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Nationwide League Division Two

Swindon Town

Saturday 8 February 2003

Kick Off 3.00pm at Prenton Park





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1966-67 1975-76 1988-89
Division Three Play-off Winners 1990-91

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thisissue

Nationwide League Division Two
Versus Swindon Town
Saturday 8 February 2003

8

Andy King and his Swindon side come to Town...



12

Are you about to land on Tranmereworld?...



32

Bobbing along for a date with 'Wadney' - at Cheltenham...



38

Danny Harrison up next to fill us in on his personal file...



the full run down...

4	BENCHTALK	30	PASSION FOR PROGRAMMES
7	FROM THE TOP	31	FAN BASE
8	OPPOSITE NUMBERS	32	SWA ON MANOEUVRERS
12	TRANMEREWORLD	34	NOSTALGIA
15	THE SLAUGHTER HOUSE	35	HEAD TO HEAD
17	WHAT'S IN STORE?	37	IT'S TRIVIA TIME
18	RESERVES & YOUTH	38	UP CLOSE
20	CH42: CLUB NEWS	42	SUPER WHITE STATS
21	PRENTON PUPS	44	THE NEXT INSTALMENT
23	MATCH ACTION	45	TICKETS & TRAVEL
29	IN THE COMMUNITY	46	TEAM SELECTION



benchtalk

Welcome to Swindon Town, Andy King, his players, staff, directors and of course the fans that have made the trip up from Wiltshire this afternoon. Our last two performances haven't been up to our usual standards, thankfully a little bit of luck was on our side last week against Port Vale to win the match but after saying that it's about time that we did have some luck this season.

The most disappointing thing was going to Cheltenham on Tuesday and not performing and missing the chance to close the points gap with QPR. Our performance on the night was very up and down and other than the first goal, which was a great strike, the goals we conceded were very poor indeed.

When we got back on level terms we were taking the game to Cheltenham but again slack marking allowed them to score again which I felt was the decisive goal and our response wasn't good enough from then onwards.

Obviously we've had that little blip, the very average performance against Port Vale and the disappointment at Cheltenham but now we've got to get back on track against Swindon today.

We know it won't be an easy task, Swindon have been doing well in the league of late and their form over the last 12 games has been superb, it will be a difficult game but we've got to make sure that our level performance is back up to the usual standard which is vitally important.

It's essential that players get back on their game as quick as possible and start performing as we know we can, I'm sure that if we can do that then it will go along way to winning us the game today.

The last game against Swindon was the start of excellent run away from home, that draw started a run of results of one defeat in the last seven games on our travels and it sparked a big turn around and helped our push up the league and hopefully this afternoon's game can be another turning point after the last two matches and let's hope Swindon can be our springboard to start another consistent run of results.

We have quite a few young players in our side and it's important that the experienced players help and teach those youngsters. They need to take responsibility and use the experience that they do have. If we have everyone pulling in the same direction then we will continue picking up the results and that's vitally important to the club and the squad.

There's still 16 games left in the league and 48 points still to play for and if we're going to achieve our goal of promotion we've got to start another consistent run. Swindon are the obstacles this afternoon and we've got to make sure that we overcome them and take the three points. We've got to get back to playing our good brand of football, which we're known for and make sure we get those goals today.

Again the support you give us is vitally important, I know the last match here at Prenton Park wasn't the greatest but we do need your help and if you can get behind the side and give them that great encouragement then it will help no end. After the defeat on Tuesday there's no better time than now for the crowd to get behind us and give us that lift to help us all achieve our ambitions.



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SCOREBOARD

You will have noticed that we have been having a problem with our scoreboard during the last couple of games. We apologise to all our sponsors and supporters for any inconvenience this has caused. A new part has been ordered and the problems should have been rectified for our next game against Blackpool.

from the top

I was absolutely delighted with our three points last Saturday but couldn't help but feel sadness and concern for Port Vale, a club that was in the First Division not so long ago and has a ground that was planned to be the Wembley of the North.

Port Vale is one of 11 Nationwide League clubs to go into administration in the last 12 months. A dozen more are rumoured to be close to it. In total that's almost a third of the League or a quarter of professional clubs in the country!

By comparison, our own situation is extremely comfortable. I am sufficiently confident of the Board's ability to manage our finances to say that, despite relegation and the collapse of ITV Digital, etc., we will not go into administration - no matter what this season or the next holds for the Club.

We have and will continue to manage our finances so that staff, creditors, suppliers and supporters can rest assured that we can cope with whatever the industry throws at us.

Earlier this week we announced our financial results for the year ended 30 June 2002. During that year our share of income from The Football League dropped dramatically by over £2.2m from £2.76m for a First Division club to £528,800 in the Second Division. However, we were still able to record the third highest turnover in the Club's history and our operating loss was minimised to less than £1m - better than our

result in most years in the First Division. Most importantly the cash flow was managed to ensure our survival.

Managing our finances is a full time job and involves careful hands on cash management. We agonise over every overnight stay, over medical and police bills, pitch maintenance, etc.

In recent weeks I have heard many supporters and local politicians talk about the importance of having a football club on Wirral. How many lives we touch, how much we affect the local community, etc. The emphasis has been on survival. Well, I am confident that we can manage our finances to ensure we survive. But surely the question people on Wirral - especially local politicians - should be asking themselves is what type of club do they want.

One that is flourishing and can compete effectively with Sheffield United, Wolves, Bolton, etc. or just a community club in some shape or form?

Liverpool has two thriving clubs - no doubt both will be in Europe next season. Doesn't Wirral deserve a thriving club of its own - one that can hold its own against those from other cities - like Bradford, Coventry and Norwich.

Not so long ago the Wirral bid for City status. A sign that we see ourselves as a separate clearly defined area with the history, resources and potential to compete with other major cities. Don't we deserve a football club that is of a size and profile that

can compete with those in other cities?

After all what's the point in fighting to get back to the First Division if we can't sustain a serious campaign to stay in the First Division?

Most people on Wirral are proud that we will host the Open Golf Championship in 2006 - many were proud to go to Wembley with Tranmere Rovers in the Worthington Cup Final in 2000.

