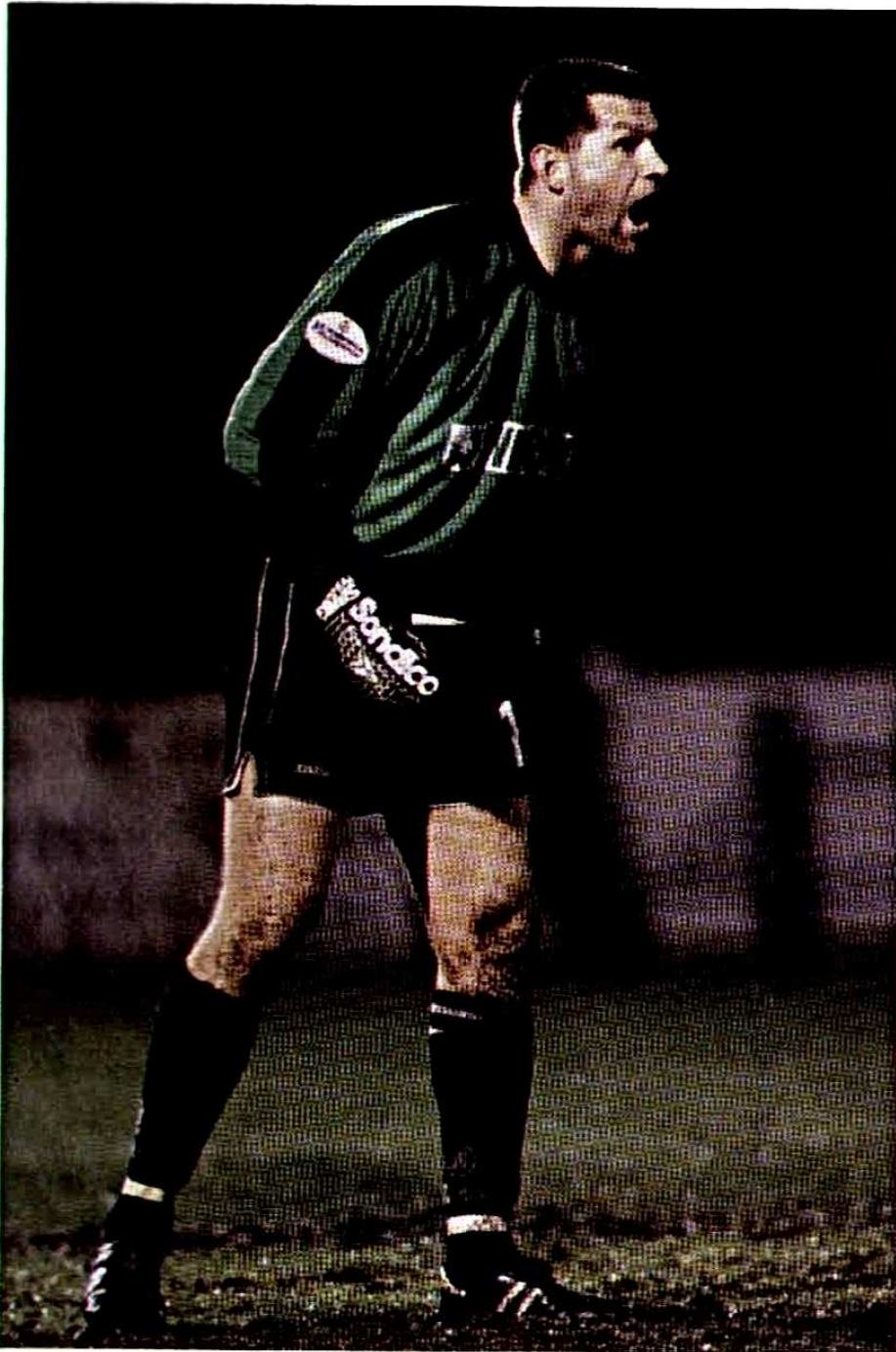


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Nationwide League Division Two

Friday 22 February 2002 Kick Off 7.45pm @ Prenton Park



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Chairman

Lorraine Rogers

Directors

Mick Horton

Richard Hughes

Associate Directors

Tony Adams

Norman Wilson

Secretary

Mick Horton

General Manager

Julian Naylor

Club Honours

Worthington Cup Finalists 1999-2000

Leyland DAF Cup Winners 1989-90

Leyland DAF Cup Finalists 1990-91

Welsh Cup Winners 1934-35

Welsh Cup Finalists 1933-34

Division Three North Champions 1937-38

Promoted to Third Division

1966-67 1975-76 1988-89

Division Three Play-off Winners 1990-91

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Tranmere Rovers Football Club

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We're still nicely placed on the edge of the play-off zone and I am still full of confidence that we can break into the top six before the end of the season.

Recent league results have been good and, while our performance in the last home game against Northampton was nothing to write home about, the three points were all that mattered on the day and it was great to see a couple of goals going in, into the second half.

The cup match at Tottenham was a great experience for the lads and we went there and enjoyed ourselves. They are a better side than we are and it showed in the final result, but I was pleased with the fact that we at least went to White Hart Lane and caused them some problems.

We could have had a couple of goals as well and it would have been nice had we taken one or two of our chances. I felt the scoreline was a bit harsh on the day but we gave a good account of ourselves and I couldn't ask for more than that.

I said all along though that the cup game was a chance for the lads to play against some top class players and the result wasn't the be all and end all.

We knew all along that the match at Oldham on Tuesday was going to be of far more importance to our season.

Considering we played on the

Sunday, I thought we did really well at Oldham. The conditions were terrible and the rain was lashing down throughout the match, but we played some excellent football at times.

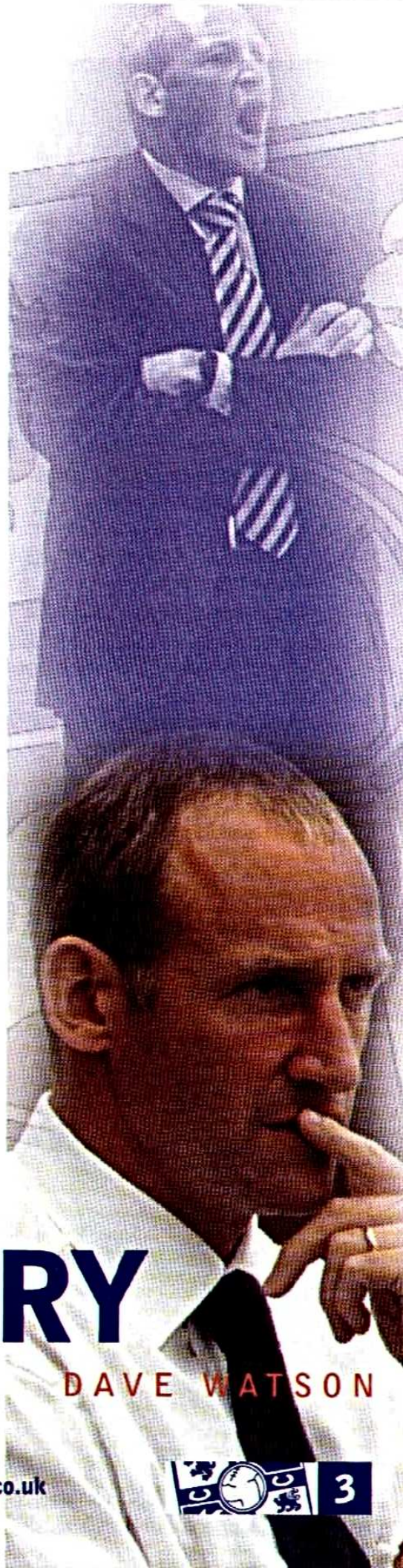
When you are a goal up at half time it's always disappointing not to come away with the three points, but Oldham put us under pressure in the second half and I can't complain with the final result being a draw. It was about right on the balance of play.

Jason Price missed a great chance to put us 2-0 up and if that had gone in then I am confident we would have gone on to win the game comfortably. But when those sort of chances don't go in you are always leaving yourselves vulnerable at the other end and that's what happened.

We've played a lot of football over recent weeks and we're conscious of the need not to burn the players out. We've tried to maximise their rest in between matches to make sure the batteries are fully charged for the next game.

Tonight's match is another big one for us. We always seem to do well in night matches under the floodlights so let's hope that is the case again this evening.

We should have beaten Swindon at their place earlier in the season but we had to settle for a point after conceding a late goal. Hopefully we can make amends tonight and pick up three big points...



ELEMENTARY

DAVE WATSON

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I get so many requests to bring back Friday night football. As I've explained in this column before, unfortunately because of The Football League's agreement with pools companies we can only have three Friday night home games a season.

At a time when The Football League is actively looking for ways to help small clubs generate more revenue, perhaps they would consider a change to the rules if clubs could demonstrate that Friday night football would attract more support.

Our only other Friday night game this season attracted a gate of 10,282 compared to our average of 8,772. Tonight's game has been actively promoted by our friends at Buzz FM, Wirral Globe, Radio Merseyside and the Daily Post and, with their help and yours, I hope the gate is sufficiently high to enable me to put a compelling argument to The Football League so that we may be able to bring back Friday night football.

You may have read in the local press or on the website details of the Club's financial results for the year ended 30 June 2001.

The key figures are set out below together with comparable numbers from previous years.

	1997 £	1998 £	1999 £	2000 £	2001 £
Turnover	3,490,314	3,832,510	3,189,603	5,262,079	5,029,339
Operating loss before transfer fees and amortisation	1,954,185	1,829,983	1,401,184	196,989	49,766

This shows how the cost base has been managed over the last two years to minimise our reliance on "forced"

player sales. The financial stability allowed us to retain some extremely talented players that in previous years we would have been forced to sell to balance the books.

Professional football clubs' finances are no longer of interest only to benefactors, bankers and shareholders, they are of legitimate interest to all supporters. They help to explain why a club operates as it does and, to some extent, guide expectations as to what the club can or cannot reasonably afford to do. If the finances are right, there is a greater chance that "the dream" we share will become a reality

Once a year, shareholders get a chance to discuss financial issues with the Board at the AGM but this is restricted to the areas of formal statutory business - just the matters shareholders need to approve as a matter of law. Most supporters are interested in broader financial issues and have questions that don't relate to formal statutory business. Football finances may seem complicated - just look at those of some Premiership clubs - but there should be no mystery surrounding our finances and I would like supporters - whether or not they are shareholders - to feel that they understand how and why we operate as we do. For this reason we have decided to hold another official Club supporters' event (our fifth so far this season) at which you can put your questions about football finances in general and the Club's finances in particular, directly to me. The supporters' forum will be held at the Club on Friday 8 March 2002. Details of how you can obtain tickets will be available on the Club website (www.tranmererovers.co.uk) or from the Ticket Office or Club Shop from Monday 25 February 2002.


I hope you enjoy the game tonight and will join me in welcoming our visitors from Swindon Town Football Club.

LORRAINE ROGERS

from THE TOP

For the latest news and information visit www.tranmererovers.co.uk





Bart Griemink
Giant keeper signed by Colin Todd on a free transfer in the summer of 2000. Griemink is a former Dutch Under-21 international who spent a successful loan spell with The Robins two years ago as cover for Frank Talia. He came to English football in 1995 with Birmingham and deputised competently for the injured Ian Bennett, playing in the 1995 League Cup semi-final. He then followed Barry Fry to Peterborough United but lost his place to the promising Mark Tyler. Griemink started the 2000-01 season as first choice goalkeeper and even deputised as captain, but ended up on the bench as Steve Mildenhall took his place in goal following two dismissals and a lengthy suspension. Has played every game this season and has been one of the most consistent performers, is currently enjoying a tremendous run of form.

Sol Davis
The left back who progressed through the youth team at Swindon to make his debut in 1997 just after his 17th birthday. He played in more than half the games in the 2000-01 season and was a regular again the following season. A committed player, Davis' main problem is his aggressive nature, which results in frequent suspensions. He was booked 14 times in 2000-01. He is a

quick and hard-working player and will no doubt figure in Andy King's plans this year. Rumour had it that Colin Todd was to take Davis with him to Derby, but he went on to become one of Town's most consistent performers. Has returned to the club from a lengthy injury and looks like he has never been away, sparking interest from other clubs once again. If only he could curtail his aggressive nature then he wouldn't miss so many games through suspension!

Matthew Hewlett
An attacking central midfielder, Matt Hewlett was once tipped for the top by all at Ashton Gate. The former Bristol City player was called into the England Under 21 squad, but a number of injuries curtailed his flourishing career. Hewlett made over 100 appearances for City, but left them to join the Robins on a Bosman in the summer of 2000. He was a regular for Colin Todd until being hit by injury again and went on to play 26 league games, the skilful, passing midfielder didn't open his account for the club in his first year. A regular this season until a reoccurrence of his knee injury kept him out but he is now back in the centre of Town's midfield

Adan Willis
Centre back who was revitalised under Colin Todd. Willis arrived at the County Ground in 1998 on a free transfer from Coventry and was Steve McMahon's last signing for The Robins. He scarcely figured for Jimmy Quinn and was allowed to go on loan to Mansfield after being told he could

leave Swindon. But Todd liked the tall defender and gave him a new contract. Willis was a regular in the first half of the following season and scored his first goal for Swindon in the 4-1 win against Ilkeston in the FA Cup. A trainee at Coventry, Willis never made the break through to the Sky Blue's first but has recently made the centre-back position his own in Alan Reeves' absence.

