this club up and running and planning for the future and I don't think that's happened before. I think the Board of Directors know which direction they want this club to go. They want a sound, solid base, with a youth set up and a scouting network bringing in quality players of a certain age, who will become financial assets as well as being very good players. The way we are doing things is not the easiest, because you have to rely on talent rather than experience and sometimes when you go into something and you haven't got experience, it makes things that much more difficult but we're having these young lads playing through that situation, so you will take a few bad results, but because

I want to be here long term I'll take the gamble and the risks. I would rather have young and enthusiastic players than players who have already done the rounds. My dream is to keep all of these players together, eventually, and not have to sell them, unless I think they are not vital to our cause. That will take time, but we are moving that way. The Board are happy with the squad we are getting together and with the way I want to do it. I could have thrown money at all sorts of players when Barry Hayles left, and there was pressure on me to do that, but if you look at Andy Thomson, you realise that you don't have to spend a fortune to bring in a quality player. We will continue to look for players, from abroad, from non-league, the first division or at those like Mark, whose progress is being held up at their club and if we can do that and convince them of the dream we have of getting in The Premiership, I think, eventually, we'll be able to do it. The lads coming through our youth set up are being treated correctly and I think Phil Bate has got that running absolutely spot on and I don't think we will lose the type of youngsters that we might have done in the past, because we can now offer them the best of everything, including the opportunity to play in the first team at a younger age than they would anywhere else. My plan is to stop playing myself, but its about getting the timing of that right and it may be a little bit frustrating for our fans if they see that myself and Gary Penrice aren't playing, but all we ask is for a little bit of patience, because we know what we are trying to do here and I think the place is really moving forwards. From top to bottom I think the club is being run correctly and the fans deserve that, but we want to build and we want to stay here for a long, long time. This is only the start. We all share the same dream of playing stylish football with good players. We have to teach them how to play these big games, because they are all so young, but that will come. Our fans are magnificent, as they demonstrated last week. They always have been and always will be and I think they know that we want to get something right for them and be here and share it with them, and not use this club as a stepping stone for ourselves. Thank you for your tremendous support - let's hear you all again today.

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General Manager : Ian Holtby
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HOW TO CONTACT US

Registered Office:
The Memorial Stadium, Filton Avenue,
Horfield, Bristol BS7 0BF
Telephone: 0117 909 6648 Fax: 0117 908 5530
Official Web Site: www.bristolrovers.co.uk
Community Department: 0117 977 3111
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John Gingell Fitness Coach
Ian Traynor Sports Masseur - 924 3770
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those of the Directors or Management.

CAPTAIN'S COMMENTS

I don't care what anyone says, it was a great achievement to get to the fifth round of the FA Cup and we enjoyed a good day last Saturday. People will be disappointed we lost to Barnsley, but we did well to get that far and it's better to have reached the fifth round than to have gone out in the first round. I think the lads can take great heart from putting a good cup run together. Our fans turned out in great numbers again last week and I'm sure they enjoyed it though, at the end of the day, the result was disappointing.

I was commentating on the game for Radio Bristol and really felt for the lads when the second goal went in just before half-time. Craig Hignett is obviously a very good player, but if we had only been one down at the break, we could have, perhaps, been talking about how to take care of him in the second half. However, when you are 2-0 down, you can't really deploy someone to undertake man for man making duties, because you will lose a little bit from your own game. It was, therefore, always going to be difficult and it was just a shame that, on the day, we couldn't hold out a little bit longer. Our fans were absolutely brilliant. It was amazing to see so many blue and white quartered shirts in the ground and it's just a shame that the game finished up as it did.

We had drawn our previous two games, against Colchester and Preston and these days it seems as though its sometimes better to win a few games and lose the odd one, rather than draw as many as we have, at least in terms of gaining points. We have put quite an impressive run together of late and not been beaten that often, but we do need to take three points from a few more of our league games, so its important that we do get a few wins under our belt now. It was disappointing to concede a last minute penalty against Colchester and although I haven't seen the replay of the incident since. I didn't think it was a penalty at the time. Still, these things happen and decisions do go against you sometimes. The following week, we went to Preston and put in an outstanding performance. Deepdale is a difficult place to go and get a result. After falling behind early on, we showed great resilience to hit back and go in 2-1 ahead at half-time. I think we were unfortunate to

concede an equaliser, but the draw meant that we had lost another two valuable points.

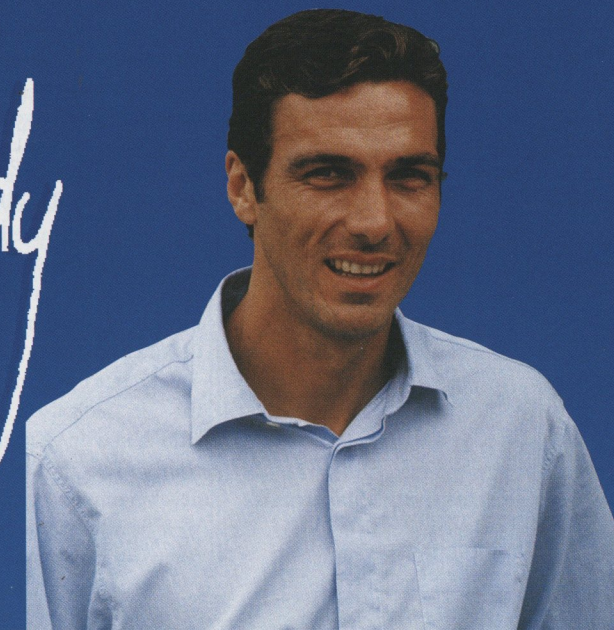
Its back to league action against today against a Luton side and that caused us a lot of problems during the first half of our game at Kenilworth Road earlier in the season. We spoke about how to combat these problems at half-time and gave a good account of ourselves in the second half. They are a decent team and capable of scoring goals, but we have done well against them at home in the past and, hopefully, we can do well again today. Starting today, we have five home games over the next three weeks and its important that we pick up as many points as possible. Our cup run has been a little bit of a distraction and as much as we enjoy them, it means we get behind with our league fixtures, so now its time to get our heads down and crack on with our fixtures and keep progressing, because we've got a good young side and a lot to be proud of, so we just need to keep things going.

We enjoyed a day on the golf course before the Barnsley game and Gary Penrice and I were the last back to the Clubhouse. We completed sixteen holes before the cold got to us, which was quite a few more than the rest of the lads! There are only a few golfers in the squad now, but it was a good get together and we all had a laugh and a joke out on the course and enjoyed the day.

Whilst I am nearing match fitness and raring to go, its good to report that Tom White is also on the way back. He played the second half of a reserve team game ten days ago and did well, even though he picked up a dead leg midway through the half. Its been a long time since he was able to take part in a match and we were all pleased to see him out on the pitch again.

Enjoy the game.

Andy



Waiting in the Wings

ONE TO WATCH - DREW SHORE

Former pupil of Chew Valley School, Drew Shore played for St. Nicholas and Boca before joining Rovers. He also represented Bath and Wansdyke at District level, Somerset at County level and played for South West England. A central midfielder, who can also play on the left of midfield and at left back, he has been a regular member of our South East Counties side this season.

HE SAYS: "I thought I played really well at the beginning of the season, but then I went through a bit of a bad patch. However, I seem to be getting it together again now. Before I came here, I thought I would play quite a few games in the South West Counties side, but I've played every game in the South East Counties side, which I'm quite happy with. The games are a lot faster than schoolboy football, though, as you don't get half as much time on the ball, you have to think a lot quicker and your touch has to be so much better. Its also been a good experience to play at some very good grounds, including The Memorial Stadium and London Road, Peterborough.

Since I was very young, I've almost always played in a central midfield position, but Phil has started playing me wide on the left, because I'm naturally left footed. I didn't start off too well in that position, but now I'm getting used to it. I'm really enjoying it. I would say that my strengths are my crossing and my shooting, because I've got quite a good left foot. However, there are areas of my game I need to improve, namely my heading and using my right foot. I'm also enjoying combining my studies with my football and I'm studying leisure and tourism at college.

I've played a couple of reserve games this season, as well, and I just want to keep doing well, really. It helps being with such a good group of players. We are all really close and get on well together."

PHIL SAYS: Its great that Drew, and many of the other lads on three year scholarships are playing South East Counties football. The good part about the system is that our first year trainees, including Drew, have not only played at this level, but in U-21 and reserve team games as well, whereas they would normally only play in the South West Counties side. It hasn't been a problem for Drew, because he's a very, very strong player and he can deal with the physical side of things, though he does need to work on his understanding of how I am asking him to play at present, because I have played him out of position. He is a midfield player and I think he may even end up playing full-back. I've been talking about that to Roy Dolling recently and we think, because he is such a strong player, he may well play better with the game in front of him, but I've been playing him wide on the left which means he has to get wide when we attack and then has to fill in when we defend and it's a very demanding role.

We have problems asking our pros to fill that role and Drew has found it difficult over the last few weeks, but I have been more than pleased with him this year and I think he's been outstanding. To come here in his first year and to do what he's done, played the amount of games he has and filled in that position to help me out, is fantastic. When everything has settled down, then maybe I can play him in his own position. He's a left footer, very strong, as I've already mentioned and very, very determined. He is a great tackler, when he wants to be, doesn't take any prisoners and has a great left foot shot on him as well. He's definitely not an out and out left winger, but I play him there to balance the side. He's also a grafter, perhaps lacking in a bit of pace, but over the course of his three years, he could well develop into an excellent left back. He's already taken a big step and in the few months he's been here, has



achieved more than many youngsters at other clubs. We have come up against sides this season who haven't included any first year trainees in their line-up. Drew doesn't lack confidence and he and the other lads have been together quite a long time and are a great group to work with. They all know each others styles of play and help each other out, though they let themselves down at times, through a lack of knowledge. In other words, they haven't learnt how to play the game properly yet, but their willingness and attitude is first class.

Like many of the lads, his family are right behind him. His father, whom I've known quite a long time, is fantastic and watches all of our games. However, he's never interfered or pressurised us and lets us get on with things, which is nice. I've had to explain to Drew why I've played him out of position, but at his age, I think that's what its about and the lads will get moved around. However, I have to say that he's a very talented boy and I have high hopes for him, I really have.

BRENTFORD 7 ROVERS 0

"It's a game I'd like to forget" said Phil Bater after his side suffered a crushing 7-0 defeat at Brentford. "We had a long journey, through thick fog and arrived a quarter of an hour before kick off. It wasn't too long before I was wishing we hadn't arrived at all! However, there are no excuses for this result. Football is a game which is 90% playable in the head and we never applied ourselves from the start. Brentford were a big, physical side, who dominated us from the kick-off and it taught our players a lesson in that ability alone is not enough and unless you go out and physically compete with the opposition, then you will not get anywhere. I was very disappointed with our attitude and hope that I never see a youth team player in my side throw in the towel ever again. We were 5-0

down at half-time and, to our credit, we did perform a lot better in the second half, but the game was gone and it was, really, a damage limitation exercise."

TEAM: HINES, WATTS, POWELL, BRYANT, CROWLEY, POPE, ZABEK (J), ADAMS, ZAMORA, GRANGE, PENDRY.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES										
DIVISION TWO 1998-99										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Brentford	23	15	4	4	55	24	49			
Luton	22	14	5	3	43	20	47			
Leyton Orient	24	13	7	4	52	28	46			
BRISTOL ROVERS	23	9	5	9	42	44	32			
Barnet	21	9	4	8	24	22	31			
Brighton	20	8	6	6	30	27	30			
Reading	24	6	12	6	30	32	30			
Portsmouth	25	7	9	9	32	42	30			
Wycombe	23	6	11	6	27	27	29			
Cambridge United	22	6	9	7	35	43	27			
Colchester United	24	8	2	14	37	40	26			
Swindon Town	23	7	5	11	29	33	26			
AFC Bournemouth	22	8	2	12	32	45	26			
Gillingham	22	7	4	11	25	35	25			
Southend United	26	6	5	15	32	52	23			
Oxford United	20	6	4	10	21	32	22			

SUBS: WINTER for ADAMS, COZENS for GRANGE



CIRENCESTER 1 ROVERS 1

"This was another promising display from our young side," reported Dave Palmer, after his side came away with a well deserved point against Cirencester. "Our commitment and spirit was first class, as was some of our passing and movement. Cirencester took the lead in the first half, following their first attempt on target and, had it not been for a brilliant save by Ali Hines in the last minute of the half, they would have

been two goals ahead at the break. In the second half, we looked the better side for long periods and deservedly equalised in the 75th minute when Lewis Hogg's free kick was parried by the 'keeper and Dan Cleverley reacted quickly to score from close range. Lewis and Simon Ingram went close to snatching a winner for us with long range shots. Whilst every member of the team contributed to this fine effort, Lewis Hogg was outstanding and he deserves a mention for his man of the match performance. In fact, the only low point in an otherwise successful day, was Steve French's choice of music!!"

TEAM: HINES, FRENCH, CHAMBERS, NEWALL,

SOUTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE 1998-99 FIXTURES

DATE	OPPONENTS	RESULT
22 Aug	Bath City	H 3-1
29 Aug	Swansea City	A 0-2
5 Sept	Bashley	H 1-1
19 Sept	Cardiff City	A 0-6
26 Sept	Cirencester	H 2-4
4 Oct	Bath City (LC)	A 1-0
10 Oct	Cheltenham Town	A 5-1
17 Oct	Plymouth Argyle	H 2-3
24 Oct	Exeter City	A P-P
7 Nov	Yeovil Town	A 0-4
14 Nov	Swindon Town	H 1-2
21 Nov	Cardiff City (LC)	H 0-1
28 Nov	Torquay Utd	A 0-4
5 Dec	Torquay Utd	H 0-1
19 Dec	Swansea City	H 0-0
9 Jan	Bashley	A 5-6
23 Jan	Cardiff City	H 2-1
30 Jan	Cirencester	A 1-1
6 Feb	Cheltenham Town	H 0-0
9 Feb	Bath City	A 1-0
13 Feb	Plymouth Argyle	A 0-7
20 Feb	Exeter City	H
27 Feb	Newport AFC	A
6 Mar	Yeovil Town	H
13 Mar	Swindon Town	A
27 Mar	Newport AFC	H

SOUTH WEST COUNTIES YOUTH LEAGUE UNDER 18's 1997-98

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Plymouth	15	12	2	1	39	7	38
Swansea City	17	11	2	4	35	14	35
Exeter City	14	10	4	0	43	14	34
Cirencester	16	9	4	3	45	12	31
Cardiff	13	9	1	3	35	14	28
Bath City	19	7	4	8	33	37	25
Torquay Utd	16	6	3	7	36	23	21
Yeovil Town	16	5	3	8	22	42	18
Newport AFC	13	5	1	7	22	23	16
Swindon Town	16	5	1	10	22	37	16
BRISTOL ROVERS	16	3	4	9	22	37	13
Bashley	15	2	-2	11	19	52	8
Cheltenham	18	2	1	15	13	74	7