Surely they should be proud to support their local club?

People on Wirral may like scousers, and we may be a little bit like scousers but we're not scousers - we're different. We deserve to be represented at a high level in our national sport in our own right.

Surely the local benefits of having a significant and thriving club on Wirral can't be lost on local politicians and businesses?

A full Prenton Park is less than 5 per cent of the Wirral's population. Whether you support the Board or not, whether you are a member of the Trust or not, whether you are a season ticket holder or not, we all have one thing in common - we care about this Club and want it to develop and flourish. We may disagree on points of detail but we all have the interests of the Club at heart. If only we could all unite so that 7,000 voices plus local businesses, politicians and Wirral Borough Council combine to encourage the rest of the Wirral to support their local club - not those across the river.

Lorraine Rogers





oppositenumbers



GARETH EDDS

The New Year has certainly brought good fortune to Swindon Town, who after looking down and out before Christmas after a string of disappointing results are now flying, with three wins and three draws from their last six games, beating league leaders Wigan and holding Cardiff to a draw in the process.

If Andy King has been transforming things on the pitch, they are also improving off it after the problems relating to Neil Ruddock's contract following his departure, which had been on going since December 2001, and which resulted in a transfer embargo on the club in late November. But an amicable settlement has been reached, the embargo has been lifted, and the club will now be looking to move onwards both on and off the pitch.

A pulsating 2-2 draw at the county ground earlier this season prompted a turnaround in our away fortunes, and after the disappointment of Tuesday night at Whaddon Road, the lads will be looking to get back on track today.

We take a look at the Robins of Swindon;

Goalkeepers.

Dutch born 'keeper Bart Griemink has been virtually ever present since signing from Peterborough three years ago. The big Dutchman has missed only one game this season so far, the LDV defeat at Kidderminster, when his place

was taken by regular standby Craig Farr, a former trainee at the County Ground.

Defenders.

Skipper Andy Gurney has been a regular this season apart from the opening three matches when he was suspended. The former Bristol Rovers, Torquay and Reading defender is now in his second season with Swindon, and played mainly in the middle of defence last season. This season has seen him in the right back berth. Regular left back has been ex-Sunderland player, David Duke signed in August 2000. Scottish born Duke has recently returned to the side after sitting out a one-match suspension. Replacing him was Australian born Gareth Edds, on a season long loan from Nottingham Forest. Edds was the regular right back up until mid September, but has since made only a few starting appearances. Other full backs at the club include Argentinean Juan Cobian, signed from Aberdeen in July 2000, and Kevin Halliday, a locally born left back who has appeared in the squad on a few occasions this season.

The regular central defensive pairing over the last few months has been ex Wimbledon player Alan Reeves and Matt Heywood, signed from Burnley in January 2001. While the experienced Reeves has been in and out of the side this season, Heywood has been ever present and impressive. Ex Coventry

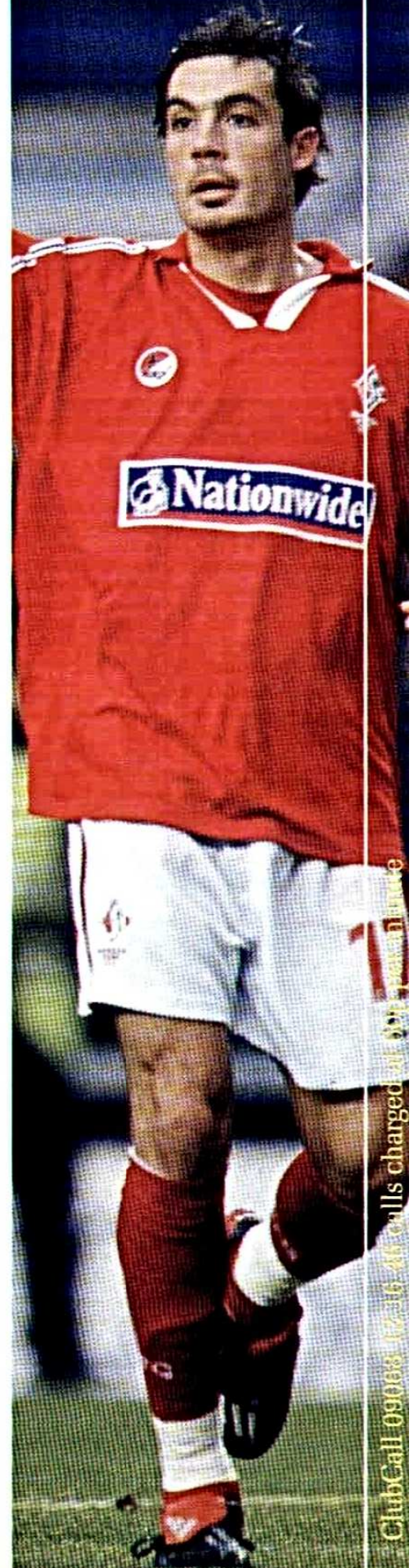
swindon

ERIC SABIN



BART GREENINK

DANNY INVINCIBLE



City defender Adam Willis has also figured heavily in this campaign, along with on loan Dean Marney from Spurs, who is doubtful for today after picking up a foot injury against Wigan. King has also recently secured the services of Watford defender Jerel Ifil on a two-month loan.

Midfielders.

Former Bristol City player Matt Hewlett has been a midfield regular apart from a four match injury absence at the start of the season, and he is now in his third season at the club, while absent on only very few occasions has been ex-Birmingham City midfielder Steve Robinson. Brazilian born Stefan Miglioranzi, brought up in the USA and the holder of an Italian passport(!), has also been a regular in the middle of the park, with Spurs player Johnnie Jackson, who has since returned to Spurs. 17 year old second year trainee David Brampton has featured on the bench a few times this season, along with Darren Dykes who has just returned from a months loan spell at third division Lincoln City.

Strikers.

One to watch!!!!!!