Bobby Howe
Attacking, skilful midfielder Stephen (who likes to be known as Bobby) often bears the brunt of the crowd's frustration at the County Ground. Howe had a disappointing start to his Swindon career, but recovered to become a regular in their relegation season of 1999-2000 season and was expected to leave Swindon that summer. But he impressed Colin Todd in training and pre-season friendlies and earned a place in the team. Nonetheless, he was criticised by fans during poor results last season. Howe began his career with Nottingham Forest, where he showed promise but only started nine games. Only scored once in the league in the 2000-01 season and missed much of the second half of the campaign through Achilles Tendonitis. Has become a more integral player this season and scored a wonder-goal at Wolves.

opposite NUMBERS

SWINDON TOWN

Guiliano Grazioli
Robin's fans had high hopes of London-born striker Grazioli for the 2000-01 season. His form was one of the few positive aspects of a disappointing campaign during previous season. Grazioli's eight goals from only 11 starts compared well with many of his team-mates and with fellow forwards Chris Hay and Iffy Onuora sold, Grazioli was expected to be the spearhead of Swindon's attack the following season. Instead, after a disappointing start, he largely featured as a substitute and netted only two goals (albeit with one against Oxford), leaving the striker to prove himself again. Grazioli was signed for Peterborough from non-league Wembley in 1995. His goalscoring record for Fry's Peterborough was impressive: 16 in 23 league starts. While on loan at Stevenage, he scored the goal that knocked Swindon out of the 1999 FA Cup. Jimmy Quinn was impressed and signed him that summer. Has scored eight this season but seems unable to hold down a regular place, despite being a crowd favourite.

David Duke
Left-sided midfielder that arrived on a free transfer from Sunderland in 2000. Unfortunately, Duke never managed a start for the Black Cat's first team. Duke appeared regularly in his first season with the Robins. He combined well with Sol Davis down the Robins' left and is a good crosser of the ball. Duke can also play at wing-back and will want to build on a decent start for Swindon. Consistency is the key for Duke



who has shown glimpses of what he is capable of, especially when running at defenders with the ball.

Juan Cobian

Attacking right back who chose Swindon instead of his former club Sheffield Wednesday in the summer of 2000. Argentinian Cobian played for Boca Juniors before moving to Hillsborough in 1998. He was subsequently sold to Charlton and Aberdeen without playing much first team football. Made only three league appearances in his first season for the Robins, with Mark Robinson the normal right back. Talented though Cobian is, he needs a regular spell of first team football to prove what he can do.

Danny Invincible

Australian midfielder who endeared himself to the fans having been recommended to Colin Todd by Harry Redknapp at West Ham. Danny subsequently joined the Robins on a free transfer. After a slow start (although he did score on his debut against West Brom), Danny showed the club what he was capable of with five goals in four games in October/November last season. The former Marconi Stallion and Aussie Under-21 star would later become Town's top scorer with ten goals, arguably his most important coming in the last home game of the season against Peterborough in the ninetieth minute. Danny is at his most dangerous when he is running at defenders and he has been ever present again this season with nine goals to his name - attracting a lot of interest from a number of clubs. A crowd favourite.

Steve Robinson

Tough-tackling, energetic right-footed midfielder terrifier signed from Birmingham City for £50,000 in February 2001, he was an automatic choice for the Robins for the remainder of the season. Found in the centre or right of midfielder, Robinson likes to win the ball and pass it on quickly. A former Birmingham trainee, he broke into the Blues team under Barry Fry but has constantly been dogged by injuries that have limited his first team chances. He made over 50 league starts for Blues, but almost joined Sheffield United in 1999, only to fail the medical. Involved at the start of the 2000-01 season, but was transfer-listed by Trevor Francis in November after failing to hold down a regular place in the first team squad. Looks set to be a part of King's plans this midfield and is looking to add to

the two goals he scored against Oxford last season.

Alan Young

Still only eighteen, Young is one of Swindon's brightest hopes for the future. Having already played for England's Youth team, Young has risen from Town's youth set up to the fringe of the first team squad via the Reserves. Scoring goals for fun with the youth side, Young more than held his own in the club's second string and marked his first team debut in the FA Cup by scoring against non-league Ilkeston Town. Unfortunately he was unable to command a place due before an ankle injury sidelined the youngster. King has made his admiration for the youngster very clear and he could well figure in his plans this year. Has made two substitute appearances this year although the crowd would like it to be more.

Paul McAreavey

Northern Ireland Under 21 international midfielder who holds the dubious distinction of being the first player sent-off for his country at that level. Made his first two appearances for Swindon as a substitute against Norwich and on another substitute appearance, he netted his first Swindon goal against Oldham in March 2001, impressing with his lively movement. Has figured several times this season and has impressed in the centre of the park.

James Williams

Teenage defender who first played for Swindon at the end of the 1998-9 season when just 16 and appeared in more than half of the Robins' games the following campaign. A quick right back who is composed in possession, Williams only played seven league games in the 2000-1 season. However, with Mark Robinson returning to form and the further signings of Juan Cobian and Andy Gurney, has

struggled to earn a place since.

Matthew Heywood

Heywood failed to break through at Burnley's Turf Moor and, after being alerted as to his availability by Shaun Reid, Andy King snapped him up on a free transfer. Has signed until the end of next season and has shown in the few games that he's played, just how good a player he is. Strong in the tackle and good in the air, Heywood could prove to be a great asset to the club. It is no coincidence Town's defensive record improved dramatically following his arrival and he has recently signed a new one year deal.

Andy Gurney

Andy joined Reading from Torquay in January 1999 for £100,000 as an attack-minded, right-sided defender who can also play in midfield. He started his career at hometown club Bristol Rovers, where he spent four seasons before moving to Torquay for one year and impressing during their surge to the play-offs. Established a regular starting place with Reading in 1999/2000 and figured in the Royal's promotion push last year. Was keen to join Town after the impressive performance against Reading and King snapped him up on a Bosman. Crowned an impressive home debut performance against Tottenham with a long-range goal. Has captained the side in Reeves' absence and scored two at Colchester.

Craig Farr

Goalkeeper who was an unused substitute for the Robins in the 2000-1 season and will hope the departure of Steve Mildenhall gives him more of a chance. Has impressed greatly when given the chance in Town's second string.

Eric Sabin

Few have heard of the young Frenchman, but if he is half as good as King says he is, then Town supporters could be in for a very exciting season. Sabin joins Town from French Second Division club Wasquehal who finished 18th last season. Sabin contributed with seven goals in 58 starts but King describes his style of play as that of Thierry Henry. King was invited to watch the lightning quick striker, but deliberately asked Sabin's agent not to tell him which player he was watching. After just a few minutes, King asked if he was lucky enough to be watching Sabin and he was subsequently snapped up on the 25th June.



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injuryTIME

LES PARRY

That's the wettest I've ever been in my life! Except of course when my mum used to bath me and my three brothers in the kitchen sink. That was embarrassing, especially when my mates called around to go out to the pub. At least the water in the sink was tepid, the rain at Oldham was freezing, especially when it soaked through my tee shirt.

The one good thing about the Oldham match was that we appeared to have got through without any significant injury problems. This morning (Wed), Clint Hill, Johnny Achterbung, Paul Rideout and Jason Koumas have all been in for treatment on little niggles that should have cleared up by today. Clint and Paul are the two dodgiest as theirs are hamstrings, which you are always a little unsure about.

Whilst on the topic of the Oldham match, did you see the picture of Nick

Henry in the programme? Who said football is an easy career? Any job that can make somebody change from looking like a fresh faced fairly acceptable young man to how Nick looks today can't be that easy. I've always wondered what Vicky saw in him and to be fair I now realise, he must have had a hell of a wallet. I bet she now lies in bed staring at his face thinking "What the flippin heck happened to you?" If I were her I'd sue Sheffield Utd. It must have been his time there that did it to him because he looked young at Oldham and he was ugly when he landed at Tranmere so it could only have been Sheffield that did it to him. I don't want to be too hard on him as we are quite close now. We seem to have grown closer since people started mistaking us for twins. Anyway, happy birthday for today Nick.

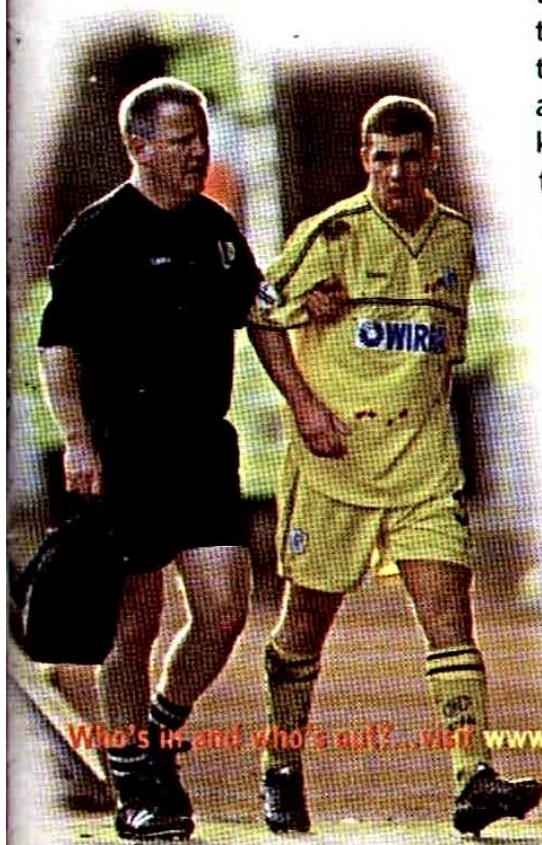
The reason I'm nattering on about things unrelated to injuries is that I'm trying to stay away from the topic that makes me squirm just thinking about it. It's like a nightmare and it's keeping me awake at night, I'm even thinking of packing my job in because of it. I'm going to have Sean Flynn with me for 6 weeks. I'd rather spend forty years in a one-man cell with Johnny Achterbung's bad breath than spend 6 weeks with Sean Flynn. Don't get me wrong, It's not the fact that I don't like him, I don't but that's not the reason, in fact he is quite good company for me as we are the same age.


It's the fact that he is a vegetable grower and I refer plants and flowers. How can I possibly spend six weeks with somebody who has got an allotment. No I'm not messing, he's got one of those allotments with a greenhouse built of old wooden window frames and plastic bags.

Sean broke his little toe 4 weeks ago and has been playing in great pain ever since. The problem is that it hasn't healed as expected and so he is having to go into Murrayfield to have it wired together to make sure it heals. (I wonder if they could do his jaw at the same time?) It has been getting sorer each match so we have decided that he should get it done now so that he will be back before the end of the season and, fingers crossed, will be available if we get into the play-offs. One of the reasons I dreading him being with me is that for the first three weeks he won't be able to do anything and he will moan like hell. I am considering getting a bank loan and sending him to the other side of the planet for those three weeks, it will be worth it. Sean will be having his operation tomorrow morning so if you see him in the stand be careful that you don't tread on his toe.

I've got to go now, I've got Reuben Hazell in for treatment. He's up north for a couple of days and sends everybody his regards. (He's grown his hair and looks like one of the Jackson 5)

Hoping there is nothing report next time.





Rovers defender Graham Allen is well aware that Rovers are entering the most crucial stage of what is proving to be an intriguing promotion battle.

Dave Watson's side are currently just outside the treasured play-off places but, with games in hand on most of their rivals, there is no doubt that the pre-season aim of an immediate return to first division football can still be achieved.

But with games coming thick and fast - two a week for the majority of the next couple of months - Allen insists Tranmere need to find a level of consistency to ensure the club's supporters have something to celebrate at the end of the campaign.

He said: "We have battled away over the last six months and we have now put ourselves into a decent position. We have to go and build on that now. It would be a major disappointment if we didn't at least finish in the top six.

"We have been just outside the top six for most of the season - apart from the early stages after we had made a poor start - but the time has come now for us to push on and make teams around us look over their shoulders.

"There have been a couple of occasions this season where we have been within a victory of moving into the play-off places, but we have then let ourselves down by failing to win the next match. The sooner we get into the top six the better because that should then give us the confidence to go on and really stake a claim for promotion."

The majority of Tranmere's remaining fixtures will be played away from Prenton Park - the result of a couple of postponed games earlier in the campaign.

On paper that makes Tranmere's promotion goal all the more difficult, but Allen doesn't necessarily subscribe to that theory.

He says: "Our away performances this season have been good. We have picked points up on a regular basis and we always look capable of winning games on our travels.