ARNDALE, HOGG, HARDCASTLE (K), PRICE, CLEVERLEY, O'BRIEN, SOKOL
SUBS: INGRAM for O'BRIEN, DAVIS for ARNDALE

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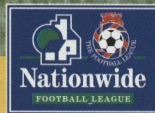
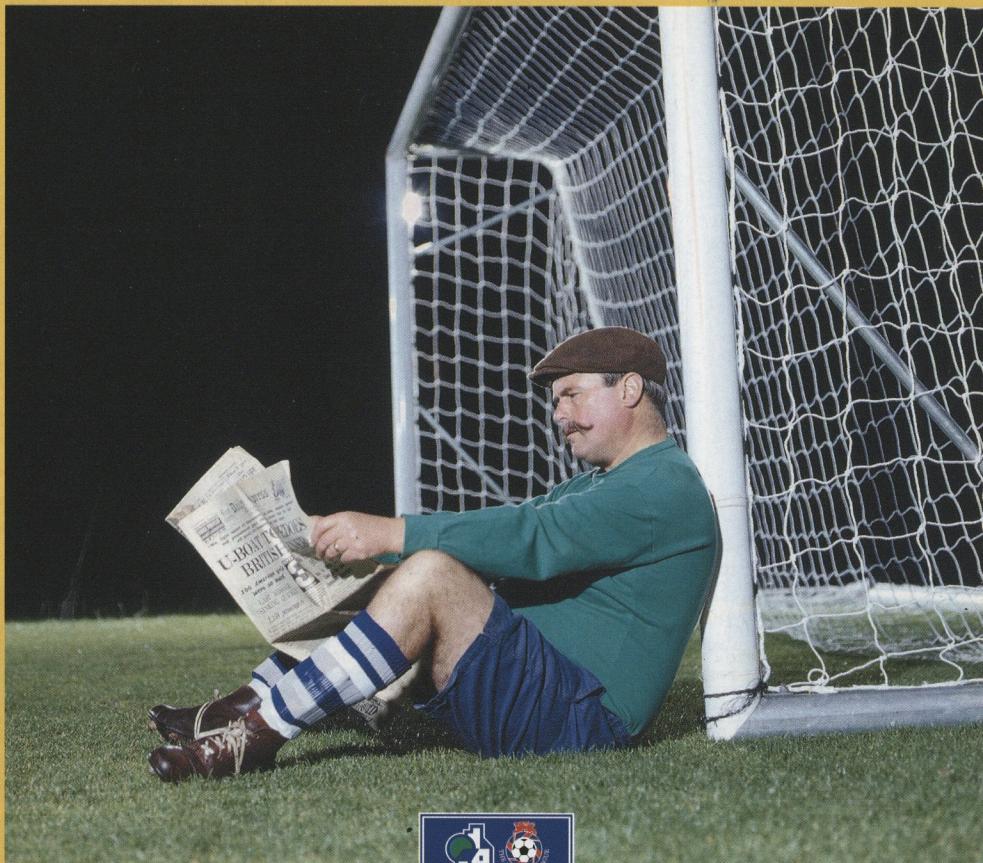
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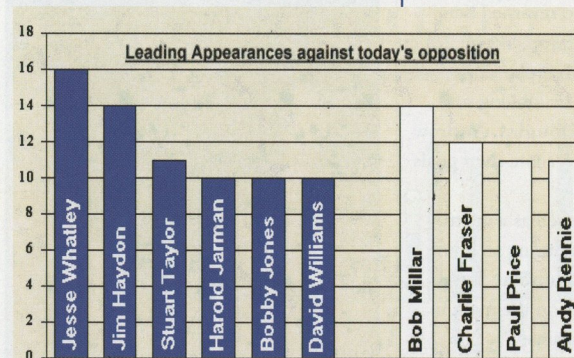
LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

It has certainly been a season of mixed fortunes for Luton Town, with widely contrasting fortunes in both the league and in cup competitions.

When Rovers lost 2-0 at Kenilworth Road in September, it was the eighth game both teams had played and Luton seemed set for a promotion campaign with a single defeat leaving them in second place. But going into last weekend's home game with Wrexham, following a long-awaited

away win at Burnley, Town had sunk to mid-table with their results since the turn of the year including a 4-0 home defeat against Wigan Athletic.

In the Worthington Cup, a tricky looking first round tie against Oxford United was won 5-4 on aggregate and they followed this up with even more impressive victories over Ipswich Town and Coventry City, before eventually going out to Barnsley in the fourth round.



Compare this to the FA Cup, where the second round brought a home tie against the third division's bottom side Hull City - and a 1-0 defeat. The most significant departures since Luton were last at the Memorial



Meet the Boss – Lennie Lawrence

What have Croydon, Carshalton and Sutton United all got in common that can't be matched by any league club? They all had **Lennie Lawrence** turn out for them as a player.

Lawrence has become one of the most enduring faces on the managerial merry-go-round despite having failed to hit the heights in his playing days. He got a start in management as number two at Plymouth Argyle and has hardly been out of work since.

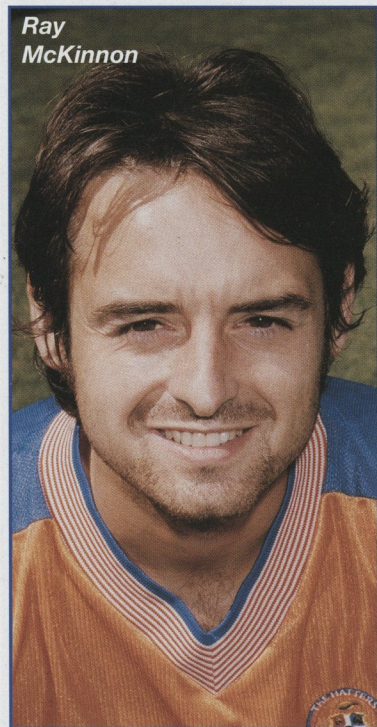
After filling a similar post at Lincoln City, he made the right move to become reserve team coach at Charlton Athletic. He was promoted to the manager's job and not only took them into what is now the Premiership, but kept them there for four years.

Lawrence finally left Charlton after nine years in 1991 to take over Middlesborough, who he again led into the top division. This time life in the top flight lasted just one season, **Lawrence** was replaced by **Bryan Robson** and then came a new challenge at Bradford City. The Brighton-born manager was in charge at Valley Parade for 18 months and had a short break before joining a Luton Town team struggling at the bottom of the first division in 1995. He failed to keep them up but had already started to improve things and the following season saw them bounce back to achieve a play-off place.



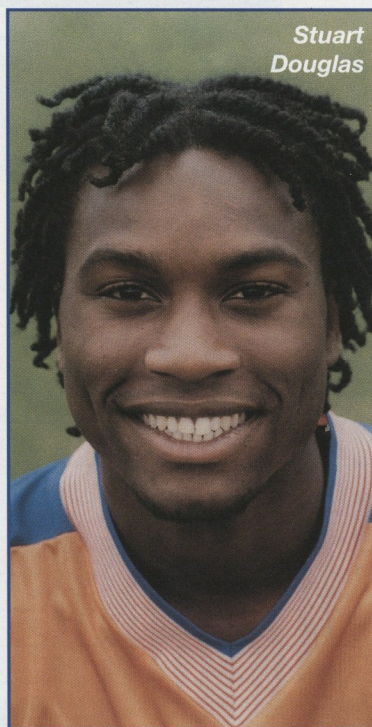
LUTON TOWN FC 1998-99

Back Row, l-r: Dwight Marshall, Terry Sweeney, Richard Clarke, Mathew Spring, Emerson Boyce, Steve Augustine, Gavin McGowan, Russell Lawes, Stuart Fraser, Stuart Douglas, Jimmy Cox, Michael McIndoe, Andre Scartlett
Middle Row, l-r: Clive Goodyear (Physio), Paul Lowe (Youth Team Coach), Cherry Newberry (Club Secretary), Andrew Fotiadis, Simon Davies, Paul Showler, Gary Doherty, Alan White, Kelvin Davis, Nathaniel Abbey, Julian James, Chris Willmott, Paul McLaren, Graham Alexander, Lee Lough, Les Shannon (Scout), Mandy Mallins (Fitness Trainer), John Moore (Reserve Coach)
Front Row, l-r: Liam George, Phil Gray, Steve Davis, Chris Green (Director), David Kohler (Chairman), Lennie Lawrence (Manager), Cliff Bassett (Director), Nigel Terry (Director), Mitchell Thomas, Marvin Johnson, Sean Evers



Ray McKinnon

Stadium in April and went down 2-1 to goals from Peter Beadle and Andy Tillson have been in midfield and defence. Former Rovers skipper Gary Waddock, who always seemed to enjoy playing against the Gas as much as he enjoyed playing for us, retired in the summer, and inspirational centre-half Steve Davis rejoined Burnley - in time to play a key role in that 4-3 victory last month. Luton's goalscorer in the April game, David Oldfield, has also returned here with another club this season, but he suffered a 1-0 defeat with Stoke City. Town are most likely to be looking to Gary Doherty, Stuart Douglas, Andrew Fotiadis or Phil Gray to score their goals today. Doherty was originally seen as a centre-half but moved up front during an injury crisis and is now starting to score some important goals. He was on the mark in the recent home game against Bournemouth and came off the bench to



Stuart Douglas



score the winner at Burnley. He worked his way through the ranks, playing in central defence for the Luton team which reached the semi-finals of the FA Youth Cup and won their league last season. He has been capped at youth level by the Republic of Ireland. Douglas is two years Doherty's senior but came up by the same route and made his debut against Oldham when just 17. He scored twice in the cup games against Ipswich and got the third goal in the 3-1 home defeat of Wycombe Wanderers. Twenty one year old Fotiadis won England schools caps at under 15 and under 18 level before finishing his A-Levels and becoming a full-time professional with Luton. He scored the

first goal at Burnley and his other victims have included Preston North End and Ipswich. Gray is in his second spell with Luton, having first cost them £275,000 when he signed from Tottenham Hotspur in 1991. He scored 22 goals in just 59 league games before an offer of £800,000 was enough to take him on to Sunderland for three years. His travels since then have taken in Nancy in France and Fortuna Sittard in Holland before £400,000 brought him back to Kenilworth Road in September 1997. He has suffered a string of injuries since but was recalled to the Northern Ireland squad in November. The midfield is likely to include a Scot enjoying life much better in England second time around. Ray McKinnon had a disastrous time at Nottingham Forest, having cost £750,000 from Dundee United. He was one of Brian Clough's latest signings and did not find

favour with new manager Frank Clark. He moved to Aberdeen and then Dundee United again before joining Luton in the summer. Other regulars have been the locally produced Sean Evers, Matthew Spring and Paul McLaren. Evers broke into the league team midway through last season and stayed there, Spring came on as a substitute for Waddock in last season's game and McLaren only missed three league games last season - including the game at the Mem - after taking over Ceri Hughes' role when he signed for Wimbledon. Town are also well blessed with young talent in wide positions with both Andre Scartlett, who scored on his league debut as a substitute against Oldham in October, and Michael McIndoe featuring recently. McIndoe also made his debut earlier this season. Left winger L'Andry Zahana Oni may also feature. He was born in the Ivory Coast but is a French national and had six years with Le Havre before joining Bromley in the Ryman Premier League, via Stirling Albion. Lawrence paid £25,000 for him in January, with more to follow dependent on appearances.

Stats compiled by Chris Spencer

Last 8 Results featuring The Hatters

Date	Opposition	Score	Division
13-Feb-99	Luton	1 2	Wrexham Div II
06-Feb-99	Burnley	1 2	Luton Div II
30-Jan-99	Luton	2 2	Bournemouth Div II
23-Jan-99	Luton	0 4	Wigan Div II
16-Jan-99	Preston NE	2 1	Luton Div II
09-Jan-99	Luton	3 1	Wycombe Div II
05-Jan-99	Luton	0 3	Walsall AWS(S)(2)
02-Jan-99	Colchester	2 2	Luton Div II

AWAY GOALS ...

Period	Scored	Conceded
01-15 mins	4	3
16-30 mins	2	1
31-45 mins	5	4
46-60 mins	3	2
61-75 mins	4	3
76-90 mins	6	5

POINTS/POSITION

Appearances

Player	Full Game	Substituted	Substituted	Sent Off	Unused Sub
Abbey	1	0	0	0	0
Alexander	28	2	0	0	0
Baque	1	0	0	0	0
Cox	1	0	0	0	0
Davis	1	0	0	0	0
Davis K	34	0	0	0	0
Davis S	28	0	0	0	0
Doherty	1	0	0	0	0
Douglas	1	0	0	0	0
Fotiadis	1	0	0	0	0
Fraser	1	0	0	0	0
George	1	0	0	0	0
Gray	1	0	0	0	0
Johnson	1	0	0	0	0
Marshall	1	0	0	0	0
McClaren	1	0	0	0	0
McGowan	1	0	0	0	0
McIndoe	1	0	0	0	0
McKinnon	1	0	0	0	0
Nyash	1	0	0	0	0
Szarrett	1	0	0	0	0
Showler	1	0	0	0	0
Spring	1	0	0	0	0
Thomas	1	0	0	0	0
White	1	0	0	0	0
Zahana-Oni	1	0	0	0	0

Highest Attendances

Match	Attendance
Sund'Td (Away)	35,742
Reading (Away)	18,108
Stoke (Away)	12,964
Fulham (Away)	11,856
Preston (Away)	11,034
Burnley (Away)	10,285
Man C (Home)	9,070
Cov C (Home)	9,051
Ipsw (Away)	9,032
Bourne (Away)	8,863

Star Striker
Phil Gray
11 Goals so far...

Worst Offender
Gavin McGowan
10 1

Home

Color	Count
Blue	6
Yellow	4
Red	3
White	4

Top Scorers

Player	League	Cup
Phil Gray	10	1
Stuart Douglas	6	1
Gary Doherty	4	0
Graham Alexander	4	0
Sean Evers	4	0
Andrew Fotiadis	4	0

Blue - W; Yellow - D; Red - L

The defence may have something of a Bristol City look about it today if the loan periods of **Sean Dyche** and **Gerry Harrison** continue. **Dyche** seemed to be getting as much stick from his "fans" at Ashton Gate as most City players get from us Gasheads, before he agreed the loan deal last month.

He started out with Nottingham Forest and certainly seemed a decent player in his Chesterfield days, leading them to the FA Cup semi-finals in 1997. He must have been give some bad career advice....

Harrison started out with Watford and then moved on to City and Burnley. He seemed set for the big time when he signed for Sunderland in the summer but suffered a blood disorder and has been unable to break into the first team.

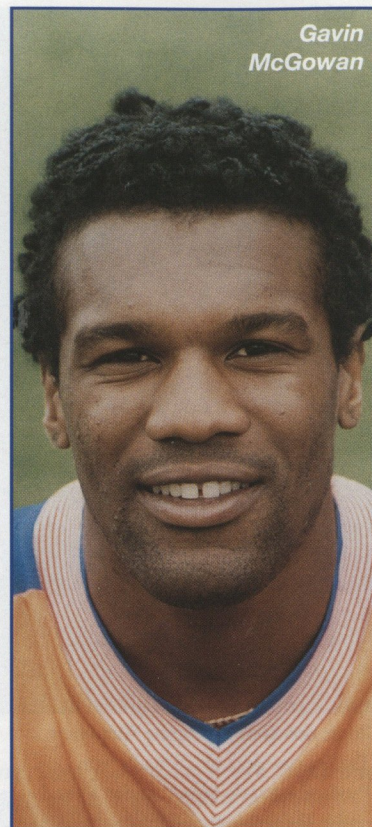
Other regular defenders have been the experienced **Marvin Johnson** and full-back **Gavin McGowan**.

Johnson ended last season with 260 league appearances for his only club and was made captain early this season. He normally plays in central defence these days and scored in the 4-2 home win over Ipswich. **McGowan** was a trainee with

Arsenal and played six league games for the Gunners before signing for Luton in June after a number of loan spells with the club. Other defenders are **Graham Alexander**, **Stuart Fraser** and **Alan White**. **Alexander** cost £100,000 from Scunthorpe United in 1995 and although he has frequently turned out at right-back for Luton, he is probably happier in midfield.