Top scorer going into today's game is ex-Chelsea player, and virtual ever-present Sam Parkin. The youngster, who signed back in August for a reported £50,000 has already hit 18 goals this season, 17 of those in the league campaign. Australian born striker Danny Invincible, signed from Marconi Stallions FC in August 2000 has also been on form this season, and although more provider than scorer has waded in with a few himself. To complete the regular strikers for the Robins is influential Frenchman Eric Sabin, now in his second season at the County Ground. Also available for King is 19 year old John Sutton, signed on free in December after being released by Spurs and locally born trainee Alan Young who has been a regular bench man this season.

Happily, Manchester United wide man Jimmy Davis, who terrorised our defence back in November has returned to Old Trafford.

visitors

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Most Scoring chances per game

	On Target	Off T		On Target	Off T
Wigan	6.47	7.23	Luton	5.25	5.29
Cardiff	6.45	6.14	Oldham	4.63	5.63
Crewe	6.70	5.77	Huddersfield	5.10	5.07
Plymouth	5.59	6.86	Swindon	5.03	4.93
Barnsley	5.86	6.24	Stockport	5.17	4.50
QPR	5.43	6.30	Cheltenham	5.34	4.31
Mansfield	6.17	5.40	Port Vale	4.61	5.00
Blackpool	5.48	5.31	Northampton	4.80	4.70
Wycombe	5.50	5.17	Notts County	5.07	4.37
Bristol City	5.48	5.17	Chesterfield	4.00	4.41
Peterborough	5.67	4.97	Colchester	3.93	4.14
Tranmere	5.57	5.03	Brentford	3.30	4.37

Goals in last 15 Mins of match

FOR	76-90	Tot	%	AGAINST	76-90	Tot	%
Peterborough	12	31	39	Chesterfield	12	36	33
Huddersfield	7	21	33	Northampton	14	47	30
Bristol City	17	53	32	Plymouth	10	34	29
Luton	13	42	31	Cardiff	7	24	29
Blackpool	11	38	29	Tranmere	13	45	29
Wycombe	12	43	28	Brentford	8	30	27
Tranmere	11	41	27	Mansfield	17	64	27
Oldham	12	46	26	Crewe	7	27	26
Notts County	11	43	26	Huddersfield	9	35	26
Swindon	10	41	24	Peterborough	10	39	26
Cardiff	11	46	24	Swindon	11	43	26
				Stockport	12	51	24
				QPR	8	34	24

ordered by late goals as % of all goals



TOP GOALSCORERS

Long range shots			Penalty scorers		
Player	Club	Tot	Player	Club	Tot
Zola	Chelsea	6	Ferguson	Rangers	8
Liddell	Wigan	5	Alexander	Preston	6
Tudor	Cambridge	5	Beattie	Soton	5
Henry	Arsenal	4	Blake	Burnley	5
Shearer	Newcastle	4	Dickov	Leicester	5
Mulryne	Norwich	4	Merson	Portsmouth	4
Brown	Sheff Utd	4	Sonner	Walsall	4
Corden	Mansfield	4	Hunt	Brentford	4
Langley	QPR	4	Tinnion	Bristol City	4
Simpson	Rochdale	4	Keith	Colchester	4
Lowe	Rushden	4	Eyres	Oldham	4
Burns	Partick	4	Parkin	Swindon	4
			Brown	Wycombe	4
			Crosby	Oxford	4
			Morrell	Wrexham	4
			Duffield	York	4

Average Shots On and Off target per game

Goals from Set Pieces for and against

SCORED	Co	FK	CONCEDED	Co	FK
Plymouth	10	6	Mansfield	10	10
Crewe	3	12	Blackpool	7	8
Brentford	7	6	Huddersfield	6	8
Oldham	7	6	Cheltenham	7	5
Wigan	6	6	Northampton	2	10
Bristol City	4	7	Barnsley	3	7
Wycombe	7	4	Stockport	9	1
Blackpool	9	1	Cardiff	3	6
Mansfield	2	7	Notts County	5	4
Notts County	2	7	Peterborough	6	3
QPR	4	5	Port Vale	7	2
Swindon	6	3	Swindon	2	7
Tranmere	4	5			

Co = Corners FK = Free Kick Routines

COMEBACKS

Won from	-3	-2	-1	Tot
Luton	0	0	5	5
Blackpool	0	0	4	4
Mansfield	0	0	4	4
Tranmere	0	0	4	4
Bristol City	0	1	2	3
Port Vale	0	0	3	3
QPR	0	0	3	3
Swindon	0	0	3	3

THROWAWAYS

Lost from	+3	+2	+1	Tot
Barnsley	0	0	5	5
Cheltenham	0	0	5	5
Stockport	0	1	3	4
Notts County	0	0	4	4
Mansfield	0	1	2	3
Chesterfield	0	0	3	3
Luton	0	0	3	3
Plymouth	0	0	3	3

number of games when clubs have come behind to win or been ahead and lost

Margins of Victory

Games WON by	1gl	2gl	3gl	4gl	5+gl
Wigan	9	11	1	0	0
Crewe	6	7	2	1	1
Cardiff	11	2	1	3	0
Oldham	9	3	0	2	1
Bristol City	5	5	4	1	0
QPR	5	7	1	1	0
Tranmere	8	2	2	1	0
Blackpool	5	4	3	0	0
Luton	8	2	2	0	0
Chesterfield	9	1	0	1	0
Plymouth	6	4	1	0	0
Brentford	7	2	0	0	1
Wycombe	4	4	1	0	1
Swindon	5	3	2	0	0
Mansfield	4	2	0	1	1
Stockport	4	2	1	3	0
Northampton	4	1	3	0	0
Port Vale	7	1	0	0	0
Peterborough	4	1	1	1	0
Barnsley	6	1	1	1	0
Huddersfield	5	1	1	0	0
Cheltenham	3	3	0	0	0
Colchester	5	1	0	0	0
Notts County	3	0	3	0	0