"We haven't done as well as we would have liked at Prenton Park this season, for some reason. Recently we have had to settle for a couple of goalless draws from matches we would have expected to win. Opposing teams know we are one of the better sides in the league and so it's understandable that when they come to our place they look to frustrate us and make it difficult for us to break them down at the back.

"We haven't helped our own cause at times by playing below our usual standards, but there's no doubt if we'd

THE PRENTON PLAYERS

graham **ALLEN**



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Our travelling support has been fantastic this season and the fans have really got behind us away from home. Hopefully that will continue through to the end of the season because they really can make a difference.

performed a little better at home then we would have a few more points on the board right now.

"There's nothing for us to fear away from home in this division. We always give 100 per cent effort and commitment and that is why we have earned quite a few good results on the road. We have lost a few games as well - that's only to be expected - but I certainly don't see the fact that we have more away games than home as any sort of problem for us.

"Our travelling support has been fantastic this season and the fans have really got behind us away from home. Hopefully that will continue through to the end of the season because they really can make a difference."

Allen has struck up an impressive centre back pairing with club skipper Clint Hill, but both players know a young player who has really come to the fore this season is lying in wait to claim a place if either suffer a dip in form.

Allen says: "Iain Sharps has done a terrific job for the side whenever he has played. I am sure he will go on to play a lot of first team games for this club in the future.

"It's always a bit nerve-wracking when you break into the first team for the first time, but he has handled the situation extremely well. He has given a good account of himself in each of the matches he has played and he will be pleased to get that sort of experience under his belt.

"It's good for the gaffer to know he has options in that area of the field and it means if myself or Clint pick up an injury then there's no major problem because Iain can come in and do a good job for the team.

"I think we have been looking quite solid defensively over recent league matches and that is largely due to the fact that we have a settled look about the back line. When you have that continuity it always helps you play better as a unit.

"We need to keep being tight at the back over the remainder of the season because we can't afford to give soft goals away with the games starting to run out. As I said earlier, we always look like we'll score goals ourselves so if we can keep things solid at the back then we should pick up enough wins between now and the last game to make sure of a play off place."



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STATISTICS 2001/2

Results & Fixtures 2001/2

Wed 15 Aug	Sheffield United	H	1-2
Thu 23 Aug	West Brom. Albion	A	0-0
Wed 29 Aug	Oldham Athletic	A	2-1
Wed 5 Sep	Burnley	H	3-0
Wed 12 Sep	Preston North End	A	5-2
Wed 19 Sep	Wrexham	A	5-4
Wed 26 Sep	Barnsley	H	2-2
Wed 10 Oct	Huddersfield Town	H	1-0
Wed 17 Oct	Stalybridge C. (CC1)	A	1-2
Wed 24 Oct	Stoke City (LC-G1)	A	4-1
Wed 31 Oct	Rotherham United	H	0-0
Wed 7 Nov	Port Vale	A	3-0
Wed 14 Nov	Wolverhampton W.	A	0-1
Wed 28 Nov	West Brom. Albion**	H	3-2
Mon 3 Dec	Warrington T. (LSC2)	A	3-0
Wed 5 Dec	Sheffield United	A	1-3
Wed 12 Dec	Oldham Athletic**	H	2-1
Wed 19 Dec	Wrexham (LC-G1)	H	1-3
Wed 9 Jan	Burnley	A	1-1
Wed 16 Jan	Preston North End**	H	2-0
Wed 6 Feb	Kidderminster (LC-G1)	A	0-0
Wed 13 Feb	Huddersfield Town	A	0-2
Wed 20 Feb	Barnsley	A	
Thu 7 Mar	Sheffield United (LC-QF)	H	
Mon 11 Mar	Liverpool (LSCSF)	H	
Wed 13 Mar	Rotherham United	A	
Wed 20 Mar	Port Vale	H	
Wed 27 Mar	Birmingham City	A	
Wed 3 Apr	Birmingham City	H	
Wed 10 Apr	Wolverhampton W.	H	
Wed 17 Apr	Wrexham	H	

**Played at Vauxhall Motors FC KO 7.30pm

Avon Insurance League Cup - Group One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wrexham	3	3	0	0	10	4	9
Tranmere R.	3	1	1	1	5	4	4
Stoke City	3	1	0	2	5	9	3
Kidderminster H.	3	0	1	2	2	5	1

Next Home Game:

Avon Insurance League Cup Quarter Final
v Sheffield United Reserves

Thursday 7 March 2002

Kick Off 7.00pm, Played @ Prenton Park

Admission: £3/£1 - Season tickets cannot be used for this fixture.

Avon Insurance League Premier Division

Huddersfield Town Reserves 2 Tranmere Rovers Reserves 0

Wednesday 13 February 2002 @ The McAlpine Stadium Att: 119

Tranmere: Murphy, Hinds (Taylor), Olsen, Linwood, Harrison, McGuire, Brown, Morgan (Jennings), Thornton, Robinson (Rooney), Hume. Subs not used: Ralph, Griffiths.

Mike Newell's side went down to their fourth defeat of the season with a 2-0 defeat at the McAlpine Stadium against Huddersfield.

Coming just days after the first team went down to Lou Macari's side, it represented an impressive double for the Yorkshire outfit.

Richard Hinds and Alan Morgan both played for an hour as they continue to press their claims for first team action, but in truth there were few positives to take from the team's performance.

Leon Knight gave Huddersfield the lead after 30 minutes and the points were made safe in the second half when Delroy Facey doubled Town's lead.

Tranmere did have chances to get back into the match but on the day their finishing in front of goal wasn't good enough and they were left to reflect on what might have been as three points slipped away.

Paul Robinson and Paul Brown both had early chances for Rovers and Steven Jennings went close in the second period, but they were the few highlights on a disappointing afternoon for Newell's men.

However, it wasn't all doom and gloom

as Rovers maintained their position at the top of the league table.

Rovers were in action at Barnsley on Wednesday night - a report on the game will appear in our next programme.

Meanwhile Rovers have finally arranged two second string cup games in early March.

Sheffield United Reserves will visit Prenton Park on Thursday 7 March for our Avon Insurance League Cup Quarter Final (kick off 7.00pm).

Liverpool then provide the opposition in this seasons' Liverpool Senior Cup semi-final, which will also be played at Prenton, on Monday 11 March (kick off 7.00pm).

Admission for all the above matches will be £3 Adults and £1 Concessions. We regret that season tickets cannot be used for either of these fixtures.

Re-arranged league games include Birmingham City (home) on Wednesday 3 April, and Wrexham on Wednesday 17 April (home). The latter replaces next Wednesday's game which should have been played at Vauxhalls, but which has now been postponed due to Wrexham Reserves' cup commitments.

PLEASE NOTE:

Next weeks scheduled Reserve Home Fixture with Wrexham Reserves, due to be played at Vauxhalls FC, has now been cancelled.

Please check the TRFC website for more details...

ROVERS RESERVES

UNDER 19

youngONES

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE



Youngsters clinch a 'double'...

Football League Youth Alliance
North West Conference

Tranmere Rovers 3 Carlisle United 0

Friday 15 February 2002 at Ingleborough

Tranmere: Sanna, Griffiths, Baker, Linwood, Taylor, Dunbar, Jennings, Hooper, Brown, Robinson and Rooney.

Subs not used: Carroll, Ralph, McGuire.

Rovers youth side kept up their impressive run with a 3-0 win over Carlisle United.

Goal from Paul Robinson, Karl Dunbar and an own goal sealed the win and preserved Tranmere's place at the top of the table.

It was a comfortable performance and victory by Rovers after an impressive start saw them take the lead after just five minutes.

Paul Linwood played the ball out of defence to Thomas Rooney, whose lay off found Paul Brown who in turn fired a cross for Robinson to side foot home.

Karl Dunbar made it 2-0 on 25 minutes with an excellent goal, stepping over and spinning to receive a lay off from Robinson before finishing very well.

The visitors were reduced to 10 men after 30 minutes for violent conduct.

The second continued in the same vein with Rovers continuing to dominate possession and chances and it seemed ironic that the third goal came from one of the Carlisle defenders.

Paul Robinson crossed from the left flank that was met by the unfortunate visiting defender, who converted well.

Tranmere squandered several more chances to increase the lead but overall John McMahon was impressed with his side's play and attitude. Following Preston's defeat by Burnley the following day, Tranmere were subsequently crowned winners of the Football League Youth Alliance North West Conference.

Currently five points clear of the Lilywhites, with only three points left to play for, it's all over bar the shouting.

Rovers now face Burnley away, in the final match tomorrow before they move into the Merit division stage of the competition, where

the top three from each the North Central, North West and North East Conference play off.

Lancashire FA Youth Cup Semi-Final

Tranmere Rovers 4 Blackpool 0

Monday 18 February 2002 at Prenton Park

Tranmere: Sanna, Taylor, Dunbar, Griffiths, Linwood, Jennings, Hume, McGuire (Scott 68), Robinson, Rooney (Carroll 78), Brown (Hooper 46).

Subs not used: Paithorpe (GK) and Dagnall.

Rovers youth side sailed into the final of the Lancashire Youth Cup with a 4-0 drubbing of Blackpool.

Goals from Iain Hume, Steven Jennings and two from Thomas Rooney sealed the side's path to the final, where they will play either Oldham or Wigan.

The win looked inevitable from kick off, as Rovers dominated in all areas of the pitch and proved just why they have lost only 4 games this season.

Iain Hume gave Rovers the lead after just 16 minutes, when his header from 6 yards out was fumbled by the Blackpool keeper Mark Russell and ended in the back of the net.

Thomas Rooney doubled the home side's advantage on 25 minutes, when he netted his fourth goal of the season. Paul Linwood rose above the Blackpool defence to flick on a corner for Rooney to stab home, from just a few yards out.

Rovers continued to dominate the opening half and should have gone in at the break more goals the good, but at 2-0 they were coasting. Thomas Rooney got his second of the night just on the hour mark, when he latched onto a good through ball from midfield. The youngster did well in the one on one situation and coolly slotted home past Russell.

Steven Jennings completed the rout with just a minute to go, when he rounded the hapless Blackpool keeper and passed the ball into the empty net.

All in all another impressive performance by Rovers' youngsters as they go in search of their first piece of silverware.

Results & Fixtures 2001/2

Sat 18 Aug	Oldham Athletic	A	2-1
Sat 25 Aug	Rochdale	H	3-2
Sat 8 Sep	Burnley (A/C)	A	2-1
Sat 15 Sep	Wigan Athletic	H	3-0
Sat 22 Sep	Blackpool	A	2-1
Sat 29 Sept	Carlisle United	A	1-0
Sat 6 Oct	Bury	A	2-1
Sat 13 Oct	Blackpool (A/C)	H	5-1
Sat 20 Oct	Preston North End	H	2-3
Fri 26 Oct	Wigan Athletic (FAYC1)	H	4-2
Sat 3 Nov	Preston North End (A/C)	H	2-0
Tue 13 Nov	Rochdale (FAYC2)	H	5-0
Sat 17 Nov	Wigan Athletic	A	5-3
Sat 24 Nov	Blackpool	H	5-1
Mon 26 Nov	Burnley (FAYC1)	A	5-0
Sat 1 Dec	Hartlepool United (A/C)	A	*1-2
Mon 10 Dec	Sheffield Wed. (FAYC3)	H	4-1
Sat 15 Dec	Bury	H	1-0
Sat 12 Jan	Preston North End	A	1-1
Sat 19 Jan	Burnley	H	2-1
Wed 23 Jan	Aston Villa (FAYC4)	A	**3-4
Sat 2 Feb	Oldham Athletic	H	1-2
Sat 9 Feb	Rochdale #	A	4-3
Fri 15 Feb	Carlisle United	H	3-0
Mon 18 Feb	Blackpool (LFAYCSF)	H	4-0
Sat 23 Feb	Burnley	A	
TBC	Oldham/Wigan (LFAYCF)		

*AET (1-1) **AET (2-2) #Played at Ingleborough
Merit Division matches commence Sat 2 Mar

Next Home Game:

TO BE CONFIRMED

Log onto the Official
Website For More Details

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE
YOUTH ALLIANCE



15

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VAUXHALL

fanBASE

CLIFF STEVENSON



Tottenham Thoughts

- I was amazed at how poor the Tottenham support is. They had a good turnout and considering they are on their way to a cup final it was very surprising not to hear more noise. One possible reason why is that they have no chance really to warm up before the game. For those not there, Tottenham have large TV screens above each goal and for 10 mins before the match a history of Spurs was played with very loud music. Even the SWA had trouble making itself heard above the noise. That may send a shiver down the Spurs supporters backs but it silences the crowd for 10 minutes.

- The ground is incredible. We were very high in a corner of the ground, yet the view was superb. How different their stadium is since the last time we visited it. With noisy fans it would be an incredible atmosphere as it almost completely enclosed.

- The TV screens are brilliant. A bit of a distraction sometimes, but excellent for seeing replays of goals, fouls etc.