Fraser skippered last season's title-winning youth team and made his debut in the last game of last season against Carlisle United. **White** cost £40,000 when **Lawrence** signed him from one of his former clubs, Middlesborough, in 1997.

Goalkeeper **Kelvin Davis** is another product of the Hatters' youth policy who finally became first choice last season after seeing off two Americans, **Juergen Sommer** and **Ian Feuer**. **Davis** was sent off in the game against Wigan that ended in a 4-0 defeat. His understudy is **Nathan Abbey**, a 21 year old who made his first team debut last season and has had a loan spell with Woking in the Conference. **KEVAN BLACKADDER**



Gavin McGowan

are open between midday and 2.00 pm during the week, when bar snacks will be available and in the evenings (except on matchdays), half priced drinks will be available between 5.00 pm - 7.00 pm and food can be ordered up until 9.30 pm. We have a

number of cabaret evenings already scheduled for the future as well as several quiz evenings and discos. Don't forget, you can also watch live football and major sporting events on the big screen.

We have now installed new T.V sets in the Bristol Room, where you can watch a video of the game, whilst you enjoy a drink, immediately after the final whistle. In fact, all of the T.V's in the Clubhouse bar areas now have video facilities. We are continuing to develop the stadium as the ideal venue for conferences, trade shows and business and private parties. Our first sporting luncheon, with Bob Dwyer as guest speaker, was a great success and we have two similar events on the horizon. Next Friday, Premiership referee Steve Dunn

will be our guest speaker and we are currently lining up a top sportsman for the luncheon we are holding on 26th March. Its £20 per person and kick off is at 1.00 pm, so you will need to arrive by 12.30 pm. Tickets for next Friday's event are selling fast, so don't delay, book today!

Ten days ago, we hosted a reserve team fixture against Bournemouth, although the midday kick-off meant that few of our supporters could attend. Nevertheless, it was good that many of the clubs younger players had the opportunity to play at The Memorial Stadium. I firmly believe that these are exciting times for the club. New players arriving means added competition for first team places which can only be good for everyone. Finally, I would like to congratulate Ian Holloway on his new contract. He is Bristol Rovers through and through and thoroughly deserves his new deal. Our club is definitely in good hands.

If the team is doing well on the field, I'm sure we will do well off the field also. Remember, this is your club, so please support it.

IAN HOLTBY

Stadium News

Along with over 4,000 Rovers supporters, I was at the Barnsley game last weekend and, like everyone else, I was disappointed with the result. However, I thought the backing you all gave the team was tremendous, it was just like being at a home game and it made me feel very proud to be a Gashead. Naturally, the result meant that we didn't have the expected turnout on Sunday to watch the re-run of the game and take in the Manchester United v Fulham cup tie. However, we do propose to continue with opening the Clubhouse bar on Sundays and hope you will come along to support us.

I would like the Clubhouse to become a regular meeting place for Rovers supporters, Bristol Rugby Club fans and, indeed, all sports fans. Remember, we

Supporters News



A warm welcome to all supporters, Hatters and Pirates alike, for this first post-Cup league game at the Memorial Stadium. No doubt there will be a good few missing from recent weeks for what might be described as a bread and butter game but it is still an important fixture as both sides need to climb that league and for Rovers it must be as soon as possible if there is to be anything more gained from a season of highs and lows!

It is a sobering thought that, of all the six hundred odd teams which enter the FA Cup every season, every single one except the eventual winners of course, suffer that one bitterly disappointing defeat. Such is the nature of the competition that the further you progress the more bitter becomes the eventual dismissal. I personally found defeat in both Rovers' Wembley finals to date as very hard to take. At the awful moment I wished we had lost insignificantly in the first round rather than get so desperately close then have the prize snatched away with the trophy sitting on the table waiting for the winners of the closest of games. As time goes by of course, you tend to look back with pride on what was actually achieved rather than lost so narrowly and, I suppose that is how I will eventually view this season's excellent Cup run which ended at a packed Oakwell last Saturday. What hurt most was that there must have been many new travellers in the 4250-strong Gas Army, encouraged by

TONITE! TONITE! TONITE!
60S, 70S, 80S
MUSIC QUIZ & DISCO

7.30pm Kick Off
in the Clubhouse
After the Quiz it's handbags
on the floor and dancing to
some proper music!

Rovers, brilliant recent away form and, it must be said, by a rather loose ticket-selling arrangement, who did not see my beloved team at their best. I'm sure the regular travelling Gas would all agree with me that Barnsley was Rovers least effective away performance this year, such has been the team's New Year improvement. Even so, we more than matched our First Division opponents for most of the game and even managed to outplay them once the scoreline had put the tie out of reach and Ollie had introduced some pace into the midfield. To my thinking the match was decided by one factor - Barnsley had Hignett and Rovers did not have Holloway! The former was allowed the freedom of the park and the latter was sorely missed as the playmaker and organiser in midfield. Never mind, it was on reflection another great day out with fantastic support for the team and, despite the result, the improvement in our general standard of play was still evident. I'm a bit gloomy now because we Gasheads care so much, but the FA Cup will be back at the end of the year and I'll definitely be back up for it by then! One player who certainly maintained his form over all the recent matches, including last Saturday, was Jason Roberts whose tremendous goalscoring run - 15 in 15 games and scoring in all his last six matches, has propelled himself to becoming the leading FA Cup striker. With seven goals to his credit he has even given himself the chance of ending up with that title even though his exploits have now been curtailed by Rovers elimination! Our last home game, three weeks ago now because of the Cup, proved to be another Memorial let-down thanks to one more dubious last minute penalty

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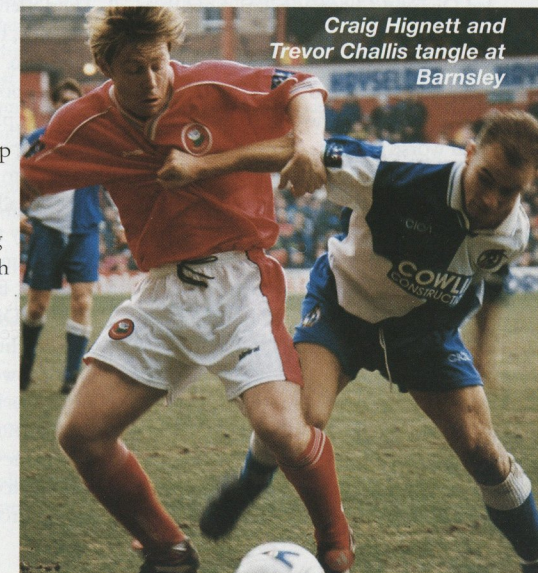
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or call in at 199 Two Mile Hill

decision which cost us the game. But yet again, Jason was the scorer of Rovers' goal and he led the Colchester defence a merry dance for most of the match. He therefore deservedly lifted our members Man-of-the-Match award in the Clubhouse after the game. In between Jason and Jamie (or the Blue-J's as I now see them being nicknamed), turned it on at Deepdale against top of the table Preston whose defence resorted to Burnley-style tactics to try and stop them. I have never seen so much shirt-pulling and particularly arm-holding as went on up there and I hope today's referee will take a strong line on this frustrating type of cheating which seems to go totally unpunished most of the time!

JIM CHAPPELL



Craig Hignett and Trevor Challis tangle at Barnsley

CHAPPELL ON SATURDAY

In a way I quite like the fact that Rovers are one of the most immobile clubs around. Sure, a finger-nail grip season which just keeps you from tumbling down the trap-door of relegation can be good for secreting some of that adrenaline, but of course it can leave you on the brink of cardiac meltdown if the situation becomes too hairy. The team could actually BE relegated as well, which doesn't help. Conversely a few more assaults on the big boys at the top can raise the expectancy level a tad too high and the fans become more easily frustrated - sound like anyone we know? A bit strange then to supposedly wish for less success, but I'm not one of these freaks who are a roof short of a Clubhouse - obviously I want the Gas to suffocate everyone else and take all the silverware. But I like the way we've come out of the wash - the reliable pair of pants that fit comfortably and never run with those damned red socks year after year. It makes you appreciate the crumbs of achievement and the morsels of five-minute fame a lot more, while the fat cats up above gorge themselves on whole loaves to the extent that they become bloated. That's why we loved winning the old 3rd Division Championship more than most would have - we did it the Rovers way. Years of mediocrity and steady financial decline, moving to a non-league ground in another city with a pitch worse than the Downs on a saturated Saturday evening, training at a chocolate factory that was submerged by floods twice a year, club offices in portakabins that were probably toilets in a previous guise; a 1-0 win at Newport saves Rovers from the drop to Division 4 on the last day, we then lose by a goal in the play-off final before losing only 5 games the next season, crushing City to take over their leadership in the penultimate game and winning at Blackpool to clinch the trophy where twice as many away fans

literally marked out the touch-line. That was nice. That's also why four and half thousand stayed behind at Barnsley and revelled in the glory of a 4-1 defeat last week - we just loved being there, Round 5, for the first time in 20 years. My sympathies go out to those followers of the 'yo-yo' clubs - the ones that go up and down all the time, not the ones that hit people on the back of the head when you try and do a double-cradle foldover with them. Unbridled joy one year, abject misery the next. I even give myself a hernia when we score a last minute consolation, so my bodily functions would probably have exploded back in 1986 if I had been watching Crystal Palace or someone like Grimsby - and that would have been before the arrival of Captain Haddock. Look at the tables just a few years ago; Millwall led the league, Notts County were in the top flight, Brighton almost won the Cup for God's sake! Southend's greatest moment was captured forever on one club web-site as a picture of Ceefax with the Shrimpers sat behind Newcastle atop Division 1 on goal difference - unbelievable stuff. Then there's Luton Town. Sorry to rub it in lads, but you had a piece of it ten years ago. Having just finished four places above Man. United in a record ever 7th place, the Steins inspired mad Hatters parties with victory over Arsenal in the Littlewoods Cup final, before gallantly submitting the crown at Wembley the next year and there was also infamous Simod Cup agony as Reading, freshly relegated from the old Second Division, upstaged Town with an almighty 4-1 swansong, again at the Twin Towers. What has happened since is a testament to the heart-rending reality of football. Was it the sale of Roy Wegerle in 1989 that started the downward spiral? Scott Oakes provided a brief respite as Luton

made it to Wembley again with semi-final defeat to Chelsea in the F.A. Cup but now they are with Rovers. You can excuse them for being more bitter as they have had more to lose. With their long-awaited Kohler-dome stadium seemingly up the spout as well (join the club) it looks like the Nick Owen suite will remain a while longer yet; I wonder if there are any plans for a Rod Hull kop at the empty Alton Road end? For us the future looks bright, but perhaps not orange as the shirts Luton used to wear in their hey-day, and even though they say it's better to have loved and lost than never loved at all, I'd prefer to be in the position where we are about to move up in the world rather than on the way back. After all, Saturday lunch-time's always more exciting than Saturday tea-time isn't it?

CHRIS CHAPPELL

Trevor Challis looks forward to a lipsmackin' cup tie against Barnsley



Inter-the-Net Gas



If we didn't take Barnsley by storm in terms of a result, then we certainly did in making ourselves heard. Who won this FA Cup 5th Round - the Gas? Ollie paid tribute to Rovers' travelling army of some 4,500 fans "They were awesome; they are close to my heart and deserve success. I want to give them that". Disappointed? Yes, of course we were, but still proud to be Gasheads brilliantly portrayed in a sea of blue and white, as we outsung and out-cheered the Tykes fans. That dedication to the Club will thrive, especially as we feel it matches Ollie's passion for Rovers now cemented in his extended 6-year term. Great news for the Club and the fans and reward for a Manager determined to continue building on the success so far documented. With back-up from Gary Penrice and Garry Thompson, the confidence of the Board behind him too, Ollie deserves our continued support. So I suppose what I am saying is "The future is bright, the future is blue and white" and in the light of Ollie's comments about the fans, here are some comments from the many emails I've read this week following our visit to Oakwell.

From Chris, Norwich Gas - Today was amazing, Rovers fans were the best I've seen them in 28 years. The noise we made, we did our part and even when we went 4-0 down we sang "We're the famous Bristol Rovers and we're goin' to Wembley" with such conviction you would have thought we were winning. The result didn't matter, being a Rovers fan did. We may have lost on the pitch, but EVERY single fan on both sides knew ROVERS WON TODAY.

From Rich, Sydney Gas - Shame the Gas couldn't pull it off, but great to know about our fantastic support. To those who went, well done. Practically every

report of the game mentioned the support, Rovers jolly band of supporters cheered themselves hoarse. **From Gerry, Perth Gas** - Just to let all of you guys who went know that on the Barnsley Radio all you could hear was chorus after chorus of "Goodnight Irene". Well done you Gasheads, you did Bristol proud.

From Ian Willcox - You couldn't hear Barnsley fans and they won. Who was singing? Gas of course as he told his young son "we are a small club that has the best, most passionate support in the land". Barnsley are two wins away from Wembley, so why weren't they celebrating? The only sound you could hear was "Goodnight Irene".

From Shane, High Peak Gas - OK so we lost the match but I wouldn't have missed this game for anything. The atmosphere was incredible. Full house with well over 4500 Rovers fans there singing their hearts out. I lost count the number of times we sang "Goodnight Irene". We totally outsang the Tykes even when we were 4-0 down. This might sound farcical but we could have had 4 goals ourselves, Cureton's lob which was hooked away by one of their players was almost sucked into the net by the fans stood behind the goal. He must have stayed on the pitch a good 5 minutes after the final whistle waving and shaking hands with the Gas. Nearly bought a tear to my eye. Well done lads you did us proud and like every Gashead there, I'm proud to be a Gashead.

From Eddie - Maybe I watched the first 35 minutes through blue tinted spectacles but I saw little real fear in the first 38 minutes when we were the better team. But chances are difficult to come by against higher division teams and we needed to take ours. But our young team often showed real class in the way they passed it around. We are a small mid table 2nd division team but I can't



'A sea of Blue & White'

remember us playing one long ball yesterday. The players wanted to play football and I was proud of that. There was a reporter from ITV behind me and his half time comments were that Barnsley went 2 up against the run of play. Well, this has been my way of awarding all you fans out there the accolade you have earned by your terrific support. Keep it up, your magnificent efforts could influence the results in the coming months in striving to reach the top six. An interesting statistic ... Jason Roberts has scored in the last six matches and according to Dave (Northampton Gas) the record of consecutive scoring since the 50's looks like this:-
8 games - Dai Ward 17/3/56-21/3/56;
7 games - Geoff Bradford (twice) 22/8/55-17/9/55 & 24/4/54-6/9/54;
Marcus Stewart 30/11/94/7/1/95
6 games - Alan Warboys 24/11/73-26/12/73; Bruce Bannister 7/4/73-25/8/73
You're up there with the best Jason, keep it up! Especially today as we welcome Luton to The Memorial Stadium. COME ON YOU BLUES!