Scorers' Points Gained & Scoring Run

Club	Gls	GI/gm	Pts	Run	1stG
Robert Earnshaw	23	0.79	17	3	6
Sam Parkin	17	0.63	16	6	5
Rob Hulse	19	0.76	14	4	7
Luke Beckett	22	0.73	12	4	10
Steven Howard	14	0.54	10	4	7
Mark Stallard	9	0.41	10	1	4
Simon Haworth	14	0.48	9	3	3
Andy Clarke	12	0.56	9	8	4
Andy Liddell	12	0.41	8	3	3
	12	0.50	8	2	6

eg if player scores the goal in a 1-0 win, the goal is worth 2 pts as score would have been 0-0, or if 2 goals in 2-1 win, goals worth 3 pts. Also shown is goals per game figure and number of games player scored 1st goal

Fouls and Offsides per game

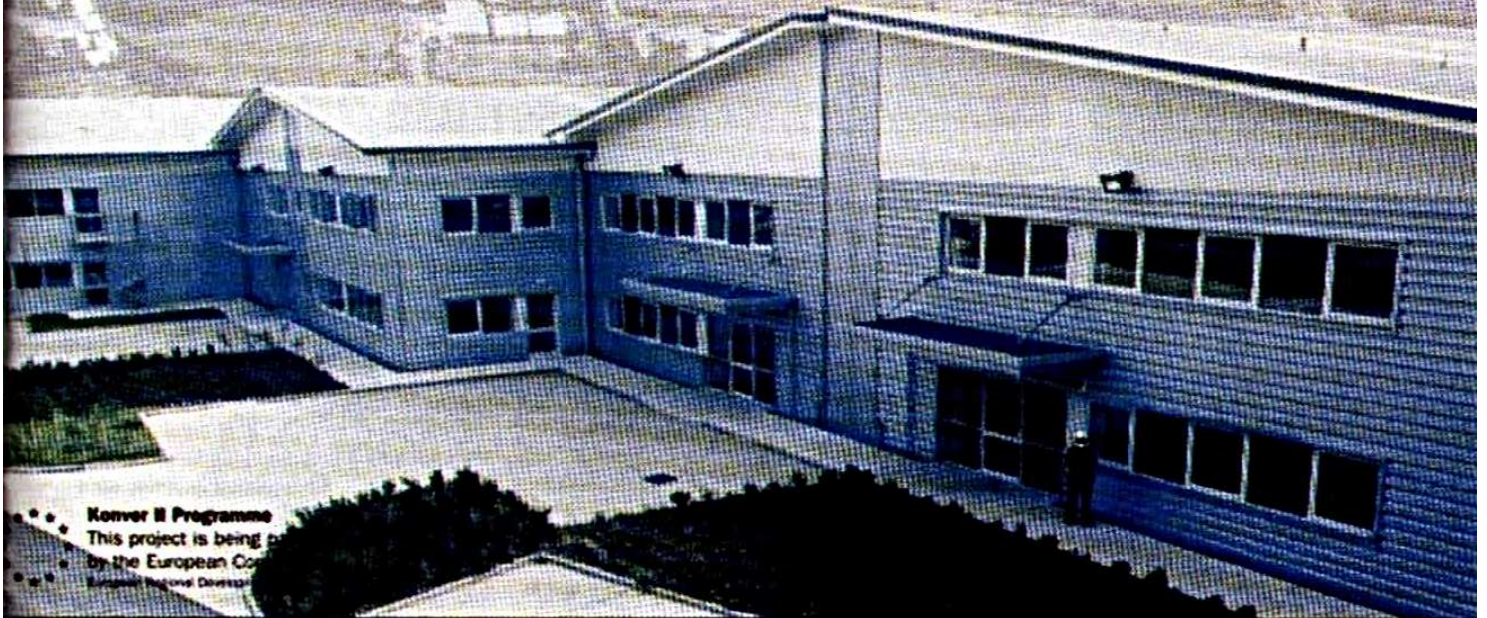
avg. fouls per game	avg. offsides per game		
Tranmere	14.53	Luton	5.11
Luton	14.11	Barnsley	4.45
Brentford	13.78	Tranmere	4.17
Wycombe	13.70	Peterborough	4.03
Oldham	13.57	Wycombe	3.70
Notts County	13.40	Cheltenham	3.66
Swindon	13.30	Crewe	3.63
QPR	13.03	Stockport	3.60
Bristol City	12.90	Brentford	3.33
Mansfield	12.70	Plymouth	3.31
Chesterfield	12.59	Oldham	3.27
Barnsley	12.34	Swindon	3.13
Northampton	12.27	Northampton	3.10
Plymouth	12.07	Colchester	3.03

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To give you an example of what you're missing out on

In the last fortnight we've heard from Ian Sharps and Richard Hinds following the impressive win at QPR, Danny Harrison on his return to action and Shane Nicholson reflecting on the win over Part Vale and looking forward to the trip to Cheltenham that's on top of regular interviews and press conferences with the boss and other members of the management team.

Not only do we keep an eye on the first team but you can also hear from Youth Team boss John McMahon as his side continue their attack on four trophies as well as the latest from the top with exclusive comment from Lorraine Rogers.

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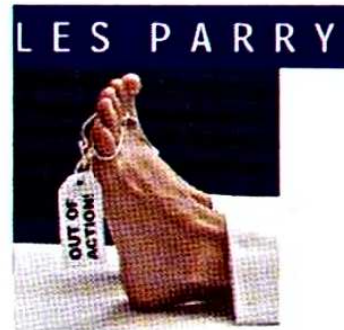
theslaughterhouse

Come on own up, who out of the fans who travelled to Cheltenham shot Johnny Achterbung? I assume he was shot because one minute he was OK then suddenly he looked like Long John Silver without a crutch (I know, he always look like that). He only needs to find a friendly parrot now to complete the effect. He only needs to find a friendly parrot now to complete the effect. He only needs to find a friendly parrot now to complete the effect. He only needs to find a friendly parrot now to complete the effect.