- Pathetic policing outside the

ground. As others have already pointed out, a big group of Spurs fans taunted the SWA as we walked out. Luckily it was all talk but if it had turned nasty it would have been a little while before police arrived. Surely one place where you put police is at the first point at which the two sets of fans meet....not exactly rocket science.

- I was very disappointed in Spurs. Compared to our last 2 FA cup exits (Newcastle & Liverpool), Spurs played nowhere near as well as either of those other teams.

- Hoddle was right in post match summary. The difference in the divisions showed. Spurs actually created very little. I think we dominated the midfield for the whole match. We had much more possession, even in the first half. What we didn't do was create a lot of chances and when we did we did

not put them away (we also had no luck). They also created few chances but when they did, to be fair, they did put them away (with a bit of luck). This was the real difference... they have genuine goalscorers.

- All in all I came away feeling very positive. I think it was a fantastic performance and the



crucial thing now is that we continue to play with that spirit tomorrow.

- My last word, as always, is saved for the SWA. What great supporters we are. We sang through thick and thin and it was a really good turnout.

A SUPPORTERS VIEW

Be a part of the team...visit www.tranmererovers.co.uk



BIKEATHON APPEAL

Tranmere Fan Doug Shaw 'Snoop Dougy Doug' is currently looking for sponsors as he prepares to get on his bike and ride from London to Tranmere during the first week of April. All funds raised will be split equally between Tranmere Rovers Youth Development and the British Heart Foundation. If you would like to sponsor Snoop, contact Barbara on 0151 522 0698 or email Bikeathon2002@hotmail.com for more details

GIRLS SECURE FA CUP SEMI-FINAL TIE

Tranmere Rovers Ladies overcame Oldham Athletic Ladies (see right hand column for details) to book their place in this seasons' AXA FA Women's Cup Semi-Finals.

Rovers eliminated Sunderland, Wolves and the Latics respectively to earn the right to face Doncaster Belles on Sunday 31 March - here at Prenton Park (kick off 3.00pm) - with BBC 1 covering highlights later on in the evening.

Doncaster knocked out Arsenal last weekend (2-1), while the other semi-final on the same day will be contested by Charlton Athletic and Fulham at Highbury.

The final will be played at Selhurst Park on Monday 6 May with a 3.30pm kick off, live on BBC.

Watch this space for more details...

POSTPONED PROGRAMMES

Attention all those fans who take their programme collecting seriously. We have managed to obtain a very limited amount of match programmes from our postponed away fixtures at both Peterborough (Dec 22) and Oldham (Jan 1). Subject to availability, copies are available (one per customer) at £2.00 plus postage (50p), via the Editor and at the club address. Both issues are now confirmed as 'deleted' items, and could make any Tranmere programme collection just that little bit more interesting.



ROVERS secured their place in the Semi-Finals of the AXA FA Cup for only the second time in their history, after beating Oldham Athletic 6-1 at Heswall.

Jody Taylor's hatrick was just one of the highlights of an exciting game, and now means Rovers will meet Doncaster Belles at Prenton Park on Easter Sunday (31 March). This weekend however they turn their attentions to important League matters with a trip to the South Coast to face Southampton Saints.

With other results not really going in favour of Tranmere last weekend, Rovers must take three points to avoid being dragged into the National Division relegation dogfight.

More games to come include Arsenal Doncaster and Barry Town at home, while trips to Charlton, Everton and Sunderland take up the rest of the remaining fixtures. For further details on all these future games can be obtained by ringing 0151 609 3334...



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Next Game: AXA National Division
versus Doncaster B.

Sunday 17 March 2002
Kick Off 1.00pm @ Heswall FC
Free Admission - Programme £1.00

Results & Fixtures 2001/2

Sun 19 Aug	Brighton & HA	A	0 - 1
Sun 26 Aug	Leeds United	H	3 - 3
Sun 2 Sep	Doncaster Belles	A	0 - 0
Sun 16 Sep	Southampton Saints	H	3 - 0
Sun 23 Sep	Newport County (E.C.)	H	5 - 1
Sun 30 Sep	Barry Town	A	2 - 1
Sun 7 Oct	Everton	H	2 - 3
Sun 26 Oct	Brighton & HA	H	4 - 1
Sun 4 Nov	Barry Town (E.C.)	H	*0 - 1
Sun 25 Nov	Leeds United	A	4 - 3
Sun 9 Dec	Arsenal	A	0 - 2
Sun 16 Dec	Sunderland	H	1 - 3
Sun 23 Dec	Sunderland (FAC1)	H	4 - 2
Sun 20 Jan	Charlton Athletic	H	1 - 1
Sun 10 Feb	Wolves (FAC3)	H	6 - 1
Sun 27 Feb	Oldham Athletic (FAC2)	H	0 - 1
Sun 24 Feb	Southampton Saints	A	
Sun 3 Mar	Sunderland	A	
Sun 10 Mar	Charlton Athletic	A	
Sun 17 Mar	Doncaster Belles	H	
Sun 24 Mar	Arsenal	H	
Sun 31 Mar	Doncaster Belles (FAC3F)	N	
TBA	Everton	A	
TBA	Barry Town	H	

*AET



prentonPUPS

LEVER FABERGÉ

LES SANDS



Good Evening everybody and a warm Prenton Pup welcome to the fledgling 'Red Robins' who have flown in from Wiltshire for tonight's game. We wish you and your fellow supporters a safe journey home.

Our February Meeting (continued)

After Clint Hill and Gareth Roberts had left the meeting the Pups settled down to take part in the 'Tranmere Quiz' with John Achterberg. Initially, John tossed a few sweets to the Pups giving the correct answers to Tranmere questions but then felt sorry for the others. This proved that the Pups either don't get fed at home or they - like any other kids - can't resist sweets! Even after devouring half a ton of chips in the break they flapped like sea lions in the zoo as John started to toss the goodies in their direction!

John still had two tasks remaining for the evening. The first was to draw the lucky numbers in the Pups' raffle. The winning Pups were:- Emma Litherland, Vicky Pinnington and Michael Stewart who each chose a TRFC football - despite them being flat as a pancake! Peter Ferguson and Liam Murphy were rewarded with a TRFC autograph book each. TRFC notepads went to the fabulously named Tatiana Taylor and Gino King and Marc Litherland won a Rovers scarf. Early in the draw Liam Hayward chose a small TRFC Teddy Bear from the seemingly bigger and better prizes on offer. He came up and said "I've got all the others". A fan for life - no doubt. Well done Liam and all.

Finally, John presented the kennel match competition winners with their prizes. Daniel Loughran won no less than 3 times - for the Brentford, Colchester and Peterborough games. Great stuff, Danny!

Other winners were Katie Clough v. Stoke and Trevor Goodwin v. Chesterfield. Our final winner had to be drawn from the hat as Julie Rodger, Liam Sadler and Matthew Ross had all go the same answer from the Port Vale competition. John plucked Matthew's ticket to win his prize.

The Pups gave their 'President' a rousing send off before collecting free England posters kindly donated by Nationwide - Sponsors of the Football League. However if Nationwide's distributors are reading this please note the spelling of Wirral. WIRREL Oooops!!

Birthdays

Our final crop of birthday boys and girls for February are:- Kirsty Turner of Bebington who celebrated her 1st two days ago; Liam Baldwin (13) from Prenton; Bradley Dodd (6) of Eastham and Matt Chadwick of Oxtan.

Due to an oversight I missed that Nick Henry, our all-action midfielder, did have someone who shared his birthday from the Pups' ranks. Ian Seymour from Wallasey was 11 yesterday so hopefully both can have belated presents tonight in the shape of 3 points!

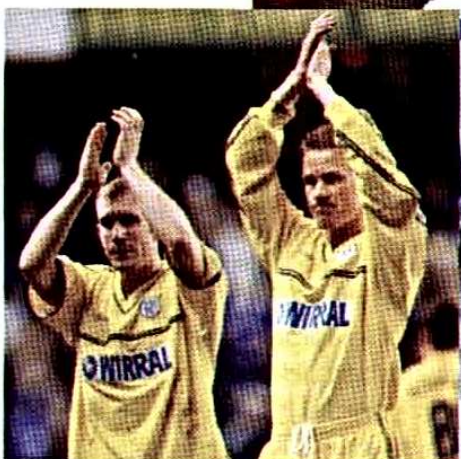
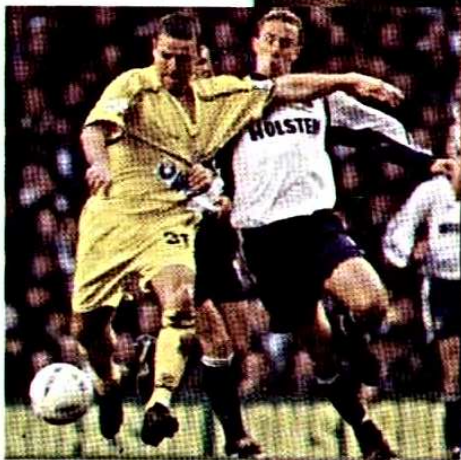
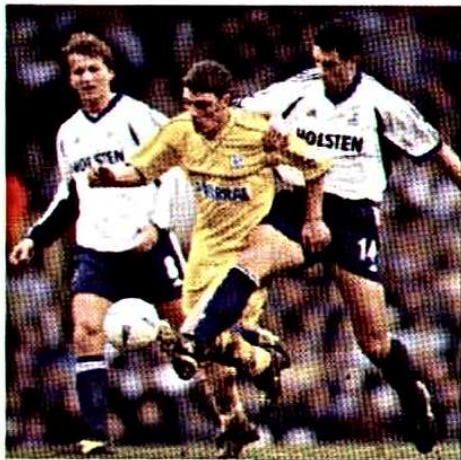
Wrexham

Hopefully, many Pups will be joining 'The Super White Army' on the road to the Racecourse ground next Tuesday with mums, dads, friends and family. Make sure you're all in good voice to shout Rovers on to a much needed victory...

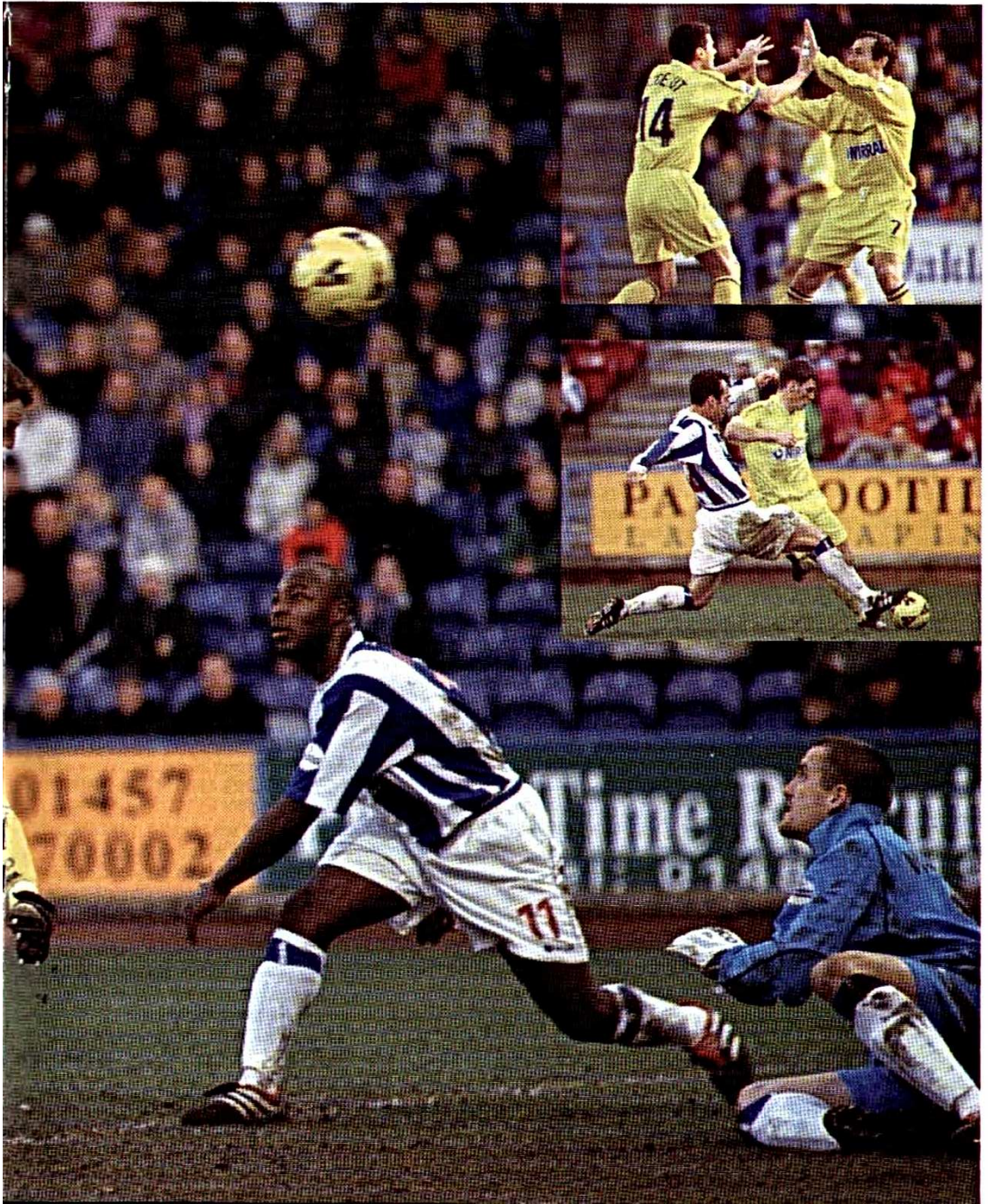
SUPER WHITE ARMY! SUPER WHITE ARMY! SUPER WHITE ARMY!