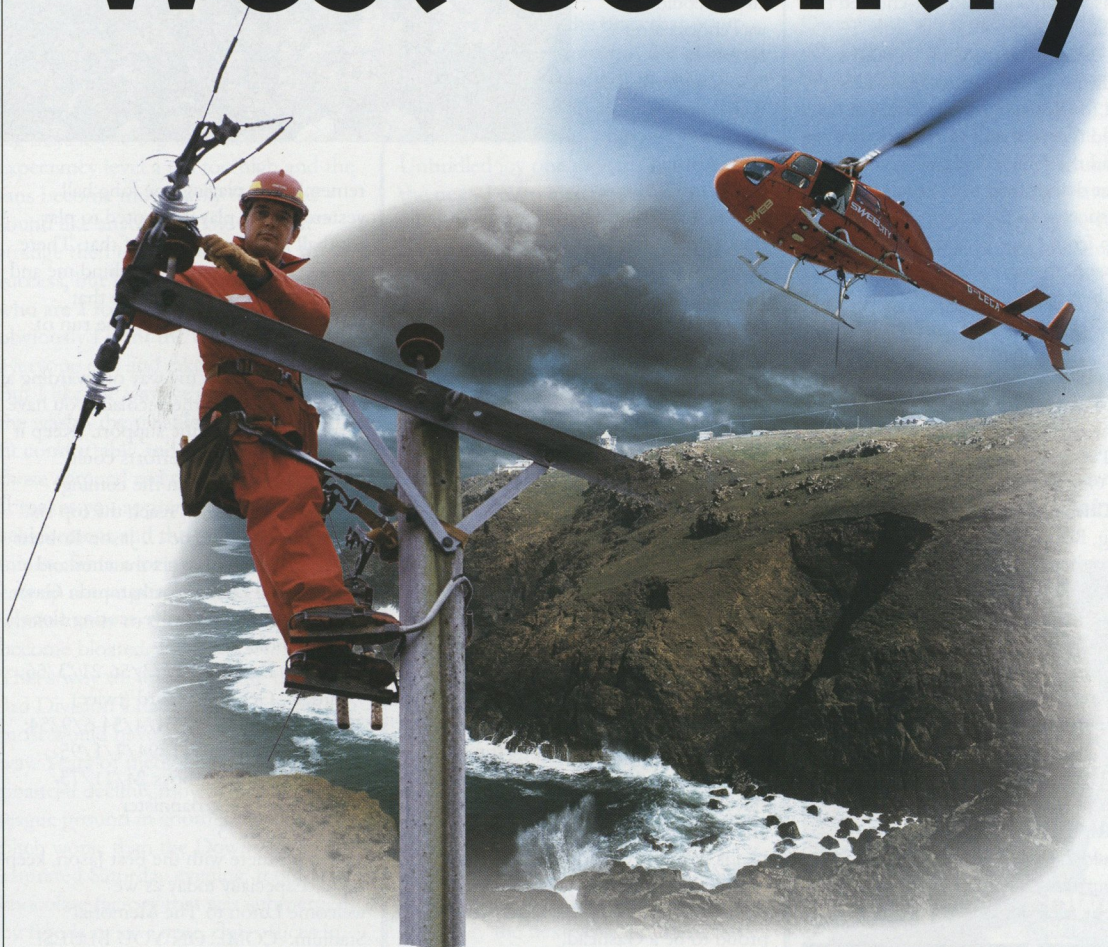
Mo BELL

DAVID LEE'S KIT is sponsored by INTERNET GAS



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SWEB

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PIRATE Noticeboard



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WINNING NUMBER: 72913 (v Colchester)
WINNER: Mr C. Wilcox £980
TOTAL RAISED SO FAR: £35,130

**MANY THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED
SUPPORT TOWARDS OUR STADIUM!**

BRISTOL HOSPITALS BROADCASTING SERVICE

The service broadcasts live commentaries on Rovers games to 17 hospitals throughout the region and would like to thank the following sponsors:

Bristol Rovers Presidents Club	Dunford Dairies
Bristol Rovers Supporters Club	Gingells Freezer Centre
City of Bristol College	EG Brown Ltd - Printers
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TODAY'S COLLECTION

Brain injury is tragic but not necessarily untreatable. Hurt children need special help to learn new skills. The British Institute for Injured Children (BIBIC) works with families nationwide to provide this. We are a small national charity, founded over 26 years ago, dedicated to giving brain injured children every opportunity to develop their full potential. We train parents to carry out a programme of special exercises, tailor made to suit each child's particular needs, after a thorough medical assessment. Dedicated effort is required, but many children on BIBIC's programme make exciting breakthroughs, dramatically improving their quality of life. A number of children previously cortically blind have learned to see, others unable to move have learned to creep, crawl and even walk.

We do not receive any government funding and rely entirely on the generosity of individuals. Thank you once again for your continued support.

OBITUARIES

We were saddened to learn of the recent deaths of two stalwarts of the local football scene. As well as devoting his life to his local side, Backwell United, Bill Coggins served on the management committee of the Western League and Somerset Senior League and was vice-president of the Bristol and Avon League and, without doubt, he made a significant contribution to football in this area. Dennis Rice will be remembered by many Rovers supporters from our time at Twerton Park. As chairman of the FOB Club throughout our stay at Bath City, he looked after players and their families both before and after our home matches. Both Bill and Dennis will be greatly missed and we offer our condolences to their respective families

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1999

TONIGHT!	Presidents Club Valentine Dance
TONIGHT!	Supporters Club 60s, 70s Quiz & Disco
21 March	Supporters Club Football Quiz Night
21 April	Presidents Club Player of the Year Dinner
22 April	Supporters Club General Knowledge Quiz
23-25 April	Blackpool Weekend
1 May	Supporters Club Player of the Year awards

MAZDA GOAL AWARD

Rovers have been rewarded for their January goalscoring exploits by picking up the Mazda Centenary Goal Challenge Award, which is given each month to the Nationwide League's highest scoring side.

Today the club will receive a cut glass trophy and a cheque for £500, to be donated to a charity of Manager Ian Holloway's choice. The manager was delighted that we picked up the award and said that "It is testimony to the progress the side has made and the whole team must take credit for this achievement because we attack and defend as a unit."

We are pleased to welcome David Rowe and Ros Harris from Mazda and Jack Taylor, from the Football League, who will be making today's presentation.

Tomorrow's World

The week ahead is an important one for many of the youngsters currently at the club, as our second year trainees will learn whether they are to be offered a professional contract next season.

"As far as they are concerned," says Roy Dolling, "the rules state that we must let them know if they are to be taken on two months before they are due to finish their time as a trainee, so really, we have until May to let them know our decision. However, if we leave things until then, those that are being released will not have the opportunity of arranging trials for themselves with other clubs. This is because most youth team football fixtures are completed by the end of March and I think it is unfair to wait until May before notifying the boy that he is being released, as it will mean he has to wait until the following September to have the opportunity of training with another club. We feel that by telling them of our decision as early as possible, it will help them get a chance elsewhere and gives us a chance of helping them obtain another club."

It's a difficult task, telling a youngster that he is not being offered a professional contract. "The easiest part of my job," says Roy, "is getting them to sign for us in the first place. Some of the boys we will be releasing will have been with us for a long time and won't understand how they can have spent so much time here and still not be offered anything and it is very hard to tell them they are being released. All I can say to them, right from the beginning, is that they have had the opportunity that probably 90% of young footballers

don't ever get. As a football club, we pride ourselves on being honest with them all and, whatever happens, I will be sat round the table with Phil when the boys are told of our decision. During the day they are told, we will have telephoned their parents to let them know, so that when the boy gets home, it will soften the blow. There is, though, nothing worse than telling a boy he is not going to be taken on, because he won't listen to anything else you say and whatever else you try to say doesn't really help. I suggest that I call round to their house to see them and though that's something they may not want at first, I usually call round within a week to talk to them and I will do my utmost to help them find another club."

Any decision to retain or release a player is of course, merely an opinion, as Roy explains. "One of the first things I tell them is that it is an opinion of this football club at this time. We don't know what will happen in, say a years time and we would be foolish to tell any youngster that they are not good enough to make it in the pro game, because it depends on what quality of player other clubs are looking for and during the last two years of playing youth team football, they will have been watched closely by a representative of our opponents, in the same way that I will have been watching the players of other clubs. The important thing is that the players we release, leave in the right frame of mind and understand that we are simply expressing an opinion. Some will say they will prove us wrong, but I don't think we should look at it that way. We have to wish them well and hope that



Back row, l-r: Dave Watts, John Crowley, Mike Trought, Ryan Clarke, Luke Williams, Ray Johnston, Bobby Zamora, Mike Adams, Ali Hines, Drew Shore, Phil Bater
Front row, l-r: Jazz Bright, Mark Pope, Hadleigh Winter, Dean Pendry, Guy Jones, James Zabek, Gary Powell

Last summer, when this photo was taken, all of the lads were full of hope for the season ahead. Luke, Jazz and Guy have left us since then, whilst Mike Trought has played for the first team. It's decision day for some of the others next week.

what we have done for them during their time with us has been good. The positive thing is that we will have improved their game whilst they have been with us and whatever the age they are when they leave the club, the coaching we have given them will mean they will be a better player than when they first joined us. Just to illustrate that point, a parent of one of the lads we recently released from our Centre of Excellence, told me that he appreciated the fact that we had improved his boys games at no cost, other than his transport to the training sessions, whereas his other son, a promising tennis player, has to pay for specialist coaching to improve his game, with no guarantee of success." There's no doubt about it, football is a harsh world and dreams of becoming a professional will be shattered for some of our lads next week. However, as one door closes for some, another opens for others, as decisions are also being taken on next years intake on to the three year scholarship scheme. We'll be looking at that process and also the decisions that need to be taken at Centre of Excellence level in our next programme.

JURYS
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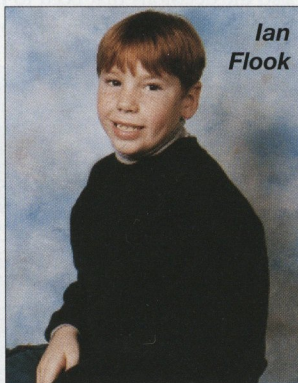
Welcome to the Memorial Stadium for today's match against Luton Town and a very warm welcome to our match sponsors, **Hemmings and Marshalsea**. It's the company's first ever sponsorship with us and it's the first of many. I hope **David, Chris** and their families enjoy their afternoon with us. Our matchball sponsors are **Merlin Wigley Aids** are old



friends and **Merlin**, his lovely wife **Janet** and their children and friends are all true Gasheads and it will be good to see them again today.

Taking advantage of our corporate hospitality facilities today are **Graham New** and his friends from **Wrapex Ltd**. **Graham's** company has recently moved premises but he never fails to find time to get to as many Rovers games as he can.

Also joining us today are **Kevin Bond** and his guests from **Somerlap Forest Products**. One of **Kevin's** guests is certain to have a great day, as eleven year old **Ian Flook** is our commercial mascot. **Ian** attends **Ashley Down Junior School** and his favourite players are **Jason Roberts** and **Jamie Cureton**.



Ian Flook

I hope all of our guests enjoy a super afternoon and they see a Rovers victory.

Graham Bond



Eagle Coaches were our match sponsors against Colchester and Adrian Ball and his family are pictured with their man of the match Jason Roberts

should now become an objective for our young heroes. Well don't lads you have done well so far this season but **there is plenty yet to play for**.
ROY COWELL, Chairman



Jason was also the Presidents Club choice as man of the match and is pictured here receiving the customary bottle of bubbly.

Ford Presidents Club

Following today's match the majority of members will make an early exit headed towards **Jury's Hotel** for our annual **Dinner Dance** – always a sell out and well supported by Directors and staff of the Football Club and our guests – the players and their partners. Without doubt one of the highlights of our calendar. Our **Player of the Year** dinner at the end of the season when we honour the achievements of the players promises to be interesting this year as so many of the first team squad are also eligible for the **Young Player of the Year** award. Last season's winners were **Barry Hayles** and **Tom White**. At tonight's affair no doubt there will be much talk about the excellent cup run, which sadly came to an end last weekend, but the dream of getting to Wembley should not be over. A place in the play-offs is still obtainable and

PIRATE Box Office

COMING UP ...

BRISTOL ROVERS versus Gillingham

- Nationwide Division 2
- The Memorial Stadium
- Tuesday, February 23rd
- KO 7.45pm

LINCOLN versus Bristol Rovers

- Nationwide Division 2
- Sincil Bank
- Saturday February 27th
- KO 3.00pm
- Prices (all seats)

Seats:	Adults	65+ & Juv
	£13.00	£8.00
Matchday Programme		£1.70

BRISTOL ROVERS versus Wycombe

- Nationwide Division 2
- The Memorial Stadium
- Tuesday March 2nd
- KO 7.45pm

Rovers Home League Matchday Prices 1998/99

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CENTENARY STAND and Wing Area WEST STAND	£14.00	£10.00	£7.50
Central Area WEST STAND	£17.00	£17.00	£17.00
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*Membership Scheme in operation, West Stand Enclosure

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and at the ticket office,
The Memorial Stadium, on Matchdays

How to get to Lincoln

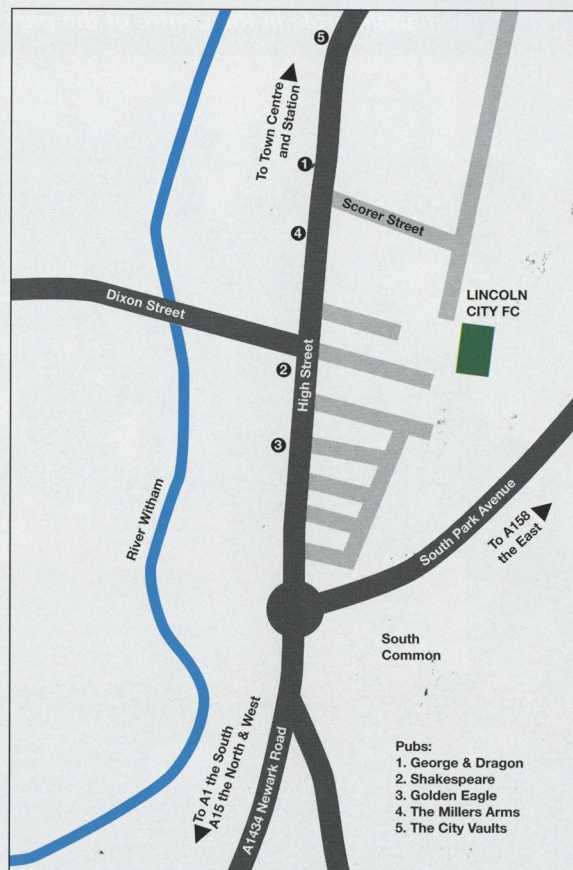
The Supporters Club are running coaches to Lincoln, leaving Horfield and Kingswood at 8.45am, and Eastville at 9.00am.

Coach fare: £11.50.

From South: Exit A1 at s/p Lincoln A46, Sleaford A17 onto the A46. At roundabout after 9.4 miles take 3rd exit (s/p Lincoln South A1434). Keep on A1434 following Lincoln and City Centre signs for 4.3 miles. Then get into inside lane (s/p City Centre, Worksop A57) and go straight on (first exit) at roundabout into the High Street. After 0.5 Miles get in outside lane, and go straight on at lights (s/p City Centre, Worksop A57). After 0.1. miles turn right into Scorer Street.

LOCAL RADIO: BBC Radio Lincolnshire 94.9FM; Lincs FM 102.2.

Taken from the *Football Fans Guide* by Janet Williams, Victoria Bennett and James Hilton, published by Collins Willow, price £9.99



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Jason Roberts in the thick of the action

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David Lee _ a commanding role in the centre of the park



Jason Roberts keeps up his cup scoring record with our consolation goal at Barnsley





Although he was born and raised in Bristol, David Lee's route into the professional game was with Chelsea. "They had a Bristol based scout," he recalls "and though I'd had one or two offers from other clubs, I decided to sign for Chelsea, as I was impressed with their set up at the time. I left school at 16, graduated through the youth and reserve teams, got into the first team squad towards the end of the 1987/88 campaign and made my debut the following season." That debut came against Leicester City, at Stamford Bridge, on 1 October 1988 and was marked with a goal. "Yes, we were one down and I scored the equaliser then I got brought down for a penalty, which was converted by Graham Roberts and we won 2-1, so it was a good debut."