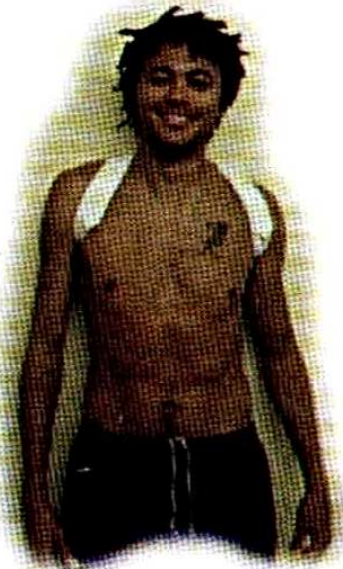
As it turned out, John had taken a knee to his hip when he came charging out to head the ball 3 feet into the crowd. We went to look at the incident on the video tape Cheltenham gave us but, surprise, surprise the tape was blank. I don't suppose that's got anything to do with the first match being called of has it? Anyway, we weren't able to see what happened so we are still in the dark. I've looked at John this morning (Wednesday) and he's still in a fair bit of discomfort so is probably only 50-50 for today. To be fair to him, he is one of our bravest players so if he's half right he will want to play. At least if John isn't right we have a more than able deputy in 'Image boy' Howarth. Sounds like a super hero or WWF wrestler doesn't he? Russ is looking for a new local girlfriend so if you're interested let me know. Oh, by the way, if you haven't got a Prada or

Versace label tattooed on your jugs of joy, don't bother applying. Another player on the lookout for a new girl is Mr. Laidback himself, Jason Price. He's gone as far as to buy a brand new £80k car in an attempt to nab a bird who isn't a gold digger??? I know you are scratching your head thinking that he should pretend to be a plumber or something if he didn't want to attract females to the footballer's tag but he doesn't think like that. As you can see from his picture, Jason would be an ideal partner for a woman who wants to give her partner a bit of a battering every Saturday night. I know you think I've messed with the photo but that really is how skinny and pathetic he looks without a shirt on. Jason has stepped up his training this week and I'd be surprised if he isn't available for today if needed. I think he may well be needed to play some part as Stuart Barlow picked up two injuries right near the end of the Cheltenham match in midweek. He went to turn quickly and did a wonderful impression of Bambi on ice, his right leg went one way and his left leg went where it wanted to go. This resulted in him pulling a right groin muscle and damaging his left knee. At the time of writing I'm not too sure how badly but I do know it's bad enough for him not to be involved today.

By the time you read this I should be at least three other players light in my sessions. Andy

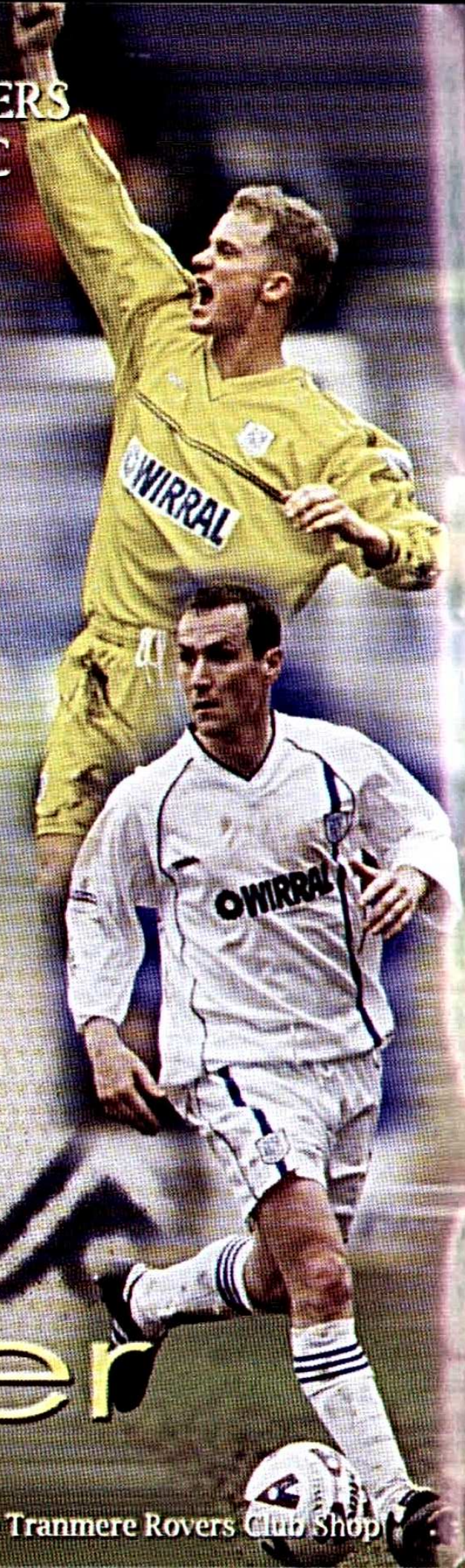


Parkinson, Kevin Gray and Paul Linwood should have all trained yesterday and hopefully come through without any adverse effects. All three will play for the stiffs next week at Burnley if their training goes OK. That will leave me with Alan Navarro and Stuart Barlow, I can't wait! Alan is seeing Mr. Donnachie next week and will hopefully be given the go ahead to start running without a limp. He's bombing at the moment but, contrary to the BBC, he isn't anywhere near training. Sorry about the rushed appearance of today's notes, forgot to do them again!!



...A body made to be abused!...

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Non-Matchday Saturdays - 10am to 1pm

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17



reservesandyouth

RESERVES

Fixtures & Results

Wed 14 Aug A Rotherham United	W 2-1
Wed 21 Aug H Sheffield United	D 1-1
Wed 4 Sep H Bury	D 3-3
Wed 18 Sep A Macclesfield T.(CSC1)	D 2-2*
Wed 25 Sep A Wrexham (LC)	D 2-2
Thu 3 Oct H Huddersfield Town	L 0-1
Wed 9 Oct H Macclesfield T.(CSC1R)	W 1-0
Wed 16 Oct H Preston North End**	W 3-1
Wed 13 Nov A Walsall	D 1-1
Tue 19 Nov H Woodley Sports (CSC2)	W 7-1
Wed 4 Dec H Wolverhampton W.	L 2-3
Wed 11 Dec A Barnsley	D 4-4
Wed 18 Dec H Mansfield Town (LC)**	W 3-0
Thu 2 Jan H Oldham Athletic**	W 2-1
Wed 15 Jan A Runcorn Halton (LSC2)	W 4-1
Wed 22 Jan A Chesterfield (LC)	L 2-3
Wed 5 Feb H Rotherham United**	L 0-5
Wed 12 Feb A Burnley	
Wed 19 Feb A Huddersfield Town	
Mon 24 Feb A Crewe Alex. (CSCSF)	
Wed 26 Feb H Burnley**	
Wed 12 Mar A Preston North End	
Wed 19 Mar A Bury	
Wed 26 Mar H Walsall**	
Tue 1 Apr A Oldham Athletic	
Tue 8 Apr A Rotherham (LCQF)	
Mon 14 Apr A Wolverhampton W.	
Wed 23 Apr H Barnsley	
TBA A Liverpool (LSCSF)	
TBA A Sheff. United	
**Matches played at	
Vauxhall Motors FC Kick Off 7.30pm	
*AET 1-1	