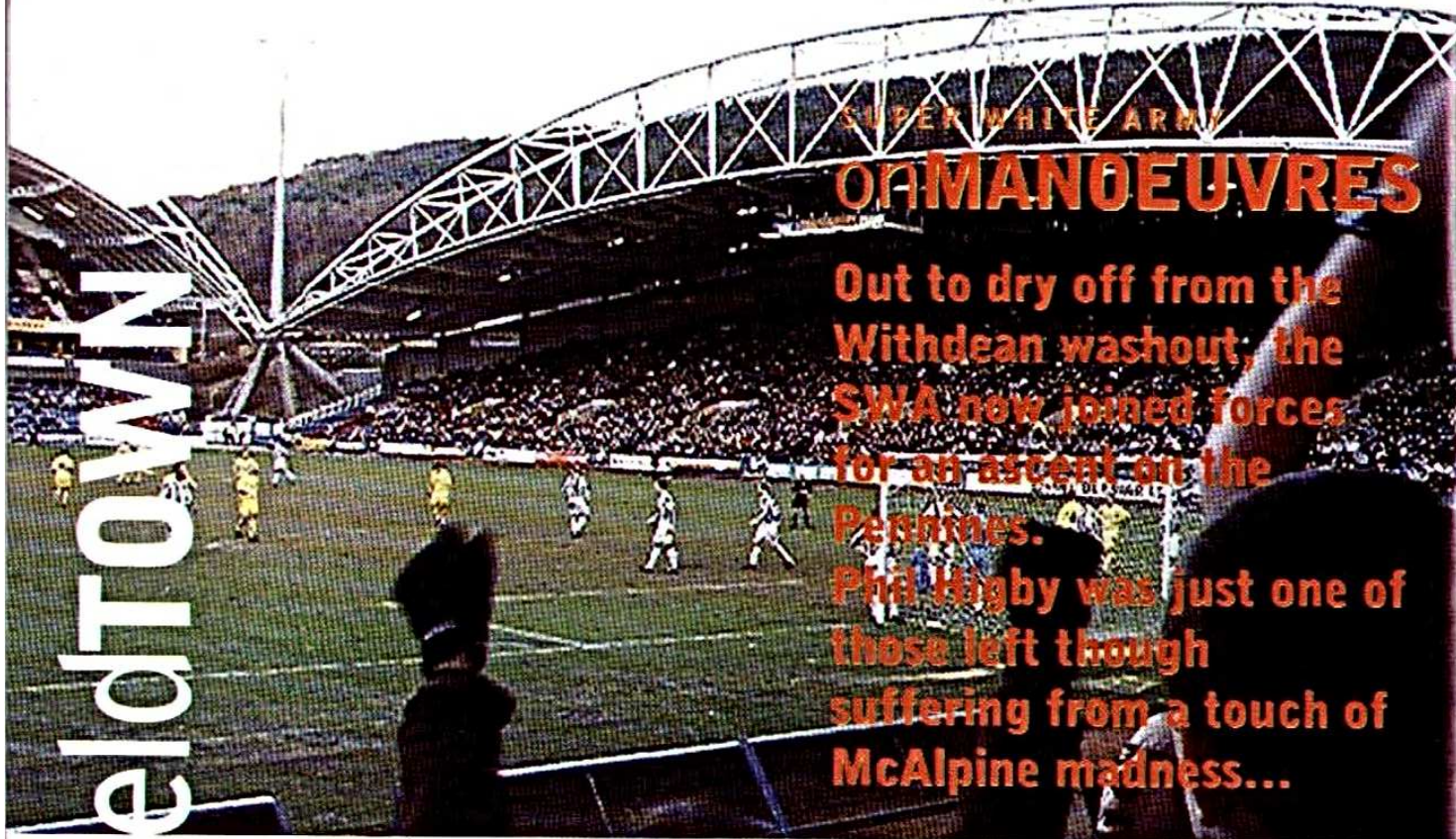


matchACTION



Huddersfield Town 2 Tranmere Rovers 1
Nationwide League Division Two Saturday 9 February 2002
Tottenham Hotspur 4 Tranmere Rovers 0
AXA FA Cup Fifth Round Sunday 17 February 2002





OF MANOEUVRES

Out to dry off from the Withdean washout, the SWA now joined forces for an ascent on the Pennines. Phil Higby was just one of those left though suffering from a touch of McAlpine madness...

'I Believe In Miracles'

(All that pre-match tension) After a disappointing defeat to Brighton in mid-week the SWA were hopeful of at least a point at the McAlpine Stadium, a ground which we do not have a good record at, 11 coaches departed from Prenton Park at around 11.45pm, the car park was a wash with white and yellow, if that didn't get the fans worked up for the game then I really don't know what would. Another defeat would put unwanted pressure on the lads, how would we fair?

'Grand Tourismo'

(Were going surprisingly the right way!) A journey that was short, but the route taken through the town seemed to last forever, the weather had turned from delightful sunshine to rain by the time we arrived in Huddersfield, the short trip up the motorway was indeed just one long convoy of Tranmere coaches, a sight that I suppose in a minute scale was similar to that of Wembley (only we were going the opposite direction) We arrived at the ground around 1.40pm and many fans chose to go straight into the ground to get out of the rain, with the prices reduced to just £5 for admission a big away following was again expected, but just exactly did the McAlpine have to offer us.....?

'Lets Do The Time Warp Again'

(We've seen this ground before somewhere) A superb ground, although it is very very cold! The facilities are outside the stand, in the open so queuing up was a cold job but someone had to do it. The prices were to say the least expensive, £2.60 for a pint of lager, £1.20 for a pie or

pastie, although the pies were nice it is still expensive. Anyway back to the ground, it is now complete and indeed has been for sometime now that concerts are no longer staged there. The Panasonic stand finishes the ground off, there are no obstructed views at this ground which is similar to that of Bolton's (I will get told off for swearing now!) I have to say that the ground is not the best in the division, but it is still a ground worthy of first division football. As for the away end we had around three thousand seats to attempt to fill, the stand is near the coach park and indeed away fans can park their car in the car park, if that fails then there are plenty of places to park around the ground. The one thing I did notice is that our stand was still waiting to be cleaned after the last away following, torn newspaper, cartons, bottles were lying around under the seats, well at least they were where I was sat.

'Stand By Your Man'

(The team lines up) Actherberg, Yates, Roberts, Sharps, Hill (C), Navarro (Mellon), Flynn (Price), Henry, Koumas, Rideout (Allison), Barlow
Subs Not Used: Murphy, Parkinson

'Band On The Run'

(Away support) 2,214 - Another superb following, and one which I doubt we will better this season. The away end was nearly full and to be honest it gave me confidence that we could get at least a point. As usual the vocal support was excellent, and it must give the lads a lift to walk out and see that many SWA fans in the away end.



The performances have dipped a little in recent weeks, and to be honest the support hasn't been as good as the team would probably have like. But away from home we can compete with anyone, and we usually do. Although the Terriers had a big following they were very quiet, and the main reason for that was their side's performance. It's support like this we will need over the closing months of the season if we are to push for promotion, so let's get as many people as possible to the remaining away games to get behind the lads.

'Wake Me Up Before You Go'

(The home support) A big turnout, but you could almost mistake them for cardboard cut-out's at times, although they had little to cheer about until the closing minutes, even then they didn't really make much noise. The original songs were out 'sign on, sign on, with hope in your heart etc...' I suppose there was a section of the main stand by us that sung a few songs but they were really quiet, and only lasted a few verses. That's really all there is to say on the home supporters, hoping it's as quiet as that at Tottenham.

'Stand And Deliver'

(What about the game?) Personally, this is our best performance since Boxing Day. We created so many chances but once again we couldn't put the ball in the back of the net. And that will be our downfall this season, for 70 minutes we played Huddersfield of the park, limited them to very few chances. Jason Koumas was superb, and showed how vital he is to this side. Without him we would lack a playmaker, Alan Navarro was taken of early on after a dubious challenge with a Town player left Navarro on the floor covered in his own blood. Mickey Mellon came on for Navarro and shortly after the game took a turn for the better. Paul Rideout started a move off in midfield and sprinted into the box to meet Flynn's cross with a sweet volley into the bottom corner. Chance after chance was then spurned, Jason had a free kick tipped onto the bar, had a shot tipped wide shortly before half time. Huddersfield weren't at the races. But many of the fans could sense that one goal would not be enough. Half time Huddersfield 0-1 Tranmere

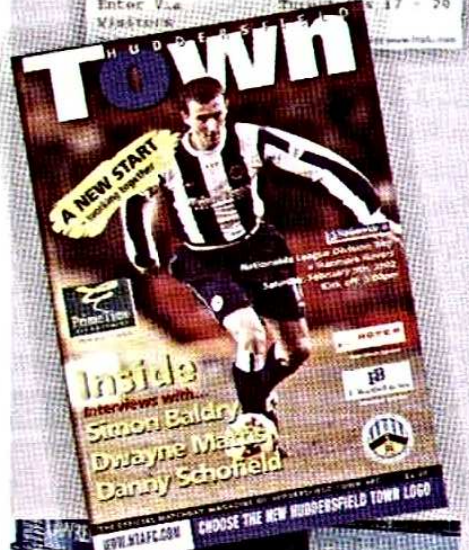
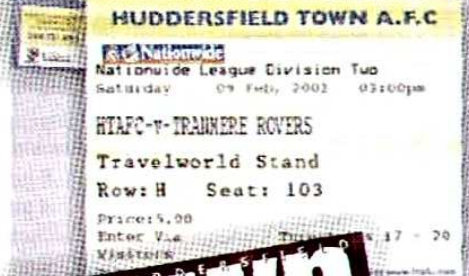
The second half started with the Jason Koumas show, he was taking the ball round the Huddersfield team as if they weren't there, he dragged one shot narrowly wide and set up Stuart Barlow for another, Paul Rideout missed a header from 12 yards out before he was substituted. Wayne Allison had the same fate later on, his header going over the bar from a similar position. The game was starting to go Town's way, decisions from an awful referee we going to them, players were getting what they wanted, their first goal came from a poor defensive header by Barlow, the ball was pinged around the area and the shot deflected of the excellent Ian Sharps and past the wrong footed Atherberg. We knew what was coming next, a defensive collapse, poor marking let in Wihnyard to add to Armstrong's leveller. The performance was to say the least good, but missed chances and poor defending toward the end of the game cost us, and if we can't iron out these problems then life is going to become much more difficult over the coming weeks. A few fans thought that this was inevitable, the 1-0 wins in recent weeks have come about by luck, the performances have been less inspiring, but I would take 1-0 wins every week. We as the fans have to stay behind the lads and hope they can find the back of the net on a much more regular basis again.

Man Of The Match- Jason Koumas, he was superb and showed his quality, and his frustration at the end, without him we wouldn't be as high as we are in this division, well played Jason, lets hope you can keep it up and indeed we can keep him!

'Tell Me Why, I Don't Like Monday's'

(The final word) Two defeats on the run, by the time you read this it could be more, lets hope not. The long ball tactic is too similar to that of last season, and the defensive collapse was certainly from day's gone by. The F.A cup is without doubt a money-spinner, but at what cost to our league form? To win at Spurs will be great and by the time you read this we will no the result, but I would much rather we go out now, with respect and get our promotion push back on track. The support was again superb, lets hope the following's will grow both home and away between now and the end of the season.

*One point of note - well done to Les Parry for beating Town's physio in the race they had in the first half, Alan Navarro was down along with Evans, and our man hammered him in the race to get to the players. Well done Les!!