Having spent such a long time with Chelsea, he inevitably, saw many changes and, by my reckoning, played under seven different managers. "That's right," he says adding "some were good, some bad, others indifferent. However, I enjoyed every minute of my time at the club and though there were many changes, they were for the better. I think Glenn Hoddle started things off, really, and it was a shame to see him go, but you don't get offered the England managers job every week! Personally, I was sad that he left, because I had just established myself in the side in what I regard as my best position when he went. I played under Ruud Gullit when he came in, but I broke my leg soon afterwards, which was a bit of a nightmare. After that, I was unable to get back into the side." It was whilst he was out injured that the influx of foreign stars into the club began, which made for an interesting atmosphere around the dressing room. "It was certainly different, and I found that the English players used to stick together, as did the foreign players, but not in a bad way. It's just that their idea of life is different to ours." He played just one league game and had a couple of outings as a substitute in the Coca Cola Cup last season, after his return to action, but was faced with the prospect of seeing out his contract in Chelsea's reserve side. "My contract was up at the end of this season and the club wouldn't let me go out on loan. There was no point, really, so it was a case of finding another club and playing first team football again. I could have sat in the reserves and picked up my wages, but that's not really me. I'm 29 and don't need to be playing reserve team football, it just does nothing for me."

So, after a frustrating morning spent training with Bristol City, in stepped Ian Holloway. "He's been brilliant to me," says Dave "he was on the phone to me when he heard I was available and told me exactly what things were like at the club. He didn't pull any punches and told me that he had a good set of young lads here and he wanted someone with my experience to come in to help them play. I have a lot of time for him. He didn't give me any bull on the phone, told me just what it was going to be like, and that was

"I just get on with things and muck in. I have to wash my own kit now, but it doesn't bother me. I left home at 16 and had to grow up pretty quickly, so things like that don't bother me at all."

ON THE DAY HE WAS BORN

- Whilst Bobby Jones was preparing to make his 400th first team appearance for Rovers in Saturday's game at Barrow, manager Bill Dodgin made a bid of £4,000 for Bristol City's transfer listed defender Tony Ford.
- Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh were starring in "Gone with the Wind" at the ABC New Bristol Centre.
- Highlights of a prominent soccer match were promised on BBC T.V's "Sportsnight with Coleman."
- A one year old E-type Jaguar was offered for sale at £1595.
- Harlech Television faced up to the prospect of a complete blackout after technical staff belonging to three trade unions, including electricians, threatened a series of 24 hour stoppages.

26th NOVEMBER 1969

"I don't want

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Saturday

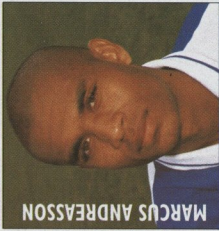
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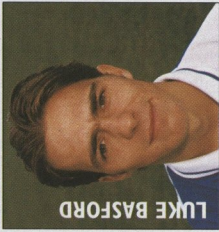


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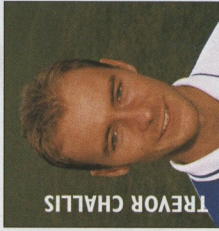
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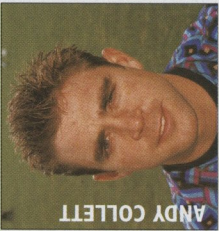
FRANKIE BENNETT
Andy, Julie & Paul
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TREVOR CHALLIS
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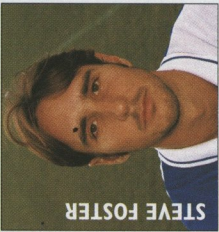
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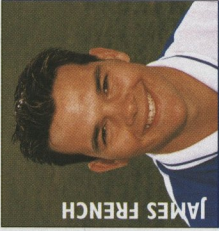
ANDY COLLETT
Ise Temple



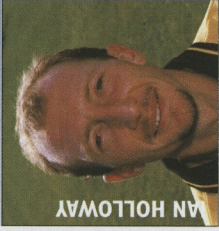
JAMIE CURETON
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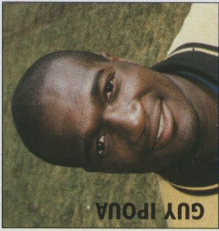
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Alan & Carol Shaw
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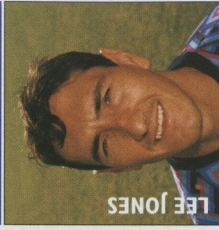
JAMES FRENCH
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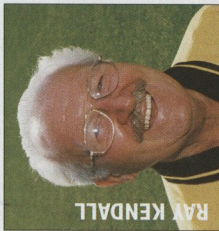
IAN HOLLOWAY
Young Pirates



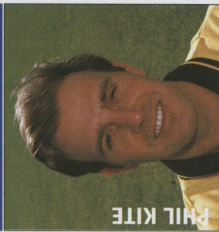
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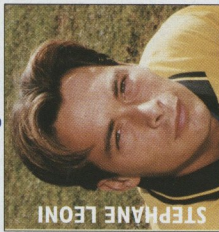
LEE JONES
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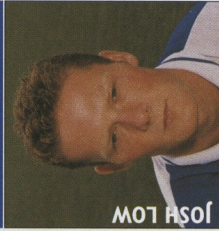
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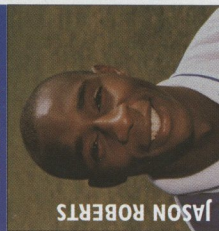
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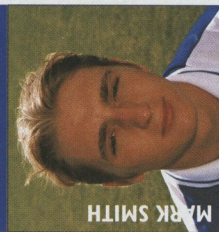
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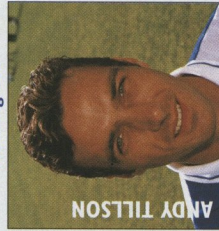
JASON ROBERTS
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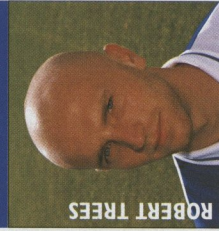
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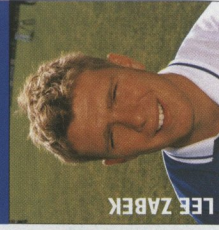
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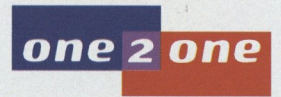
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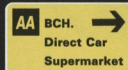
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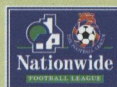
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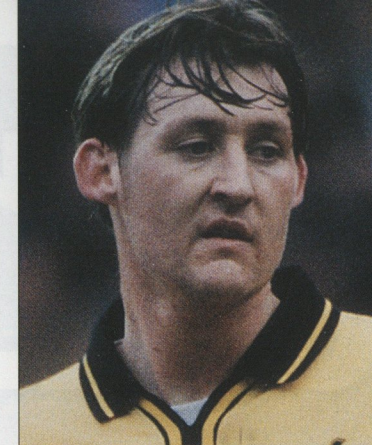


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it. His Rovers debut, at Colchester was totally different to what he'd been used to. "It was certainly an eye opener coming into that game and that takes nothing away from the way that Colchester play. There are obviously a few clubs in the league who do play football, and we are one of them, but there are a lot of clubs who don't really play, but rely on banging the ball long and that's a lot of peoples philosophy on how to get out of the league. That's up to them, and if its successful then great, but I don't really want to play like that every week. At least here, we're trying to play." Its not just the football that's different at this level, either, as the training facilities at Rovers, and indeed most clubs, doesn't match up to those at Stamford Bridge. "Its bound to be like that. I've come from a big Premiership club to a second division club, but I'm not



in. "I've been on the end of a 7-0 hiding and also played in a game where we won 7-0, but I've never played in a game where its been goalless at half-time and been in a side which scores six in such a short time. It was amazing, but having said that, we could have been three or four up at the break and could have finished up with double

has this to say. "Team spirit here is excellent, there are no little cliques or anything like that and its been like that from day one. The lads have a laugh and get on with things. When there's hard work to be done, they do it and, to be quite honest, I've been really impressed since I've been here. We've got a good run going at present. The lads had been unbeaten in several games before I came and we've lost to Burnley and Barnsley since I arrived and we should have won the Burnley match. We've got 19 games left and if we can win 12 of those, anything could happen. I think the gaffer has the belief that this squad is getting there and I think he is going to bring a couple more players. The players believe that if we can put a little run together, we have a good chance of making the play-offs. That's my aim, anyway. I haven't come here just to play and pick up my money, I want to

PIRATE TAPES

David Lee

proud, I just get on with things and muck in. I have to wash my own kit now, but it doesn't bother me. I left home at 16 and had to grow up pretty quickly, so things like that don't bother me at all." In spite of dropping down a couple of divisions, he's been impressed by the set up at Rovers. "Yes, its been good. We try to play football and as we don't have a giant up front, we can't just hit a long ball forward, because it will come straight back again and that would be a waste of time, so we try to play and the gaffer emphasises that in training and I'd say we play 80 per cent of the time and go long the other 20 per cent, whilst a lot of clubs are the other way round, hitting long balls 80 per cent of the time and playing the other 20 per cent." The 6-0 win at Reading a few weeks ago, brought back memories of other high scoring games he's been involved

figures, but it was brilliant to win 6-0 away from home and it says something about the boys, really." Although he's currently playing in midfield, it is, perhaps, not the position to which he's best suited. "I think my best position is as spare man at the back of the five. That's where I played for Hoddle and Gullit at Chelsea, but I'm happy to play anywhere, really. I'm not one of those big, aggressive centre halves, and never will be. In my first couple of games, circumstances dictated where I played. I was down to play in midfield at Colchester, but Steve Foster was ill on the morning of the game and I moved back. I stayed there for the cup tie at Rotherham, because the gaffer wanted some experience at the back, but since then, I've played in midfield and, as I say, I don't mind playing anywhere, really. As for team spirit at the club and his thoughts on the rest of the season, he

do something for the club." At the moment, he's signed until the end of the season, and there's no clear indication of whether he will sign a longer deal. "There's been talk of extending the contract, but at the moment, I'm just happy to be playing football and let other people deal with that. If they want to speak to me, I'm here. I'm not going to rush into anything but if things are right, I'll stay. I'm enjoying myself and although I'm still commuting a little bit between London and Bristol, I'm looking to move down here on a permanent basis. I'm from Bristol and know the area. My parents live here and I've got a house down here, which is rented out at the moment but as soon as that becomes available, I'll probably use it." Let's hope things are right, and he does stay!!

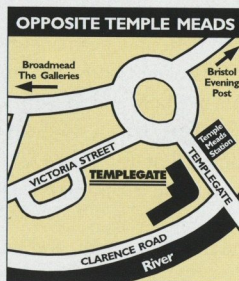
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FOOTBALL VERSUS RUGBY

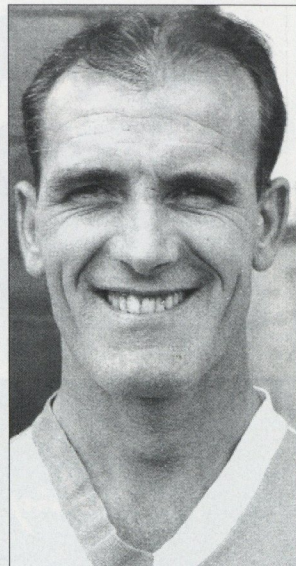
I came across a programme recently which is an unusual item involving Rovers and our tenants Bristol Rugby Club in a match of "Socby", which was a game of football played with a rugby ball. It took place at the Memorial Stadium nearly 40 years ago on 4th May 1960.

I consulted the local press for details of this intriguing

encounter and can reveal the following. Rovers line up was as per the programme reproduced below. Before the match watched by a bumper crowd of 7000 a 32-year-old Eastville man called Peter Ellis jumped out of an aeroplane and landed by parachute to deliver the match ball.

The match itself proved to be an hilarious event as both sets of players struggled to come to terms with controlling the rugby ball. There were many amusing incidents which were well appreciated by the spectators.

After half time refreshments the match continued as Rovers scored three goals - two by



Josser Watling

Geoff Bradford and another by Peter Hooper. John Blake replied for the ruggert team. The match was a charity event and a donation of £450 was handed over to Rovers manager Bert Tann who at the time was Chairman of the Friends of Frenchay Hospital. Can you imagine today's rugby and football clubs allowing their valuable players an opportunity to re-enact this match again. I doubt it very much.

PROGRAMME of a SOCBY match played under Soccer Rules with a Rugby Ball between BRISTOL RUGBY CLUB and BRISTOL ROVERS, at the Memorial Ground, Filton Avenue, on Wednesday, May 4th, 1960, in aid of The Friends of Frenchay Hospital.

BRISTOL RUGBY CLUB

Colour : Yellow

<i>Right</i>	R. CHALLIS	<i>Left</i>
D. W. NEATE (A)	T. WYNNF JONES (B)	A. E. MACDONALD (C)
J. BLAKE—Captain (D)	M. LEWIS (E)	P. COLSTON (F)
R. DASH (G)	R. BRIDGEMAN (H)	B. REDWOOD (I)
	D. St.G. HAZELL (J)	L. DAVIES (K)

Kick off 6.45 p.m.

P. J. HOOPER (11)	D. WARD (10)	G. R. W. BRADFORD (9)	A. G. BIGGS (8)	G. E. PETHERBRIDGE (7)
R. W. MABBUTT (6)	J. FROWEN (5)	G. A. RICKETTS (4)	N. A. J. SYKES (4)	
	J. W. WATLING—Captain (3)		D. A. HILLARD (2)	

Left

W. H. RADFORD

Right

Colours : Blue & White

BRISTOL ROVERS

Bristol Rugby Club Reserves : A. SHEPPARD (L) D. E. J. WATT (M) G. R. THOMAS (N)

Referees : Mr. GEORGE EMMETT and Mr. ARTHUR MILTON

Music by BRISTOL EAST TEMPERANCE BAND

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Apart from the result, last Saturday's

trip to Barnsley was a great success and we would like to thank our coach drivers, who were brilliant. One of the funniest incidents, though, was the fact that our chairman, John Lock, forgot his ticket and held up the coach from Bath. A quick phone call home saw his wife come to the rescue and John was able to see the game. If you have any stories about any away trips you have been on, please let us know, and we will try to print them on this page.

Our next away trip is to Walsall on March 20th when we hope to play football against the Junior Saddlers, though this has yet to be confirmed. Departure times and prices will be available from your club room in the near future, but if you would like to book a place today, then please call in to see John or Sue. Our awaydays have proved to be very popular this season, so it pays to book early to avoid disappointment. You may like to note, in your diary, that we will be going to Wrexham on April 3rd and Stoke on April 10th.

Today we resume our league programme following last week's FA Cup defeat at Barnsley. Today's visitors, Luton, began the season very well, but injuries to key players have seen them slip down the table. Lennie Lawrence brings his side here on the back of a disappointing defeat against Wrexham last Saturday, so we can expect a spirited performance from them this afternoon. Like ourselves, Luton like to get the ball down and play, so it should be an entertaining match. We were entertaining the Junior Hatters this morning and played a game of football against them at Monks Park School and we would like to welcome them and all of the Luton supporters, players and staff here today and hope everyone has a safe journey home after the match.

QUESTION TIME

Today's questions are:

1. Which Bristol City player is currently in the second month of a loan spell with Luton?
2. Who scored our goal in the 4-2 win at Luton last season?