Next Home Game:

Burnley Reserves
Avon Insurance Premier Division
Wednesday 26 February 2003
Kick Off 7.30pm
At Vauxhall Motors FC

Chesterfield Reserves 3 (2), Tranmere Reserves 2 (0)

Avon Insurance League Cup Group Three

Wednesday 22 January 2003, at Saltergate. Att: 41

Tranmere: Howarth, Price, Baker, Olsen, Ashton (Griffiths 55), P Robinson (Tremarco 35), McGuire, Jennings, Brown, M Robinson, A Robinson. Subs: Palethorpe, Scott, Dagnall.

Goals from Marvin Robinson and Andy Robinson weren't enough to prevent Tranmere's reserves from losing to Chesterfield.

Despite the defeat Rovers still progressed to the knock out stages of the Avon Insurance Cup, as they finished with a superior goal difference to that of Mansfield who finished level on points.

Chesterfield were 2-0 up inside the opening half hour through Mark Allot and Andy Rushbury, as Rovers were slow to get out of blocks but a much improved second half performance saw the visitors get back in the match.

Marvin Robinson pulled a goal back just after the hour mark, heading home a cross from Paul Brown who was playing his second match in as many days, along with Neil Ashton and Steven Jennings.

Chesterfield then made it 3-1 when they were awarded a dubious free kick and Shayne Bradley made no mistake, beating Russell Howarth in the Rovers goal but there was still time for Tranmere set up a nervy finish.

Marvin Robinson linked up well with his namesake Andy before he was fouled in the area, Andy stepped up to take the resulting penalty and sent the keeper the wrong way.

The match ended 3-2 but the important thing was that Tranmere progressed to the next round.

The other good news was that Jason Price completed another 90 minutes as he bids to return to full match fitness.

Rovers will face Rotherham United in the

knockout quarter-final stages - the game now set for Tuesday 8 April at Millmoor (ko 7.00pm). More details on the fixture will be published nearer the time.

The full draw is: Macclesfield Town v Hull City; Sheffield United v Chesterfield; Rotherham United v TRANMERE; Doncaster Rovers v Barnsley.

The rearranged clash with Crewe Alexandra in the Cheshire Senior Cup Semi-Finals has been also confirmed - it will now take place on Monday 24 February, kick off 7.45pm at Gresty Road.

The next League game will be played away - this coming Wednesday in fact, when Rovers visit Turf Moor for a Avon Insurance Premier Division fixture with Burnley Reserves. Kick off is at 7.00pm.

Ironically the next home game will see Rovers face Burnley Reserves once again - this time at Vauxhall Motors FC, kick off 7.30pm.

No dates have been confirmed though for the away fixtures with Sheffield United in the League, or the Liverpool Senior Cup Semi-Final with Liverpool Reserves...

Final Group Three Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Chesterfield	3	1	2	0	4	3	1	5 (Q)
Tranmere Rovers	3	1	1	1	7	5	2	4 (Q)
Mansfield Town	3	1	1	1	4	6	-2	4
Wrexham	3	0	2	1	6	7	-1	2



Tranmere Rovers U19 5 (0), Rochdale U19 0 (0)

Football League Youth Alliance North West Conference

Saturday 18 January 2003, at Ingleborough

Tranmere: March, Hooper, Tremarco, Griffiths, Pinch, Scott, Fowler (James),

Jennings, Dagnall, P. Robinson (Brown), Carroll.

Chris Dagnall netted his second hat trick of the week as the Rovers Youth side stormed to victory over Rochdale.

The match ended 5-0 but once again it could so easily have been more, as John McMahon's side dominated the match from start to finish.

Tranmere were ahead with just a minute on the clock, as Dagnall closed down the Dale keeper, a la Alan Shearer, and slotted the ball home.

Although they had to wait half an hour for their next goal, it never looked in doubt as Rovers passed the ball around well, keeping possession for long periods but the lead was eventually doubled when Dagnall netted his second of the morning.

Paul Robinson was the provider for this one as he showed great skill to cut the ball back for his strike partner to fire home.

It was 3-0 on 38 minutes when an excellent move involving Robinson, Ashton, Scott, Carroll and Dagnall ended with Robinson tapping home from close range, after Dagnall had his shot saved by the visitor's keeper.

Rochdale were gifted a chance to get back into the match three minutes after the restart, when a combination of Gareth Hooper and Gary Pinch fouled the visiting striker resulting in a penalty.

U16 trialist keeper Ross March certainly did his chances of a contract no harm, when he guessed correctly and saved the spot kick.

There was another penalty just after the hour

mark, when Chris Dagnall was this time bought down after charging into the box, the youngster dusted himself down and took the kick himself, sending the keeper the wrong way to complete his hat trick.

Thomas Carroll completed the rout with just 14 minutes to go, when he finished well left footed past the keeper, after a good cross from Ged Scott.

*Rovers Youth continued their league and cup programme with three wins and a defeat.

A surprise 1-2 home loss against Carlisle United was amended by a 1-0 extra time win over Burnley Youth in the first round of the Lancashire FA Youth Cup.

This particular tie has set up a semi-final meeting with Preston North End Youth, at Deepdale, on a date to be arranged.

A league double over Stockport in the space of three days kept up the pressure on North West Conference leaders Preston, as firstly a thumping 6-2 home win was followed by a 4-1 win in the return fixture.