Goals Info:



Where

Close Range

14 Goals

Inside Area

22 Goals

Outside Area

15 Goals

How

Shots.....21
 Headers.....11
 Volleys.....13
 Penalties...2
 Free Kicks..4
 O.G.s.....0

Top Scorers

Barlow.....10
 Koumas.....7
 Price.....7
 Flynn.....5
 Allison.....4
 Rideout.....4

2001-2002

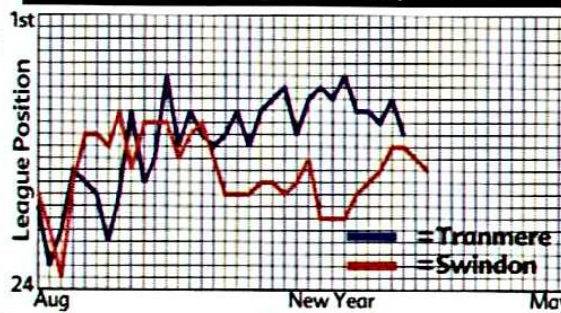
Highest Gate
 12,201
 vs Stoke
 Lowest Gate
 7,342
 vs Peterborough
 Average Gate
 8,772
 Players Used 26
 Clean Sheets 12
 Failed to Score
 6
 Consec. Wins
 3 games
 Consec. Defeats
 2 games

Rovers' Last 10

Res	Opp	Ven	Opp Pos
D	Oldham	A	7th
W	Northampton	H	22nd
L	Huddersfield	A	5th
L	Brighton	A	2nd
D	Chesterfield	H	16th
W	Peterborough	H	15th
W	Bury	A	20th
D	Colchester	H	12th
W	Brentford	H	1st
D	Stoke	H	1st

check out the stats @ www.soccer-stats.com

Seasonal Progress Comparison



Robins' Last 10

Res	Opp	Ven	Opp Pos
D	Reading	H	1st
L	Cardiff	A	10th
L	Huddersfield	H	7th
W	Northampton	H	21st
W	Colchester	A	12th
D	Wrexham	A	22nd
W	Notts County	H	21st
D	Peterborough	A	14th
L	Oldham	A	8th
L	Bristol City	H	3rd

Goals Info:



Where

Close Range

12 Goals

Inside Area

13 Goals

Outside Area

11 Goals

How

Shots.....20
 Headers...2
 Volleys.....7
 Penalties...3
 Free Kicks..3
 O.G.s.....1

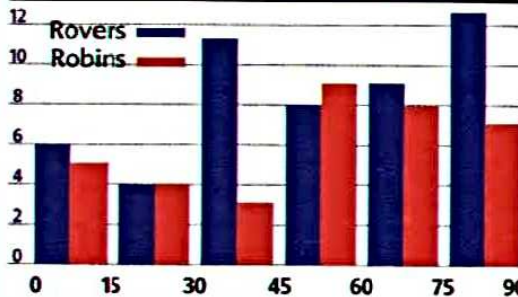
Top Scorers

Grazioli.....7
 Invincible...6
 Gurney.....4
 Sabin.....4

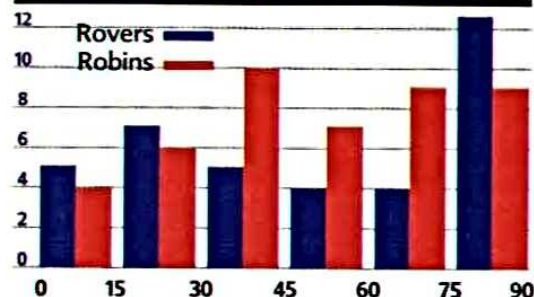
2001-2002

Highest Gate
 9,264
 vs Reading
 Lowest Gate
 3,821
 vs Notts County
 Average Gate
 6,478
 Players Used 28
 Clean Sheets 10
 Failed to Score
 14
 Consec. Wins
 2 games
 Consec. Defeats
 3 games

When Goals have been Scored



When Goals have been Conceded



Stuart Barlow (Tranmere)



6 games
 4 games
 0 games
 2 games

W->L...1 (3pts)
 W->D...1 (2pts)
 D->L...1 (1pts)

Goals.....10
 Games.....24
 Average...0.42

Top Scorers Comparison

Total Games Scored In.....6 games
 Games Scored 1 Goal.....5 games
 Games Scored 2 Goals.....1 game
 Hat-tricks.....0 games

Season's Results and (loss of points) without the two goalscorers goals
 W->L...0 (0pts)
 W->D...1 (2pts)
 D->L...3 (3pts)

2 games.....Maximum scoring run.....3 games
 6 games.....Maximum Dry Spell.....9 games

3 Shot.....4
 1 Header.....0
 4 Volleyed Shot.....3
 2 Penalty.....0
 0 Direct free Kick.....0



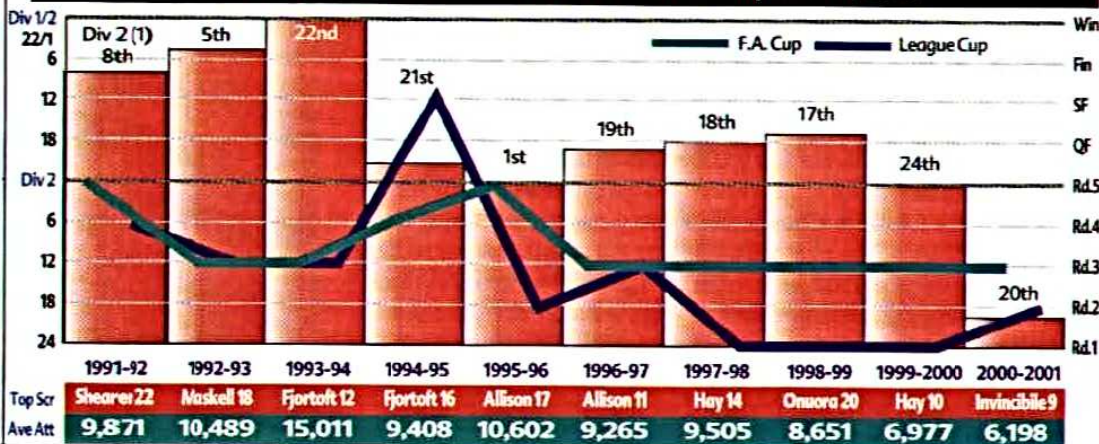
6 games
 5 games
 1 game
 0 games

W->L...0 (0pts)
 W->D...1 (2pts)
 D->L...3 (3pts)

Goals.....7
 Games.....26
 Average...0.27

Swindon Goals.....36
 Swindon Games.....34
 Swindon's Goal Ave.....1.06

Swindon Town's Last 10 Years - The Complete Record



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Galatasaray v Liverpool
 Tuesday 26 February, ITV Sport Plus

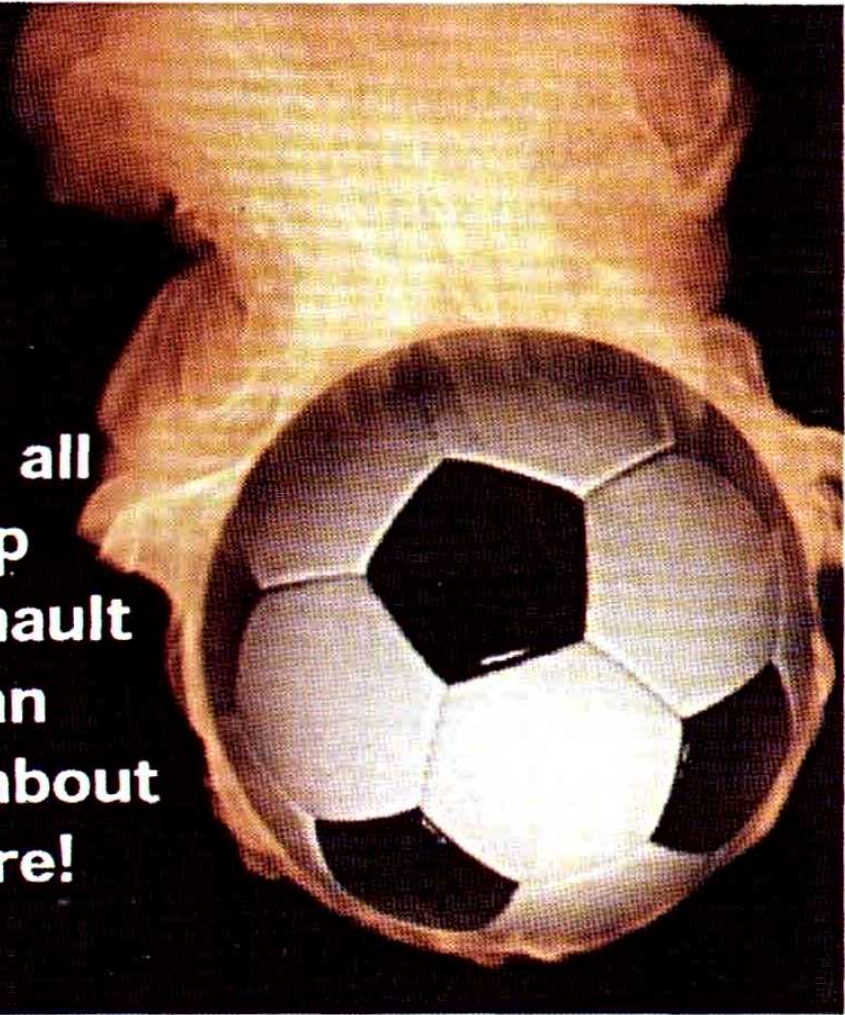
Manchester United v Nantes
 Tuesday 26 February, ITV Sport Channel

Newcastle United v Arsenal
 Saturday 2 March, ITV Sport Select

Manchester City v Coventry City
 Sunday 3 March, ITV Sport Channel

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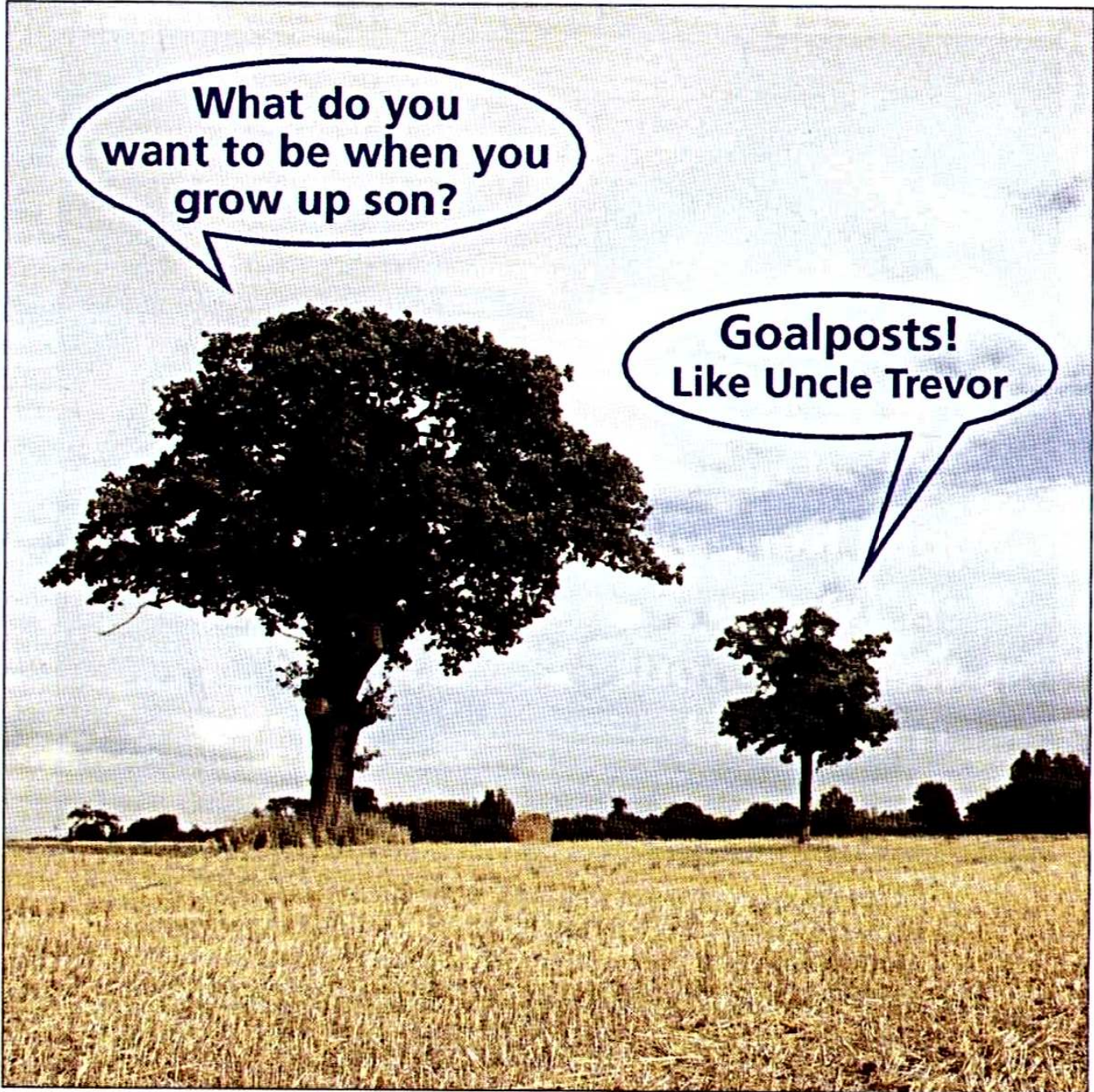


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SMOBY TABLE FOOTBALL FINAL

We have now completed the Smoby Table Football final, which was held in the Prentonian suite at Tranmere Rovers. The five individual school winners who took part were:

- Mark Brown from Hayfield
- Simon Brear from Orrets Meadow
- Daniel Mundy from Stanley
- Joanne from Lindale
- Dan Squibb from Gilbrook

All the children played each other in a mini league with the top two playing off in the final. It was a great afternoon for the children and their supporters who came along to cheer them on especially when Ian Sharps and Richard Hinds put in an appearance.