The answers to questions in the Colchester programme were:

1. Torquay United
2. Guy Ipoua

If you know the answers to today's questions, call in with your answers as you

could win a prize.

Looking ahead to next season, we will need to recruit new ballboys, as we are losing several of our senior members at the end of this season. We have had six reserves this season, who have taken it in turn to cover one position and we will be operating a similar scheme next season. If you would like to be considered, call in and give us your name, Young Pirates membership number and daytime telephone number, but remember you **MUST** be a member of the Young Pirates in order to be a ballboy.

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to Neil Garland (6), Fiona Garland (14), Julie Baker (16), Matthew Davis (10) and Sarah Wilmer (9) who all have birthdays today and to all Young Pirates who celebrate their birthdays between now and next Tuesday when we entertain Gillingham.



The Young Pirates are proud to be sponsoring Ian Holloway's kit this season.

YOUNG PIRATE

Thirteen-year-old Andrew Criddle lives in Downend and attends Downend School, where he enjoys PE and Science. Andrew plays football for Keynsham and hockey for Robnsons and his favourite players are Jamie Cureton, Jason Roberts and Gary Penrice.

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Signature



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Tuesday 23rd February
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Hot Shots, Brislington
Greenway Centre, Southmead

Thursday 25th February
Churchill Sports Centre
Whitfield School, Fishponds
Kingsdown Sports Centre

Friday 26th February
Grange School, Warmley
County Cricket Ground, Horfield
Whitchurch Sports Centre

Each Fun Day runs from 10.00am – 3.00pm and the cost is £10 per day, or £18 if you attend on two different days.

ADIDAS PREDATOR 6-a-SIDE TOURNAMENT

Pictured here are some of the teams who took part in the Adidas Predator 6-a-side tournament at Elm Park School, Winterbourne, one of the 20 venues where heats of the tournament took place. We'll have more photos for you next week.



Above: St. MICHAELS PRIMARY, WINTERBOURNE



Left: HAWKESBURY UPTON PRIMARY

Below, left: MANOR PRIMARY, COALPIT HEATH

Below: St. MARYS PRIMARY, YATE



SATURDAY TEAM CLUB

Joining us today are Joe Quinn and his Radstock Rangers U-11 football team and we hope they have a very enjoyable day and trust they see a Rovers win



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Second Glance

TUESDAY 26th JANUARY

Preston's stint at the top of the table lasts just three days, as they are beaten 3-1 at Bournemouth and Fulham, who register a 1-0 home win over Oldham, regain the leadership of the section. Jon O'Neill, Eddie Howe and Mark Stein were on target for Bournemouth, whilst Kurt Nogan notched Preston's consolation. Down at Craven Cottage, Simon Morgan scored the all important goal. Meanwhile, Macclesfield remain firmly entrenched at the bottom of the table after a 2-0 home defeat by Millwall, for whom Neil Harris scored twice.

THURSDAY 28th JANUARY

Mick Wadsworth leaves Scarborough to take over as manager of Colchester.

FRIDAY 29th JANUARY

Stoke's decline in form continues, as they go down to a single goal defeat at home to Manchester City. Gerard Wiekens scored the only goal of the game and Stoke captain Phil Robinson was sent off.

SATURDAY 30th JANUARY

Barry Hayles and new signing Philippe Albert were on target in Fulham's 2-0 home win over Northampton, who suffered their first defeat in their last six visits to Craven Cottage. Preston win 5-0 at Wrexham, to record their best away win since beating Sheffield United in 1954. The goals came from Michael Jackson, Kurt Nogan, Jonathan Macken, David Eyres and Ryan Kidd. Stuart Barlow scores the winner for Wigan in a 2-1 win at Walsall, whilst Bournemouth and Gillingham both enhance their play-off prospects with draws at Luton and Millwall respectively. Steve Robinson and Jamie Vincent score for Bournemouth, who were 2-0 down at one stage and Gillingham, who twice took the lead at Millwall, eventually had to rely on a late Mark Saunders goal to rescue a point. For the second time in a week, Neil-Harris scored twice for

Millwall, who also had Tim Cahill sent off. Jonathan Howard and Steve Wilkinson see Chesterfield to a 2-0 home win over Wycombe, who suffered their fourth consecutive defeat at Saltergate. Efetobar Sodje gave Macclesfield the lead against Blackpool, but Brett Ormerod and Phil Clarkson hit back to claim all three points for their visitors. Lincoln's Gavin Gordon gave them the lead against Burnley, but they had to settle for a share of the spoils after Brian Reid's equaliser. Notts County were held to a 1-1 home draw by Reading. A late David Gregory goal here at The Memorial Stadium gave Colchester a point from a 1-1 draw and Stuart Thorn scored the only goal of the game as Oldham won at York for the first time since April 1971.

TUESDAY 2nd FEBRUARY

Millwall reached the area semi-finals of the Auto Windscreens Shield with a penalty shoot out win at Bournemouth, but Stoke go out of the competition, beaten 2-1 by Rochdale.

THURSDAY 4th FEBRUARY

York City's Richard Cresswell is called up to the England U-21 squad.

FRIDAY 5th FEBRUARY

Cresswell celebrates his call up by scoring for York in their 2-1 defeat at Colchester, who scored twice in the last four minutes, through Simon Betts and David Greene. Wycombe appoint Lawrie Sanchez as their new manager.

SATURDAY 6th FEBRUARY

Fulham and Preston both came from behind to earn themselves a point. Kit Symons cancelled out Andrew Bairds goal to earn Fulham a 1-1 draw at Wycombe and Kurt Nogan rescued a point for Preston after Jamie Cureton and Jason Roberts had put Rovers ahead following Lee Cartwright's opener. Rovers are unbeaten on their last five

visits to Deepdale, whilst Preston became the first club to draw 1000 league games. Dean Keates scored the only goal of the game as Walsall beat Reading. Down at Dean Court, Jon O'Neill and Graham Kavanagh were both sent off after a Steve Fletcher double set Bournemouth on the way to a 4-0 win over Stoke. Carl Asaba, Andy Hesselthaler and Nicky Southall were on target for Gillingham in a 3-1 win over Chesterfield, for whom Jonathan Howard scored a consolation goal. Karl Connolly and Carl Griffiths scored for Wrexham in their 2-0 win at Macclesfield and Lincoln lost by the same score at Oldham, for whom Stuart Thorn and Paul Mardon were on target. Northampton were involved in a goalless draw at home to Blackpool and elsewhere, Luton won 2-1 at Burnley thanks to goals from Andy Fotiadis and Gary Doherty. The home side had Neil Moore sent off. Goals from Paul Dickov, Terry Cooke and Kevin Horlock gave Manchester City a 3-0 home win over Millwall, who have not scored in four post war visits to Maine Road.

ALAN LACOCK

PLEASE NOTE

The capacity of the Memorial Stadium has now been increased following improvements to the barriers. However Bristol City Council have pointed out that gangways are not being kept clear and if this continues they have indicated that they will insist on a reduction in capacity. It is therefore important that all gangways, which are clearly marked by yellow paint, are kept clear at all times. Please comply with any instructions given by our stewards

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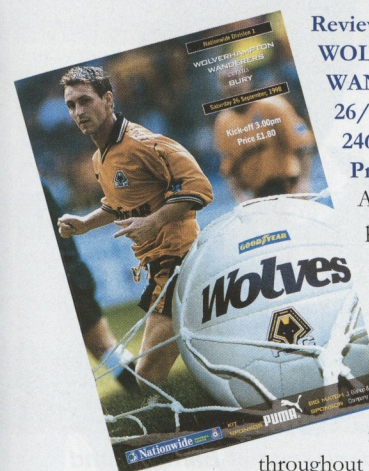
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News

I am sorry that the shop display at 199 is regularly short of home and especially away programmes this season. The homes seem to be selling out most matches recently, and I am unable to exchange or purchase programmes in the amount I really would like from our away games. Whereas most clubs were happy to exchange 50-100 programmes with us, this has now reduced to 20-40, and even none at all with four of this season's opponents. Today's visitors are not one of them however! Welcome Hatters!

PHIL DRAPER



Review
**WOLVERHAMPTON
WANDERERS v Bury**
26/09/98 Size
246x167mm 48 Pages
Price £1.80p

A consistently good performer, in the programme field at least(!), this season's offering is no exception. A low proportion of advertising (22%), full colour photos

throughout and using a mix of black/gold and "dirty" blue/white corporate colours for the pages. The photography is notably sharp, except for the pictures that fans have sent in that is! Not so sure about the five full pages of action shots of the last game. Some amusing headings - "The kids are alright" (Up & Coming youth player feature), "The Big Cheese" (Visiting Manager feature - UGH! WARNOCK!), and "Anoraks are us" (stats/facts article! The centre pages include a player questionnaire (Bully) with some better-than-usual answers and a novelty - a self portrait panel! Steve is no artist, that's for sure, I mean he can't draw!



Review
**LUTON TOWN v Bristol
Rovers 07/01/95** Size
241x170mm 40 Pages
Then Price £1.50

Orange, blue and white, the team colours of the Hatters dominate the programme and help give it a united appearance. The cover is rather busy, but the advertising is only some 25%

of the programme. The articles and features add up to a rather



dull read with several pseudo-official or promotional pages. The colour photography is not as sharp as the editor would wish, an indication of how technology has advanced today perhaps. Interesting to note of the players featured several have moved on for multi-million prices. Marcus Stewart, Gareth Taylor and John Hartson show how both clubs have been forced to sell some significant goalscorers. Managers too have moved around a bit, John Ward and David Pleat must have a discount scheme with Pickfords!

PastPirate - Season 1969/70
(by Jamie Howarth)

In August 1969, for the first time since the early 1950s, the size of the Rovers programme changed. Increased from 19x13cm to 21x14cm and with sixteen pages. The price also rose to 1/- (5p), although for the second season (and probably the cause of the size change anyway) the Football League Review was included free. This is a simple season for collectors as we had no home cup games, so all you need to find are 23 League games and two friendlies. The first was against Dallas Tornado, the same size but only 4 pages at 6d(2/2p). The second was for Harold Jarman's Testimonial versus Liverpool, still one shilling, 16 pages but even larger at 23x17cm. A few years ago you could pick up these programmes for 20-30p each but as collections grow, these now cost 50p-80p each in good condition. Usually the FLRs are no longer included.



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London Calling

It's taken longer than usual this season, but Gasheads can finally start talking about 'concentrating on the league' now. As with anyone who comes out with that cliché we'd clearly rather be looking forward to the next round, but the quarter finals will have to wait for another year. The scoreline at Barnsley was as flattering to them as the Orient result in the previous round was to Rovers and but for a few lapses in concentration it could have been a great deal closer. To be honest, the main difference between the sides was probably experience. Rovers, yet again had no choice but to field a very young side, while Barnsley not only had last season's Premiership campaign behind a number of their players but also the impressive Craig Hignett. It's no surprise that Barnsley's recent poor run had coincided with an injury to Hignett, and it's unfortunate for Rovers that he returned to action last Saturday! The fact that Rovers were without players used to competing at a higher level, with Holloway and Thomson unavailable, merely compounded the problem. Saying all of that, Rovers still matched Barnsley for long periods, and a game like that also prepares the team for the future. Barnsley's previous experience was invaluable to them last weekend and the tie will have taught Rovers important lessons too. We all know that Ian Holloway is building a team with a view to long term and lasting success, rather than immediate silverware and the Barnsley match is another step in the learning process. Cliché or not we can now concentrate on the league, and catching up on a few of our numerous games in hand. Rovers have shown what we're capable of, and a late push for the play-offs is still not out of the question. One person who certainly has seen their own season end since my last programme notes is Glenn Hoddle. The Hoddle saga has been debated to the death (and beyond) the length and breadth of the country but the biggest question still remains at the time of writing. No, not whether Hod was a donkey herder (does such a thing exist?) in a previous life, but who'll take over from him. More to the point, is there anyone who actually wants to take over? It looks increasingly like Kevin Keegan may be about to jump into the lions den, despite his continual denials that he is interested, and I certainly won't be surprised if he's installed by the time you read this. If he doesn't take it, then I can't say I blame him.

In fact I don't blame anyone who doesn't fancy the job. Unless you win 99% of games, lead the life of a buddhist monk (although even that isn't really advisable) and miraculously produce a team of superb players (which isn't really very easy when the likes of David Batty are clamouring on your door) then you've got no chance. When the Hoddle stuff was breaking someone made the comment that the England Manager's job was, after the Royal family and Cabinet, the most high profile role in the country. They weren't wrong either. You get constant media attention and rabid inspection of your private life throughout your time in 'office'. Hoddle made things even worse by seemingly courting attention through comments which ranged from the cranky (anything to do with Eileen) to the downright insane (the fateful last interview), not to mention recording conversations with players and writing about them while still in the job. But, even if you don't do any of this then public interest in football is so high in this country that the press will still find something to write about. In the end though, it wasn't any of the written media who brought home to me exactly how far things had gone. Instead it was a newsflash on ITV, which wasn't even to announce the Coach's departure but merely to say that the FA would make a statement on the situation the next day. It amazed me. I'd always thought that newsflashes were reserved for royal deaths, catastrophes and other extraordinary events, but here was one saying that England Coach may or may not be in a job the next day. And then you get Tony Blair talking about Hoddle on Richard and Judy. Quite frankly I found the whole concept of Blair on Richard and Judy bizarre in the extreme but talking about



Ian Holloway had to miss out at Barnsley and found himself surrounded by his favourite colour!

Hoddle as well was pretty astonishing. It got worse later in the week when William Hague brought up Blair's involvement in Prime Minister's Question Time. OK, it happens in Italy, but has the House of Commons ever debated the position of the England Manager before? I half expected the Queen to come out with a statement too. Well Prince Harry at least... In return for all the grief, all you get is a reported salary of £100-£200k, although the FA is supposed to be reviewing this. They'll need to if they want to land Keegan, as Mr Al Fayed is almost certainly paying him a great deal more than that already! OK, you get the prestige as well but that's hardly compensation for the negative aspects of the job or a relatively small salary. If I were Keegan, O'Neill or any of the others linked with the job then I'd certainly stay where I was. After all, Keegan has a fairly adoring audience at Fulham, albeit a relatively transient one, but he's far less likely to get the same sort of idolisation in the England job. No, if I were him I'd stay put in a job that is undoubtedly stressful, but has nowhere near as much pressure as he'd get as England supremo. There again, it could well be too late for Keegan already... **HAZEL POTTER**

View from the Touchline

PROUD TO BE A GASHEAD!!

To the great disappointment of the many thousands of travelling Rovers fans our Cup dream finally came to an end at Oakwell last Saturday. Despite the 4-1 scoreline the final outcome could perhaps have been so different had we taken advantage of our early chances. I was not alone in thinking that a two-goal deficit at half-time was not a fair reflection on the way the first half had gone. A goal early in the second half would

have made a tremendous difference and I am sure would have triggered a Rovers revival. Sadly, as we all now know, Barnsley then scored two more goals before Jason Roberts netted a consolation to the great delight of all of us present. Whilst the final whistle brought us back to reality and the fact that we would not be taking part in the quarter final draw I was not downhearted. Judging by the reaction of the crowd anyone walking into the ground at that time (having no knowledge of the final score) would have been forgiven for thinking that Rovers had won, such was the excellent backing given to the team. From the moment I left for the game at 9.15 it seemed that every other car on the entire journey was decked out in Rovers colours and occupied by blue and white quarter wearing fanatics. This was also in evidence in the service stations on the way and it made me once again proud to be part of the travelling army that has been so loyal this season. I wonder if there is any club in the league where the away support represents such a high percentage of the average home attendance. Taking 4,200 fans to Barnsley would be the equivalent of Manchester United taking 35,000!