Reports on all these games will follow in further issues.

Meanwhile can we remind you of an all-important FA Youth Cup Fifth Round tie against Port Vale Youth on Tuesday 18 February.

As an added incentive, the winners could face a potential trip to Old Trafford in the sixth round - providing Manchester United's youngsters overcome Sheffield United in their Fifth Round meeting...




UNDER-19'S

Fixtures & Results

Date	Opposition	Result
Sat 17 Aug	A Rochdale	W 4-1
Sat 24 Aug	H Wigan Athletic	W 4-1
Sat 31 Aug	A Macclesfield T. (ACG)	W 2-1
Sat 7 Sep	H Wrexham (ACG)	W 5-2
Sat 14 Sep	H Chester City (ACG)	W 6-0
Sat 28 Sep	A Stockport County (AC2)	W 4-0
Sat 19 Oct	H Burnley	W 6-1
Thu 24 Oct	A Northwich Vics (FAYC1)	W 6-0
Sat 2 Nov	H Oldham Athletic	W 6-1
Wed 6 Nov	H York City (FAYC2)	W 2-0
Fri 15 Nov	H Bury	W 7-0
Sat 23 Nov	A Oldham Athletic	D 3-3
Sat 30 Nov	A Wigan Athletic	D 2-2
Tue 3 Dec	A Wycombe W. (FAYC3)	W 3-2
Sat 14 Dec	A Preston North End	L 0-3
Sat 21 Dec	H Preston North End	W 4-0
Sat 11 Jan	H Blackpool	W 4-2
Tue 14 Jan	H Cheltenham T. (FAYC4)	W 3-0
Sat 18 Jan	H Rochdale	W 5-0
Mon 21 Jan	H Carlisle United	L 1-2
Mon 27 Jan	A Burnley (LFAYC1)	W 1-0*
Sat 1 Feb	H Stockport County	W 6-2
Mon 3 Feb	A Stockport County	W 4-1
Thu 6 Feb	A Blackpool	
Sat 8 Feb	A Bury	
Tue 11 Feb	A Walsall (AC3)	
Sat 15 Feb	A Carlisle United	
Tue 18 Feb	H Port Vale (FAYC5)	
TBC	A Preston NE (LFAYCSF)	

Merit Division Matches Begin Sat Feb 15

*Aet 0-0

FA YOUTH CUP FIFTH ROUND
Tranmere Rovers Youth
versus Port Vale Youth
 Tuesday 18 February 2003 Kick Off 7.30pm
 Admission: Adults £3 Concessions £1
 Matchnight Programme: 50p



A full list of the next stage of Under-19 home matches will be published in a future programme...



ch42news

An Apology

Our sincere apologies firstly go out to one of our supporters Mr. C. Gavriel, as we inaccurately printed the wrong contact phone number in the midst of his advert for match videos. The actual number should have read **0151 630 5331** and not the one printed on our 'CH42 News' page, in last weeks issue versus Port Vale.

Also we must add another error - an unintentional 'double helping' of our usual Trivia Time page, which was accidentally reproduced twice - on both pages 31 and 37. Page 31 should have course led us into an insight to the workings of the CSLG (Club and Supporters Liaison Group) prior to their meeting on Monday 3 February.

Very sorry indeed everyone!...

Youth March On

Tranmere's Youth team are already embarking on an FA Youth Cup run to equal if not better last years hard earned efforts in last competition, which saw them reach the Fifth Round.

They now meet Port Vale's youngsters here at Prenton Park on Tuesday 18 February, with a 7.30pm kick off.

Admission here is £3 for Adults and £1 for Concessions.

Port Vale's own reputation in the competition this season has already claimed the scalps of both Everton and Chelsea, thus setting up a fascinating tie a week on Tuesday.

Better still, and providing they too can win their respective Fifth Round game, Manchester United Youth will host the winners of our fixture - at Old Trafford!

More incentive you would think for our

own supporters to turn out in force at Prenton on the 18, to lift our youngsters to greater glory. Be there - remember kick off 7.30pm!...

Department of Transport

A quick note to remind all supporters for what could prove to be a 'helping hand' as regards transport to away games in particular.

TRAVELINE is a new government-backed national service for which covers in depth information on both national and local transport.

The number is 0870 608 2 608, and gives the public advice on how to travel from one location to another via all forms of public transport.

More details on this service will be printed in a future programme.

Pen Pals Abroad

We were notified recently of a group of foreign football fans eager to keep up with the goings on at TRFC, via our own band of supporters.

Adopting Rovers as their club, Stephen Wolf, Dirk Goerke and Rolf Wyzeck have forwarded their addresses to us in the hope that someone in TRFC land will keep them posted on all events.

Their respective addresses are; Stephen Wolf - Egells STR 3, 13507 Berlin, I.R.G.

Dirk Goerke - Thuarstr 38, 53 ^ ^ G Bonn. Rolf Wyzeck - Pestoralspesse 2, 53 ^ 2 ^ Bonn....

Ladies On The Up?...

Tranmere Rove Ladies travel to Leeds United Ladies (played at Garforth Town FC) tomorrow - kick off 2.00pm.

Despite bowing out of both major cup competitions this season, an impressive display away to high-flying Doncaster Belles ensured they left Yorkshire with a valuable point. In truth, they should have claimed all three, following an impressive return from two goals down to eventually draw 2-2- and almost having the luxury of almost scoring another two times over one of the countries top sides!

It's quite possible that a top four finish would now not be beyond them, and despite having just two home games left (Arsenal and Doncaster Belles) alongside trips to Charlton, Brighton, Southampton and Fulham left to complete, its rosy times indeed for the girls.

For more information on any of the above, please ring 0151 609 3334 or 0151 608 2354...