There were some very close games with all the children putting on a good display of their table football skills. The final was a very tense affair with the game eventually being won by a golden goal.

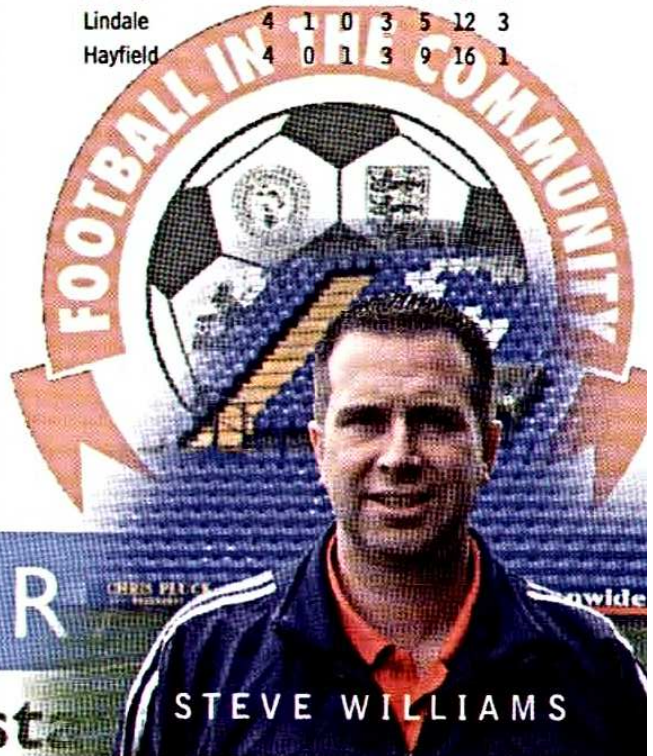
It was Simon from Orrets Meadow and Dan from Gilbrook who won through to the final. The games swung one way then the other and it was very entertaining stuff that had every one who was there gripped. At the end of full time it was 4-4 so the game went into extra time and with both players going close it was Simon who eventually managed to hit a winner to his great delight.

Simon will now go on to represent Tranmere at the next stage, which is being held at Blackburn Rovers on 4th March. I am sure everyone back at Orrets Meadow will be proud of Simons victory and it also made sure that once again it was Orrets Meadow who hold onto their position as table Football champions.

We would like to wish Simon all the best in the next stage and I am sure he will put on a good display on the day.

Results: Lindale 1, Stanley 3: Orrets Meadow 5, Hayfield 1: Gilbrook 5, Stanley 1: Lindale 0, Orrets Meadow 5: Gilbrook 5, Hayfield 4: Stanley 0, Orrets Meadow 5: Lindale 3, Hayfield 1: Gilbrook 2, Orrets Meadow 4: Stanley 3, Hayfield 3: Lindale 1, Gilbrook 3.

FINAL TABLE	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Orrets Meadow	4	4	0	0	19	3	12
Gilbrook	4	3	0	1	15	10	9
Stanley	4	1	1	2	7	14	4
Lindale	4	1	0	3	5	12	3
Hayfield	4	0	1	3	9	16	1



STEVE WILLIAMS

personnel **LIFESTYLE**

ANDY PARKINSON



I was really pleased to come on against Northampton and help the team to pick up three important points - and now I'd love to stay in the first team plans.

It had been a little bit frustrating that I hadn't been in the starting eleven as much as I would have liked, but the team have been picking up some great results and the manager obviously saw no reason to change his tactics.

I have been working really hard in training looking for a chance and I was pleased with my contribution against Northampton. I wouldn't go as far as to say I changed the game or anything like that, but it was nice to be involved in setting up the goal so soon after coming into the action.

I'm the first to admit that my form hasn't been the best this season and in the early months especially I did struggle to impose myself on matches. It was really frustrating for me.

The second division is a hard league and we have discovered that you have to win the right to play in every match before you can produce your passing game. That's what we have looked to do.

We still feel as though we are better than most sides in this league on our day, but we need to be at our best in as many games now until the end of the season because we still have our sights set on promotion. It's a target we set ourselves back in the summer and there's no reason for us to alter our ambitions.

Most of our remaining matches are away from home but I don't see that as being a problem. We have done well on our travels this season and probably should have picked up even more points than we have. I remember a couple of games where we have been leading and then come away with draws or even a defeat. When you think how much of a difference those extra points could have made.....

We are certainly very confident of finishing in the play-offs at the very least. We just need to take things game to game and perform with some level of consistency.

I'll be doing everything I can to make sure I'm involved in all of the remaining games, that's for sure.



The second division is a hard league and we have discovered that you have to win the right to play in every match before you can produce your passing game.

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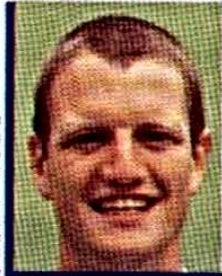
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Sub 1	Sub 2	Sub 3	Sub 4	Sub 5	Referee
Allison	Rahh	Yates	Hume	Gill	G. Frankland
Hume	N'Diaye	Ralph	Hinds	Yates	P.J. Prosser
Flynn	Achterberg	Hume	Hazell	Gill	R. Pearson
Hume	Allen	Achterberg	Hazell	Gill	S.J. Baines
Hume	Thornton	Jobson	Achterberg	Gill	M. Fletcher
Hay	Allison	Achterberg	Hinds	Henry	P. Walton
Parkinson	Achterberg	Allison	Hume	Sharps	M. Cowburn
Sharps	Allison	Achterberg	Gill	Hume	M. Warren
N'Diaye	Rideout	Mellon	Achterberg	Challinor	M. Hulvey
Allison	Mellon	Hume	Challinor	Achterberg	P. Armstrong
Parkinson	N'Diaye	Achterberg	Hinds	Hume	H. Webb
Challinor	Achterberg	Allison	Hinds	Hume	P. Rieger
Allison	Hume	Achterberg	Challinor	Hinds	L. Cable
Parkinson(3)	Allison	Hume	Challinor	Achterberg	M. Clattenburg
N'Diaye	Hume	Allison	Achterberg	Challinor	A. Hall
Hinds	Parkinson	Barlow	Nixon	Allison	I. Bates
Allison	Parkinson	Hume	Hill	Achterberg	J. Brandwood
Achterberg	Parkinson	Allison	Hume	Navarro	P. Joslin
Mellon	Parkinson	Achterberg	Hume	Navarro	R. Harris
Parkinson	Allison	Ralph	Sharps	Hume	M. Ryan
Sharps	Murphy	Mellon	Parkinson	Barlow	P. Alcock
Hinds	Parkinson	Murphy	Barlow	Rideout	G. Frankland
Barlow	Parkinson	Murphy	Rideout	Sharps	M. Fletcher
Murphy	Parkinson	Barlow	Rideout	Sharps	A. Kaye
Sharps	Parkinson	Murphy	Barlow	Rideout	M. Pyke
N'Diaye	Murphy	Barlow	Allison	Sharps	P. Richards
Barlow	Parkinson	Murphy	Allison	Sharps	G. Laws
Barlow	Parkinson	Allison	Nixon	Mellon	R. Fernandez
Allison	Barlow	Murphy	Mellon	Parkinson	G. Hegley
Mellon	Allison	Price	Murphy	Parkinson	P. Richards
Allen	Parkinson	Price	Murphy	Mellon	I. Parkes
Parkinson	Murphy	Barlow	Allison	Hinds	N. Barry

Sub 1	Sub 2	Sub 3	Sub 4	Sub 5	Referee
N'Diaye	Achterberg	Parkinson	Allison	Harrison	G. Salisbury
Thornton	Barlow (p)	Parkinson	Murphy	Sharps	T. Bates
Barlow	Murphy	Parkinson	Rideout	Sharps	P. Armstrong
Parkinson	Murphy	Barlow	Allison	Hinds	A. Kaye
Mellon	Barlow (p)	Murphy	Allison	Hinds	D. Elleray

Sub 1	Sub 2	Sub 3	Sub 4	Sub 5	Referee
Allison	Hume	Achterberg	Hazell	Gill	S. Matheson
Parkinson	Achterberg	Challinor	Gill	Hume	F. Stretton
Hinds	Hume	Challinor	Achterberg	Allison	P. Dowd

Sub 1	Sub 2	Sub 3	Sub 4	Sub 5	Referee
Henry	Thornton	N'Diaye	Ralph	Taylor	F. Stretton

Nationwide League Division Two

	Home					Away					GD	Pts	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F			A
1 Reading	34	11	2	4	29	14	9	4	4	22	15	22	66
2 Brighton	33	13	2	1	30	12	5	8	4	18	21	13	64
3 Bristol City	33	10	4	3	29	15	7	3	6	24	19	19	50
4 Stoke City	34	10	4	3	31	11	6	6	5	19	21	10	50
5 Brentford	33	12	3	1	30	10	4	5	8	19	25	22	56
6 Huddersfield Town	33	10	4	3	27	16	5	6	5	20	18	13	55
7 Oldham Athletic	34	10	5	2	34	14	4	6	7	26	30	14	53
8 Cardiff City	34	8	6	3	20	19	6	5	6	21	21	9	53
9 Queens Park Rangers	34	8	7	2	26	15	6	3	8	19	23	9	52
10 Wycombe Wanderers	33	10	4	2	31	16	4	6	7	17	26	6	52
11 Tranmere Rovers	32	9	6	2	34	13	5	3	7	17	25	13	51
12 Port Vale	34	9	4	4	31	19	5	3	9	14	26	0	49
13 Wigan Athletic	34	5	3	7	25	19	6	6	5	24	22	8	44
14 Colchester United	34	8	4	5	20	22	4	4	9	25	34	-5	44
15 Swindon Town	34	7	5	5	10	17	4	5	0	10	20	-9	43
16 Blackpool	33	5	8	3	23	22	5	4	6	21	30	-8	42
17 Chesterfield	32	7	1	8	27	25	3	0	5	14	19	-3	39
18 Peterborough United	33	7	4	5	37	19	3	4	10	13	26	0	36
19 Bournemouth	33	7	2	7	24	22	1	7	9	16	30	-12	33
20 Bury	34	4	7	6	19	22	4	2	11	13	32	-22	33
21 Northampton Town	33	5	3	9	17	27	4	1	11	19	31	-22	31
22 Wrexham	34	5	5	7	20	25	3	2	12	21	45	-29	31
23 Notts County	34	3	6	8	17	27	3	3	11	20	33	-23	27
24 Cambridge United	33	5	6	6	20	24	0	5	13	11	40	-33	24

Appearances & Goalscorers

Surname	FN	Birthplace	D.O.B	Pos	TOTALS			CLUB		
					A	S	G	A	S	G
ACHTERBERG	John	Utrecht	08/07/71	GK	17	0	0	107	4	0
ALDRIDGE	Paul	Liverpool	02/12/81	MID	0	0	0	0	6	0
ALLEN	Graham	Bolton	08/04/77	DEF	26	1	1	123	7	6
ALLISON	Wayne	Huddersfield	16/10/68	FOR	16	12	5	96	18	32
BAKER	Phillip	Birkenhead	04/11/82	DEF	0	0	0	0	0	0
BARLOW	Stuart	Liverpool	16/07/68	FOR	23	8	13	28	28	17
CHALLINOR*	Dave	Chester	02/10/75	DEF	8	0	0	151	19	6
DREVES	Thomas	Liverpool	23/12/82	FOR	0	0	0	0	0	0
FLYNN	Sean	Birmingham	13/03/68	MID	37	1	10	81	1	12
GILL*	Wayne	Chorley	28/11/75	MID	0	0	0	10	12	3
HARRISON	Danny	Liverpool	04/11/82	MID	2	0	0	2	0	0
HAY	Alex	Birkenhead	14/10/81	FOR	3	1	0	3	1	0
HAZELL*	Reuben	Birmingham	24/04/79	DEF	8	0	0	50	4	1
HENRY	Nick	Liverpool	21/07/69	MID	36	1	2	95	10	4
HILL	Clint	Liverpool	19/10/78	DEF	26	0	2	157	3	21
HINDS	Richard	Sheffield	22/08/80	DEF	2	3	0	40	13	0
HUME	Jain	Edinburgh	30/10/83	FOR	2	11	0	2	25	0
JOBSON*	Richard	Hull	09/05/63	DEF	1	0	0	22	0	0
KOUMAS	Jason	Wrexham	25/09/79	MID	32	0	12	99	36	29
MELLON	Mickey	Paisley	18/03/72	MID	26	5	2	89	20	6
MORGAN	Alan	Aberystwyth	02/11/73	MID	0	0	0	50	26	2
MURPHY	Joe	Dublin	21/08/81	GK	24	0	0	71	1	0
NAVARRO	Alan	Liverpool	31/05/81	DEF	10	0	2	10	0	2
N'DIAYE*	Seyni	Dakar	01/06/73	FOR	8	7	2	13	10	4
OLSEN	James	Liverpool	23/10/81	DEF	0	0	0	0	1	0
PARKINSON	Andy	Liverpool	27/05/79	FOR	15	11	2	128	57	25
PRICE	Jason	Pontypridd	12/04/77	MID	18	2	11	18	2	11
RALPH	Andy	Manchester	28/05/83	GK	0	0	0	0	0	0
RIDEOUT	Paul	Bournemouth	14/08/64	FOR	16	1	5	54	4	12
ROBERTS	Gareth	Wrexham	06/02/78	DEF	38	0	1	124	3	2
SHARPS	Tan	Warrington	23/10/80	DEF	18	3	0	18	4	0
THORNTON	Sean	Drogheda	18/05/83	MID	0	3	0	0	3	0
YATES	Steve	Bristol	29/01/70	DEF	37	1	4	127	5	14
OWN GOALS	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	--	--	--

* no longer with club

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Our Mascots & Officials line up for the pre-kick off photocall...



mascots & matchball

...Gareth Roberts picked up his performance award from our Dixie Dean Members...