Surely an achievement every Gashead can be well proud of. All I would now ask is that those same fans turn up at the Memorial Stadium for our final league games and help us in our push for a play-off position. Given the number of games in hand, and the way the team are now playing, a realistic target without doubt. Finally a word on the decision of the F.A. to replay the Arsenal v. Sheffield United cup match. Whilst very much admiring the offer of Arsene Wenger I believe an extremely dangerous precedent has been set particularly if you bear in mind that no breach of the Law had taken place. According to the Laws of the Game the referees decision is final. I would not be surprised if by the time you read this FIFA decide to intervene and use their powers to insist that Arsenal are awarded the game. The long term solution has to be that the current 'unwritten' Law becomes part of the official Laws of the Game so that the situation is avoided in future. As a member of the Association of Premier League and Football League Match Officials I will be attending a meeting in Taunton tomorrow where the incident is bound to be discussed. I will keep you updated.

TONY MILLS



A disappointed Jamie Cureton leaves the park at Barnsley

HELPLINE

So our FA Cup dreams are over for another year after the defeat at Barnsley. A disappointing end to a run which took us further than for many seasons but what a tremendous support for the lads. It was difficult at times to realise which team was at home. Even the Barnsley announcer appealed to the crowd to get behind his players or "we are going to let them outshout us" he said. There were plenty of "if only's" but the scoreline of 4-1 flattered Barnsley on a day which all the travelling fans looked forward to with anticipation. Apart from the occasional chant about a fat, round chap, who might be heading for relegation, the continuous strains of "Goodnight Irene", "Come on you Blues" etc must have left a huge impression on the people of Barnsley. Certainly in spite of the result there was a general acceptance that it had been a worthwhile trip. The worst part of the day must have been the travelling out of Barnsley and down the M1. With so many side streets and diversions plus the huge Gas army of vehicles it was taking nearly 2 hours to join the M1 which meant another moving car park for 30 or 40 miles!! Back now to bread and butter. No huge Cup payout so we must continue to raise funds.

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Sky Sports is worth the subscription for one reason only, namely the excellent "Soccer AM" broadcast on Saturday mornings or as George my son calls it "talking about football." "Pirate Eye" prides itself for its normally politically correct approach, however the males of the Malyckj household come over all of a flutter when the delectable Helen Chamberlain, who is one half of the presentation team appears on the screen. George normally plays on a Saturday morning so we missed the edition broadcast on the morning of the Colchester match. My spies were quick to tell me that Ms. Chamberlain had dropped a bombshell on the show, accusing Mr Jason Roberts of "owing her some rent" as he had stayed at her flat during his spell at Torquay. Regular readers will realise that my face lit up at this news, another "Pirate Eye" exclusive I mused, dashing out into the car park to tackle our hero! Explaining the nature of the accusation I half expected him to sprint towards the dressing room shouting "no comment". Not Jason, he smiled broadly. "Well I don't see how I could be in arrears as I never paid any rent, besides which she was never around, she didn't cook me any meals, do my washing or ironing or anything else for that matter." Very politically correct, I pondered this will not go down too well with the folks at "The Second of May!" "Anyway I paid her in kind." Oh no, I thought, I'm not going to be able to publish this! I scored goals for Torquay!!!! Jason's honour intact and Ms Chamberlain's as well, I thanked him for his comments and retired to the bar wondering whether he still had her phone number. "Dad can I have another lemonade?" said George reminding me that not only am I thirty something but also a father of four! End of dream of walking hand in hand with Ms. C. on a beach near Torquay! Some three hours later Jason was to supply me with yet more entertainment courtesy of the Supporters Club Bar Man of the Match Award ceremony. Mr Phil Draper is Master of Ceremonies and usually organises the presentation by inviting a supporter to present the bottle to the lucky winner. It is now customary for the boys from "Screen Soccer" to provide some video entertainment after home matches and we were being treated to a parade of goals as MC Draper announced "Today's man of the match, Jason Roberts," we all craned our necks

Pirate Eye

to see fellow columnist and star of TSOM and The Green Un, Ms Hazel Potter attempting to present the bottle. Just as she did, entertainment of an adult manner flickered onto the big screen in front of which the pair were both stood. Had Andy Warren mixed a copy of "Swedish Wood Nymphs" with 50 Great Gas Goals and forgot to use his splice button? No he hadn't, it was the infamous Brentford streaker, a young lady of ample proportions parading her charms across the hallowed Mem. turf. Amid much hilarity Mr Draper did nothing to save poor Hazel's blushes by shouting "I still say it was you Hazel". "Pirate Eye" would formally disassociate itself with Mr Drapers' remarks, I shall call for his head at the next committee meeting.

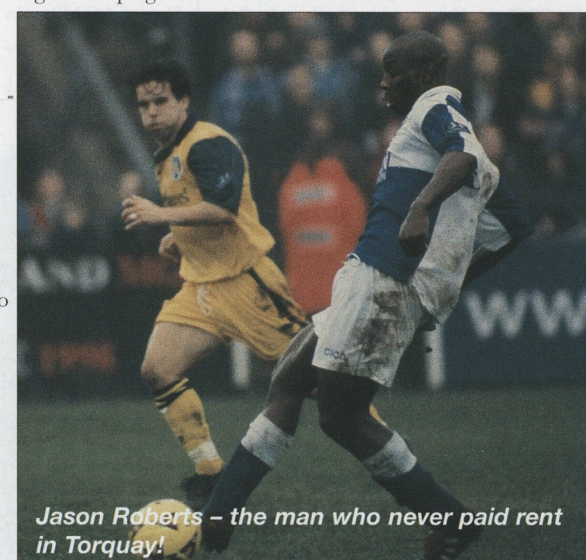
The good people of Sky Sports certainly seem to have it in for young Mr Roberts, as having besmirched his good name the previous week they chose to ignore his goalscoring at Preston by crediting his goal to a now departed hero. I sat in my bunnywunny pyjamas with toast in one hand and coffee in the other watching "Soccer Extra" the morning after the Preston game. The highlight is always the Nationwide Division Two goals and on this occasion they started at Deepdale, the voice over can often be very excitable particularly if its referring to "sleeping

giants" Man City or "Kevin Keegan's" Fulham. The first Preston goal flashed in, then Jamie Cureton's equaliser and then well apparently "Barry Hayles gave Rovers the lead just before half time." Even two year old Anya appeared ruffled at the news that Bazza had sneaked up to Preston for the weekend to resume goalscoring duties for Rovers. "Anya I'm not having this,

pass me the phone" I said. "Grandma?" said Anya somewhat hopefully "No, Sky Sports" she pointed at the screen "Grandad, Georgie Ravers!!" (Ravers are in fact Rovers). Eventually I got through to "viewer relations" and spoke to a most understanding young lady who agreed that it had indeed been an injustice that Jason Roberts had not been named as the scorer of Rovers second goal. But no she did not realise that Hayles was not plying his trade at "Kevin Keegan's" Fulham and yes they would correct the mistake. At lunchtime they repeated the goals but this time after Cureton's effort Robert's goal was accompanied by a pregnant pause! Another triumph for "Pirate Eye", it can only be a matter of time before Roger Cook comes knocking on my door for a few tips!

Spotted on a blackboard outside a newsagents on Speedwell Road the day after Hoddle's sacking the following message: "Hoddle says, In a past life City players were footballers!" Finally the following comment from the normally unflappable Lord Burns of Westbury Vice-Chairman of the Supporters Club on leaving the ground at Barnsley last week "At least I won't have to sell any more *#?*" tickets," a man relieved of pressure if ever I saw one!

JOHN MALYCKY



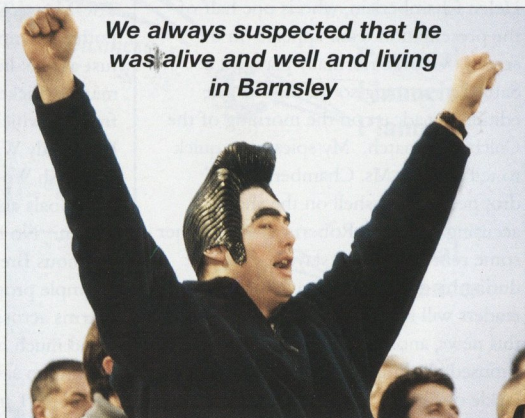
Jason Roberts – the man who never paid rent in Torquay!

Away with the Gas

LEAVING GAS VEGAS!

5th Round draw ... **live on TV!** ... who are we going to get ... huddled in front of the telly ... cold sweat ... clamouring for a plum draw ... after fighting through the first two rounds for a chance to get the likes of Liverpool and we got Rotherham ... biting our nails as those 4th Round draw balls delivered us to Leyton Orient, when we should have got Everton ... surely our time had come for the big one, the one with all the glamour and glitz ... lights, camera, action! ... as Bristol Rovers are drawn away to Manchester United (loads of money for the club!) ... Chelsea (loads of money to get in!) ... Newcastle (loads of money to get up there!) ... or could it be Arsenal, Leeds or Tottenham ... any one of these and it must surely be one of them because we had waited 21 years to get to this stage. It was only a matter of time before we would be propelled into the Hollywood showbiz dream world that exists for those rich and mighty upper class clubs. Like ragged peasants on the outside who can only peer through the crack in the door at this orgy of decadence that they harbour all to themselves, it was our time to go and sit at the same table as them. It was our time to meet them eyeball to eyeball ... we had waited so long and we are so proud of our club, we had earned a taste of the attention that they get every day of the week! So here it comes ... Jason Roberts is there at Wembley to give his smitten reaction to the good news ... wait for it ... baited breath ... eeeeeeh ... uuuggghhh ... jaw drops to the floor, which is quickly followed by the rest of the body ... **BARNSELEY!!!!** ... oh for ***** sake!!! ... not bloody Barnsley!!! A

short tantrum is followed by one of the biggest sulks since losing to Northampton in last season's play-offs. No disrespect intended to Barnsley, because like Rotherham and Orient before them they too probably didn't want to dine with Bristol Rovers, when at the same stage last season, they had the thrill of knocking out the richest club in the world ... Manchester United and we all loved that one. And remember, these boys last season played at a level we still only dream of playing at ... I suppose that makes them kind of glamorous. Well ... er ... no. Sense prevails with the realisation that we have the best chance of getting to the Quarter Finals for the first time in 41 years! This was followed quickly by nonsense as the imagination takes us through a few more stages. With the FA Cup Final only 2 more games on from this one, the mind is full of images of a shock win in the Quarters against Newcastle in front of 10,800 fans at the Memorial Stadium and an historic victory against the Cup holders Arsenal ... after Jason Roberts beat their offside trap in the last minute at Villa Park. Being realistic, it's probably true to say that we wouldn't win the final, but as Manchester United had already qualified ... next season we could look forward to entertaining the likes of AC Milan in Europe. In other



We always suspected that he was alive and well and living in Barnsley

words we just got to beat Barnsley! Inspired by delusions of grandeur ... tickets were snapped up by the fist full ... Barnsley was now as attractive a destination as Las Vegas! Now I know they 'oop north' probably feel that we're just a bunch of cider swilling, carrot crunching rice pudding lovers ... they're wrong, because that's to be found on the other side of the river ... but we can't help imagining at our journey's end we will find a gritty, stubborn, no nonsense town, set in its ways ... or put it another way ... the pits (with none of them working!), with added whippets! With Leeds, Sheffield Wednesday and United, Huddersfield also involved in home ties, Yorkshire became the centre of the FA Cup universe and Rovers fans en masse rubbed shoulders on the same level as passing Chelsea and Tottenham fans. Yes, we were part of the last 16 of the greatest competition in the world! We could even afford a superior chuckle at the sad Southend car on its way to the humble Halifax fixture. What about the game itself! ... well we all know what happened, most of us were there ... it was just like a large party balloon deflating as the scoreline started to flatter Barnsley to the extent of deceiving. Rovers didn't do themselves justice on the day ... we all know how well they can play ... even though the outside world in the form of David Mellor said on 606 "no surprise as Rovers were hardly setting the 2nd Division on fire anyway" ... David, my dear boy ... we are actively smouldering ... and as the saying goes ... there is no smoke without fire ... so just watch us burn! The inevitable big glamour draw was Barnsley's reward which pitted them against Leeds or Tottenham ... had we won though, I bet you that we'd have had either Huddersfield or Derby!

PAUL SEATON



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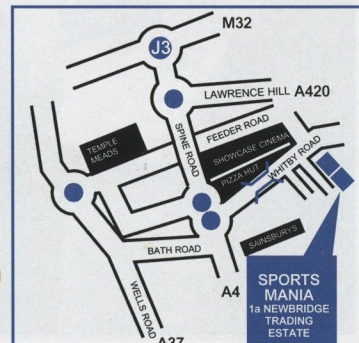
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ON THIS
DATE

20
FEBRUARY

1937 v Torquay

Rovers were able to field an unchanged side, following a 3-2 win at Southend, where they had raced into an early lead and survived a Shrimpers' fightback prompted by a Jack Preece own goal. Preece, who had also scored an own goal against Torquay the previous season, was in the Rovers side which led at half-time by

a Billy Hartill goal to nil. In the second-half, Rovers scored four times with Hartill completing a hat-trick and Harold Houghton and Tommy Mills, the two inside-forwards both scoring, while Morton scored for Torquay, before a crowd of 6,398 at Eastville. On the same day, en route to a convincing Third Division (South) championship, today's visitors Luton attracted a crowd of 27,632 for their visit to Vicarage Road where, surviving a goal from the former Manchester City forward Len Fletcher, the Hatters won 3-1. Four weeks later, two more Hartill goals helped Rovers defeat the champions-elect 4-0 in a very convincing display at Eastville.

THE PLAYERS

BORN ON THIS DATE

David G. Rushbury 1956

Michael J. Adams 1965

DIED ON THIS DATE

George Edward Tweed 1971

Player of the day

Despite claims from a certain Ian

Holloway, who started a game for Rovers for the first time on this date in 1982, and birthday boys Dave Rushbury and Mike Adams (sixteen and one league game(s) respectively), today's star name is Billy Hartill. Wolverhampton-born in 1905, Hartill was Wolves's record league goalscorer until his tally was bettered in 1991 by Steve Bull. His 162 league goals included two five goal hauls. After spells at Everton and Liverpool, 30 year old Hartill joined Rovers in March 1936 and was to score nineteen goals in 36 league matches before retiring through injury. He played in the infamous twelve goal defeat at Luton, but he bounced back with a hat-trick against Torquay 62 years ago today. Hartill later ran a pub; he died in Walsall in 1980.

Died on this date

George Tweed, who died in Wells 28 years ago today, made 25 league appearances for Rovers as right back. Born in Newmarket in 1910, he had been Newmarket Town's top scorer in 1930/31 before being converted into a defender and spent six years with his home town club before being signed by Coventry City. He was on Rover's books from August 1936 to October 1937, before making 31 league appearances for Gillingham. The Gills lost their league status in 1938, and Tweed went on to represent Bath City and Gloucester City.

MIKE
ADAMS



1932 Rovers 0 Swindon 2
1937 Rovers 5 Torquay 1
1950 Watford 0 Rovers 2
1963 Crystal Palace 2 Rovers 1
1971 Bradford City 1 Rovers 1
1982 Wimbledon 1 Rovers 0
1988 Rotherham 1 Rovers 1
1993 Rovers 1 Tranmere 0
1996 Wrexham 3 Rovers 2

BRISTOL BOYS 99

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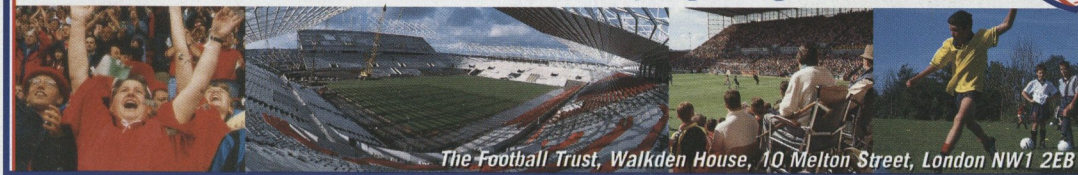
A major new funding package made up of annual contributions from The F.A. Premier League, The Football Association, The English Sports Council, The Football League and The Professional Footballers Association has been added to the Trust's pools derived income to secure its future.

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Retro Rovers

One of the many responses received following the announcement of the formation of an ex-players association, came from a relative of Bert Edwards, who was on Rovers books in the 1930's. Bert played just once for Rovers first team, in a Division 3 (South) Cup Tie, against Coventry in January 1934 and in doing so, became a member of a select band of players who have appeared for the club in a first team match, but never represented the club in a football league fixture.

I recently spent a couple of hours with Bert and his wife, in their home at Lawrence Weston and though he's 86 years old and not in the best of health, he enjoyed talking of his two seasons at Rovers, of the players he remembered and of his lifelong support for the club.

A left winger, Bert played in a Woodcock Shield Final for Mina Road School against Windmill Hill, at Ashton Gate, at the age of eleven. He had played for St George and Hanham before the flamboyant Rovers manager Captain Albert Prince-Cox signed him for Rovers. As a part-time professional, he trained with the first team and attended evening training sessions on the Eastville pitch, supervised by either first team trainer Harry Lake or reserve team trainer Bert Williams.

Sadly, Bert has no photographs or press cuttings of his time with Rovers, but recalls only too well his one senior game for the club, which ended in a 2-2 draw. The brief report of the game in the "Evening Post" read as follows:-

"Rovers did well to force a replay in the Southern Section Cup Tie with Coventry City, where 9543 spectators saw the teams share four goals. Smith, who gave a promising display at centre forward, gave Rovers an early lead but Lake soon equalised and Lauderdale put Coventry ahead midway through the second half. Only three minutes remained to play, with Coventry still leading 2-1, when a dropping shot by Lewis deceived Pearson, who concluded that it would fall behind the crossbar.

Edwards, the former Bristol St George player and the ex-Bristol schoolboy was given a run at outside left, taking the place of Watson. A little nervous at the start, he improved as the game progressed and he did some useful work in the second half."

Having spent most of his Rovers career playing for the reserves in the Western League, Bert later played for Street in the same competition. Having been sacked by Robinson's for taking too much time off to watch Rovers, he went on to work for BAC. He also played football for the company, as the team photo from 1939, reproduced here, shows. He served in the Navy during the war and continued to watch Rovers, whenever possible, when the war ended. Indeed, his wife recalls queuing up for a ticket for him for the FA Cup replay against Newcastle in 1951.

Strangely enough, for the replayed cup tie against Coventry, Rovers fielded another player who was making his only first team appearance for the club. T. Cowan was in the side that lost 2-1 at Coventry on 1 February 1934, but had the satisfaction of providing the pass which led to Rovers goal,



as reported in the local press *"Cowan got the ball and gave a shrewd pass to McCambridge. The latter made no mistake and gave Rovers the lead."*

On March 15th 1988, though, five players turned out for Rovers in the Gloucestershire Cup Final at Ashton Gate, against Bristol City and none of them was to make an appearance in league football for the club. In fact, manager Gerry Francis named a reserve side for the game, saying that it was no reflection on the competition, but he had such a small squad that he couldn't risk injuries or suspensions whilst his side were battling to avoid relegation. Rovers lined up as follows:
Mark Stevens, Nigel Patterson, Steve Yates, Lee Howells, Nicky Tanner, Jason Eaton, Ian Weston, Gerry Francis, Richard Dryden, Martin Boyle, Christian McClean
Substitutes: Marcus Carota for Francis, David Mehew for Dryden.

The match report read as follows:

"It was a hard fought game and a credit to the young players on both sides. Rovers rookies contributed fully to a really entertaining first half, yet found themselves 3-0 down at the interval as Paul Fitzpatrick, Steve Galliers and John Pender all scored. However, Rovers launched several dangerous attacks and Jason Eaton forced City 'keeper Mark Coombe to make two fine saves and Ian Weston and Lee Howells shot narrowly wide."

The second half proved to be an anti-climax, apart from Rovers consolation goal, scored by substitute Carota, with a 30 yard volley on 71 minutes, which Coombe could only get a hand to as it fizzed into the roof of the net.

The report concluded that no youngster on either side shone as an obvious future league player.

In the case of Boyle, Carota, Howells, Patterson and Stevens, the report was correct, as they never did make a league appearance in Rovers colours. However, like Bert Edwards and Cowan and a number of others before them, they can at least say they came as close as they possibly could.

Jock Rae was one of nine former professionals in Bristol Aeroplane Company's 1939 Western League side. Back row (left to right) Jack Hutchinson (manager), Fred Light (committee), Don Clark (Bristol City), Tom Maddison (Mansfield), John Calderwood, Frank Warhurst (Plymouth), Les Mealing (Bristol Rovers), Cliff Thomas (trainer). Front row: Harold Butt (Charlton and Aldershot), Ken Chilcott (Bristol City), George Kirk (Bristol City), Jock Rae, Bert Edwards (Bristol Rovers), John Farthing (Yeovil and Peters United).



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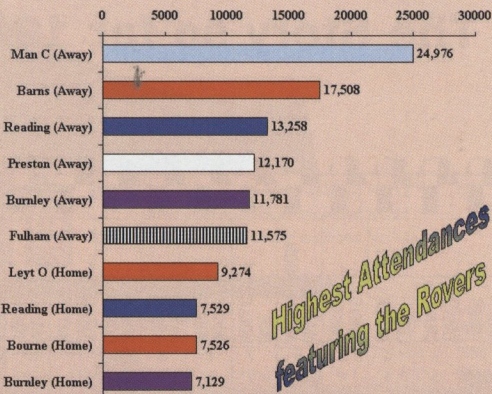
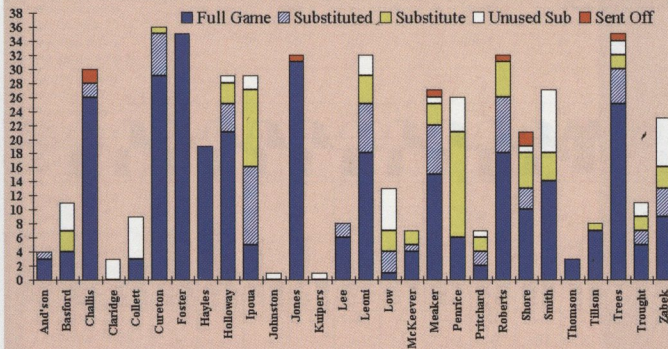
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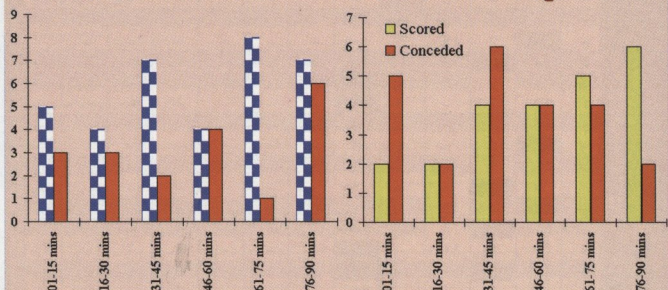
Spencer's Stats

Season 1998-99 Appearances

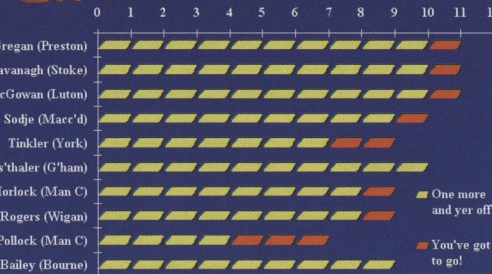


Highest Attendances featuring the Rovers

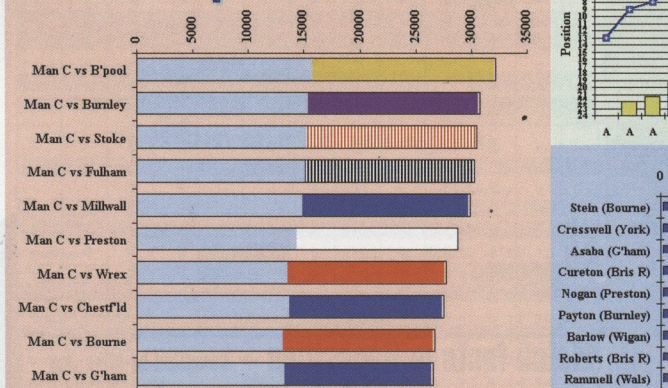
Goals at Home and Away



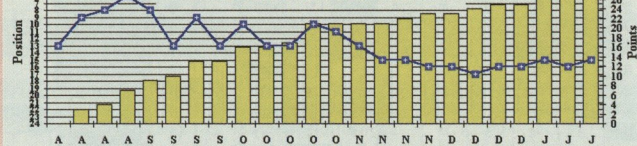
Div II Naughty Boys



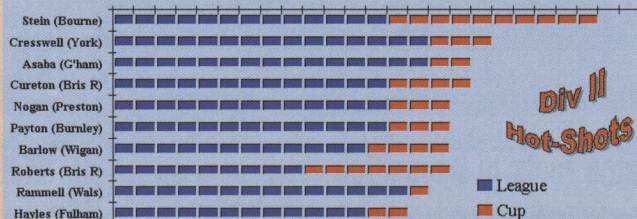
Div II Top Attendances



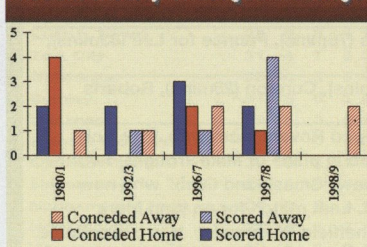
POINTS/POSITION



Division II Top Scorers



Recent History of League meetings

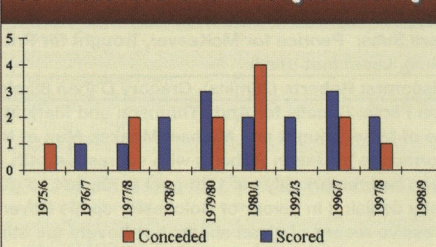


Rovers have had 69 league encounters with The Hatters

	W	D	L	F	A	% Success
H	16	11	7	66	40	69.57
A	4	8	23	34	87	14.81

Biggest Home Win....	5	0	1920/1
Biggest Home Defeat...	2	4	1980/1
Biggest Away Win....	4	2	1997/8
Biggest Away Defeat...	0	12	1935/6

Our most recent home league meetings



NOT THE BACK PAGE

IN RESERVE

In spite of goals from Jason Grange and Michael Meaker, our reserves lost 4-2 to Exeter in a South West Trophy match at The Hand Stadium, Clevedon on 3 February. However, Garry Thompson was far from downhearted about the result. "We're trying to have a look at all of our second year trainees and its good for them to get as many games under their belt as possible and although we were beaten, I learned a lot about them. It was also good to see some of our experienced players get in a full game. Andy Tillson's fitness is getting a lot better and he came through the game well, as did Michael Meaker, who had a very, very good second half. Josh Low also had a good game and we're looking for them all to kick on and show the manager that they should be

in contention for a first team place." It was the first time Garry had seen some of the younger players in action. "I'd seen Bobby Zamora play down at Plymouth, but he was carrying a bit of an injury in that game, so this was the first time I'd seen him play when he was fully fit. Jason Grange nicked a goal and looked very sharp and it was the first time I'd seen Ali Hines. He enjoyed it, but was disappointed we conceded four goals, though I have to say that two of them were very dubious. They're all getting used to me, but they need to be playing regular reserve team football, so that we can form a decent opinion about them. The thing that disappointed me most about the game was that we got done on set pieces. Its something we have really got to tighten up on, but we'll

work on that and sort it out for next time. The biggest problem when I came here was that there was too long between games. If you can get games coming thick and fast, the youngsters and the senior players will benefit which, in turn, makes the club stronger as a whole." TEAM: HINES, WATTS, BASFORD, SMITH, TILLSON, ADAMS, MEAKER, ZABEK (L), ZAMORA, GRANGE, LOW SUBS: LEONI for ADAMS, PENDRY and GILROY (Not used)



MICHEL KUIPERS

likes of Jamie Shore coming back and getting in a full game, obviously helped, but I was very impressed with the youngsters when they came on in the second half. Michel Kuipers made a very good save in the first half, before we scored and that kept us in the game at the time. He commanded his area well and looks like he's going to be a useful asset to the club." Rovers seemed to relax a little after going 4-0 up. "We keep impressing on the lads that the manager now has very high standards at this club and I told them we had to keep things going. We scored a fourth goal after two very good bits of play involving Mike Adams, but then we took our foot off the gas and got a little bit sloppy before Bobby slotted home our fifth goal. Bobby hadn't been happy with his game against Plymouth and Exeter, and although I've heard a lot about him, this is the first time I've seen what he can do and in this match he proved what a good player he can be. Tom White gave us a fright when he went down injured, but it proved to be only a dead leg and although we wanted him to come off, he was having none of it, which shows what character he's got. We played Stephane Leoni out wide on the left in the first half after watching him in training and he did very well. I was happier about our defending from set pieces in this game but I still feel we can do better and we'll be striving to improve on that. Finally, I have to say I was impressed with our young lads. The likes of Dave Watts, Mike Adams, Dean Pendry and Bobby Zamora all did well and were a credit to Phil Bater."

TEAM: KUIPERS, WATTS, BASFORD, LOW, SMITH, TILLSON, SHORE, ADAMS, MEAKER, IPOUA, LEONI SUBS: WHITE for SMITH, ZAMORA for MEAKER, PENDRY for WATTS

ROVERS vs LUTON TOWN



Referee:

GEORGE CAIN

(Seaforth, Merseyside)

George, a 42-year-old butcher, is paying his second visit here this season, having taken charge of our FA Cup tie with Welling. Now in his sixth season on the league panel, George has previously taken charge of a Rovers league fixture five times.




LUTON TOWN

1. **Kelvin DAVIS**
2. **Gerry HARRISON**
3. **Graham ALEXANDER**
4. **Matthew SPRING**
5. **Sean DYCHE**
6. **Marvin JOHNSON**
7. **Sean EVERS**
8. **Paul McLAREN**
9. **Gary DOHERTY**
10. **Andrew FOTIADIS**
11. **Ray McKINNON**

Assistant Referees:

D. BRAMMER 
(Banwell)

P. J. PROSSER 
(Innsworth, Glos)

Fourth Official:

P. LARDER
(Wookey, Nr Wells)

BRISTOL ROVERS:

1. **Lee JONES**
2. **Dave PRITCHARD**
3. **Trevor CHALLIS**
4. **Jamie SHORE**
5. **Steve FOSTER**
6. **Andy THOMSON**
7. **Ian HOLLOWAY**
8. **David LEE**
9. **Stephane LEONI**
10. **Jamie CURETON**
11. **Jason ROBERTS**

SUBSTITUTES

12. **Rob TREES**
13. **Gary PENRICE**
14. **Mike TROUGHT**

SUBSTITUTES

12. **Alan WHITE**
13. **Phil GRAY**
14. **Jimmy COX**

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