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...While Gareth also collected an award for his efforts from our VP members...

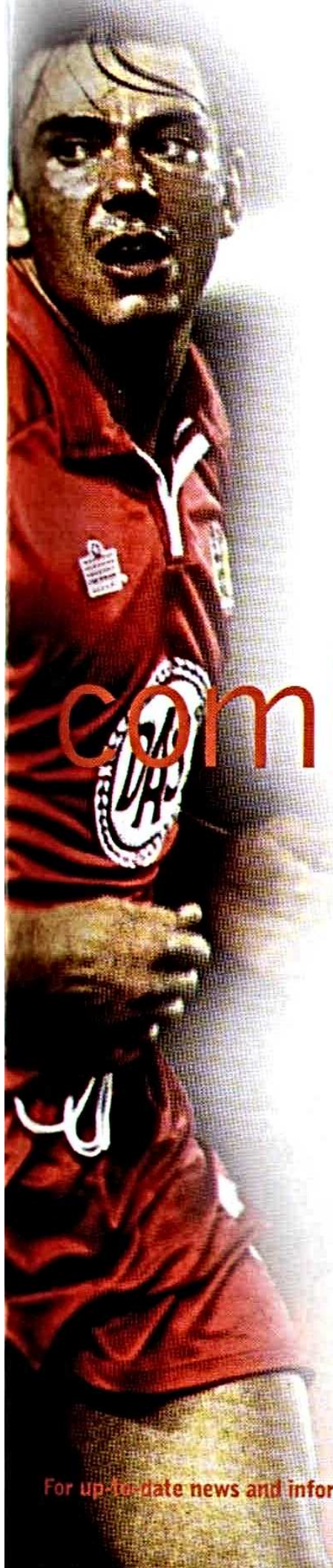


vice presidents

VERSUS CHESTERFIELD SATURDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2002

A big 'thank you' to all our supporters from Radio City and Magic 1548 for £542.80 raised for GIVE A CHILD A CHANCE...





Bristol City are next up for Tranmere at Prenton Park and they will be looking to complete the league double over Dave Watson's side.

Danny Wilson's City outfit are arguably the best side Rovers have come up against so far this season and they will have their work cut out to record a much needed victory in the reverse fixture in two weeks time.

City are still very much in the promotion hunt and are certainly one of the sides expected to finish in at least a play off place.

The experience of Wilson in the managerial hot seat will ensure City stay the pace until the end of the season and, with Rovers desperate for points to aid their play-off ambitions, pressure will be on both sides to secure the points.

Wilson is confident his men have enough quality to secure

coming **NEXT**

promotion this season, but he knows they can't afford to take their foot off the pedal in the final stages of the campaign.

He said: "We have maintained a decent level of consistency this season and that's always important in this league because everything is so tight. It's very hard to predict who is going to finish where at the end of the season but I am confident we can be in the shake-up.

"We've had one or two injury problems to key players but we have a good squad here and I have great belief in any of the lads we have to bring in to cover for injuries.

"I have been delighted with some of the football we have been playing but at this stage of the season it's results that matter. Pitch conditions are poor at the moment and it's a question of which teams have the stomach for the battle. I'm confident my lads have and I have no doubts that we will be in with a chance right until the final ball of the season has been kicked."...

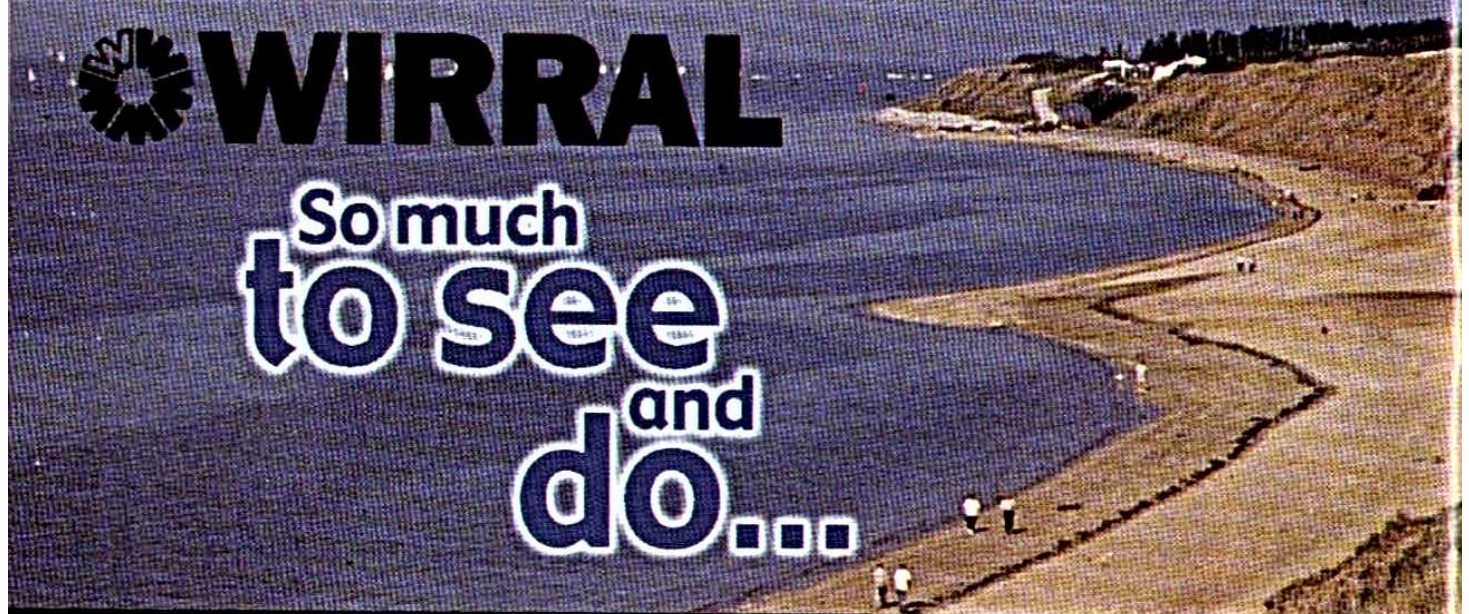
Bristol City
Nationwide League Division Two
Tuesday 5 March 2002 Kick Off 7.45pm





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Wrexham v Tranmere Rovers

Nationwide League Division Two

Tuesday 26 February 2002 Kick Off 7.45pm @ The Racecourse Ground

COACH TRAVEL:

All Coaches depart from Main Car Park, Prenton Park at 5.00pm

Executive Travel: One Price: Members £7 Non-Members £7.50

Standard Travel: Members: Adults £6 Concessions £5.50

Non-Members: Adults £6.50 Concessions £6

MATCH ADMISSION:

Eric Roberts Builders Stand: Cash on the Turnstiles - Adults £14 Concessions (£9 Seniors/U16). You are advised to arrive early.

GETTING TO THE RACECOURSE GROUND:

By Car: A483 along the Wrexham by-pass to the junction with A541. Branch left at the roundabout and follow Wrexham signs into Mold Road.

Nearest Train Station: Wrexham General (Bidston/Chester Line - 5 mins walk)

Nearest Bus Station: Wrexham Town Centre (15 mins walk)

MATCHDAY PROGRAMME: £2.00 **WEBSITE:** www.wrexhamafc.co.uk



Notts County v Tranmere Rovers

Nationwide League Division Two

Saturday 2 March 2002 Kick Off 3.00pm @ Meadow Lane

COACH TRAVEL:

All Coaches depart from Main Car Park, Prenton Park at

Executive Travel Only: Members - Adults £10.00 Concessions £9

Non-Members - Adults £11.00 Concessions £10.00

ALL BOOKINGS FOR THIS GAME MUST BE MADE BY 4.30PM ON THURSDAY 7 MARCH.

MATCH ADMISSION:

Kop Stand: Cash On The Turnstiles. Adults £14 Seniors £8 Juniors 15 and Under £3

A 'Youth Ticket' (ages 16 to 18) can be purchased BEFORE the game from the Notts County Ticket Office Only. You must however provided some printed proof of your age in order to qualify.

GETTING TO MEADOW LANE:

By Car: Exit M1 at Junction 26 following signs (A610) then Melton Mobray and Trent Bridge (A606) signs. Before the River Trent turn left into Meadow Lane.

Nearest Train Station: Nottingham Midland (0.5 miles)

Nearest Bus Station: Broadmarsh Centre

MATCHDAY PROGRAMME: £2.00 **WEBSITE:** www.nottscounty.fc



Tranmere Rovers Ticket Office **0151 609 3322**

On-line ticketing now available...visit www.tranmererovers.co.uk





teamSELECTION

Tranmere Rovers

v

Swindon Town

_____	Joe Murphy	1	_____	Bart Griemink	_____
_____	Steve Yates	2	_____	Mark Robinson	_____
_____	Gareth Roberts	3	_____	Sol Davis	_____
_____	Graham Allen	4	_____	Matthew Hewlett	_____
_____		5	_____	Adam Willis	_____
_____	Clint Hill	6	_____	Andy Gurney	_____
_____	Mickey Mellon	7	_____	Keith O'Halloran	_____
_____	Jason Koumas	8	_____	Bobby Howe	_____
_____	Andy Parkinson	9	_____		_____
_____		10	_____	Giuliano Grazioli	_____
_____	Stuart Barlow	11	_____	David Duke	_____
_____	Alan Morgan	12	_____	Juan Cobian	_____
_____	John Achterberg	13	_____		_____
_____	Paul Rideout	14	_____	Eric Sabin	_____
_____	Wayne Allison	15	_____	Richard McKinney	_____
_____	Sean Flynn	16	_____	Neil Ruddock	_____
_____		17	_____	Danny Invincible	_____
_____		18	_____	Bertie Brayley	_____
_____	Richard Hinds	19	_____	Matthew Haywood	_____
_____		20	_____	Paul Edwards	_____
_____	Ian Sharps	21	_____	Gareth Davies	_____
_____	James Olsen	22	_____	Alan Reeves	_____
_____	Iain Hume	23	_____		_____
_____	Alex Hay	24	_____	Dominic Foley	_____
_____	Paul Aldridge	25	_____	Steve Robinson	_____
_____	Danny Harrison	26	_____	Alan Young	_____
_____	Phillip Baker	27	_____	Paul McAreavey	_____
_____	Sean Thornton	28	_____	Nathan Edwards	_____
_____	Thomas Dreves	29	_____	James Williams	_____
_____	Andy Ralph	30	_____	Craig Farr	_____
_____	Nick Henry	31	_____	Kevin Halliday	_____
_____	Eric Nixon	32	_____		_____
_____	Ryan Taylor	33	_____		_____
_____	Jason Price	34	_____		_____
_____	Alan Navarro	35	_____		_____

Half Time Score:

Full Time Score:

Goalscorers:

Red Cards:

Yellow Cards:



Today's Officials

Referee

Mr. G. Salisbury

Assistant Referees

Mr. I. D. Shaw

Mr. E. J. Tarry

Fourth Official

Mr. J. F. Tatton



This Weekend's Division Two Fixtures

Blackpool v Huddersfield

Brentford v Notts County

Brighton v Wrexham

Bury v Bournemouth

Cardiff v Cambridge

Chesterfield v

Northampton

Colchester v Bristol City

Peterborough v Oldham

Port Vale v QPR

Reading v Stoke

Wigan v Wycombe

Next Home Game: Nationwide League Division Two

Versus **Bristol City**

Tuesday 5 March 2002 Kick Off 7.45pm



All information in this programme
is correct at time going to press