FIFTH ROUND fa youth cup



**Tranmere Rovers Youth
versus Port Vale Youth**
Tuesday 18 February 2003
Kick Off 7.30pm
At Prenton Park

Admission:
Adults £3
Concessions £1

For More Details Please Ring 0151-609 3333

We still require YOUR stories, views and the like for inclusion on this page, throughout 2003.
So get writing! - send all entries to the address

All written correspondence to:
Tranmere Rovers F.C., Prenton Park,
Prenton Road West, Birkenhead, Wirral CH42 9PY





prentonpups

JUNIORS



This afternoon the Prenton Pups welcome Swindon Town supporters to Prenton Park including the young Junior Robins. As always we hope you enjoy your visit to Prenton Park - apart from the result - and have a safe journey home.

Birthdays

Just one Prenton Pup has a birthday around this time. Young Rory McKeown celebrated his on Wednesday, hopefully with the news that Rovers had won at Cheltenham the night before.

Kennel

The date of the next meeting is still undecided but the latest news of all Prenton Pups activities is available from Debbie and her band of little helpers in the Kennel before every home game for about an hour from around 1.30pm. Matchday 'goodies' are available from the 'Tuck Shop' and some Prenton Pup souvenirs are still on sale. Also there is the usual matchday quiz to enter so it's well worth popping in.

The Pups will arrange an 'Awayday' to Wigan on Tuesday 4th March only if it is fully booked! So if you are interested please tell Debbie as soon as possible.

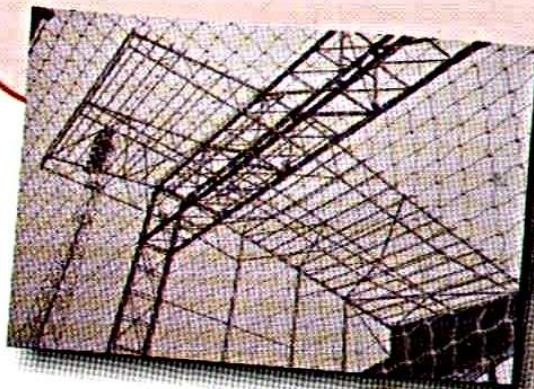


Quiz Time

Now you should all recognise Rovers own 'Man in Black' - in the first photograph taken at a Pups' meeting almost 10 years ago! Yes, it's a 'youthful' looking Les Parry, Rovers physio and comic columnist in the programme. But can you name the Rovers player at his side?

Also in the picture and taking centre stage is another in the Gateley family - this time young Gary in his Eric Nixon shirt. How many ex. Pups can spot themselves in the gathering?

In this unusual photograph the question is simply - What is it? If you know the answer to both 'Photo Posers' call in at the Kennel before the Blackpool game on 22nd February. Pups with correct answers will be entered into a draw to decide the winner. A TRFC prize is waiting.

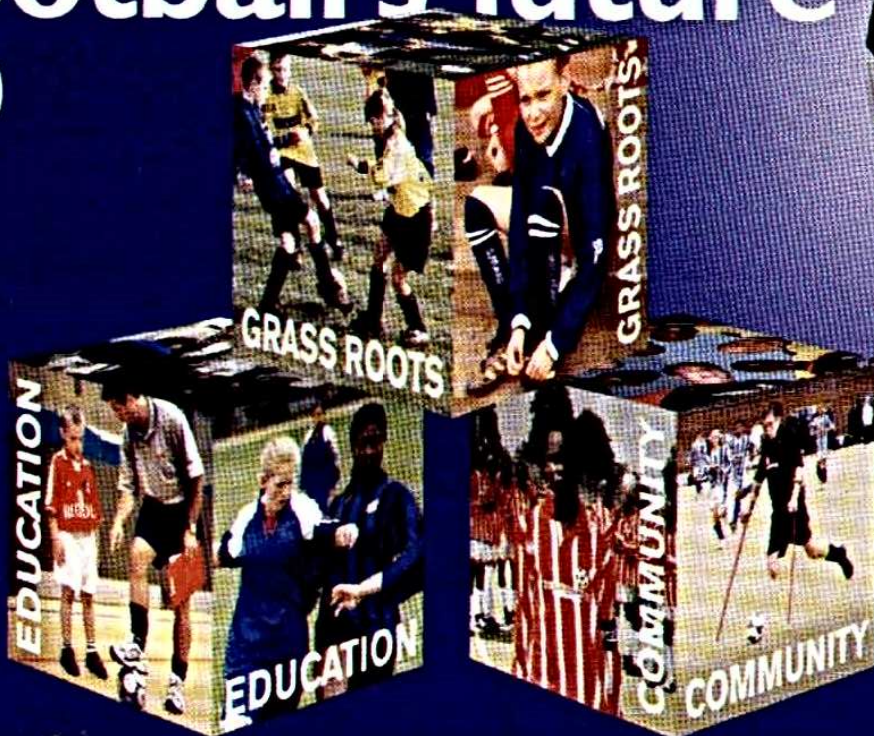


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match action

SATURDAY 18 JANUARY
SATURDAY 25 JANUARY





match action

Saturday 18 January 2003

Tranmere 1

(Haworth 61)

Bristol City 1

(Bell 10)

At Prenton Park Att:7,459

Saturday 25 January 2003

QPR 1

(Palmer 60)

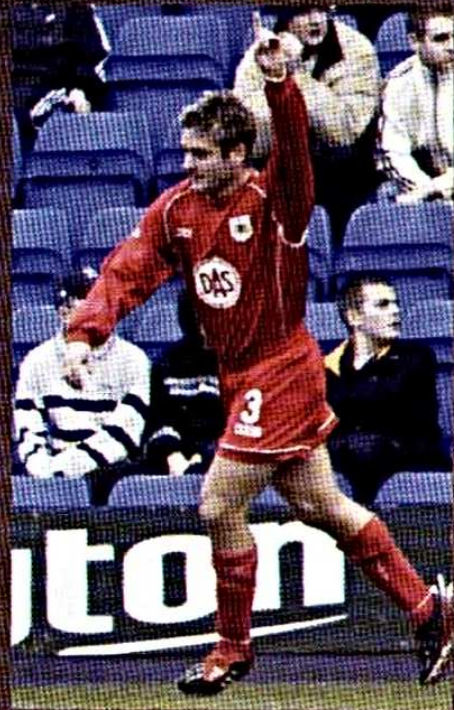
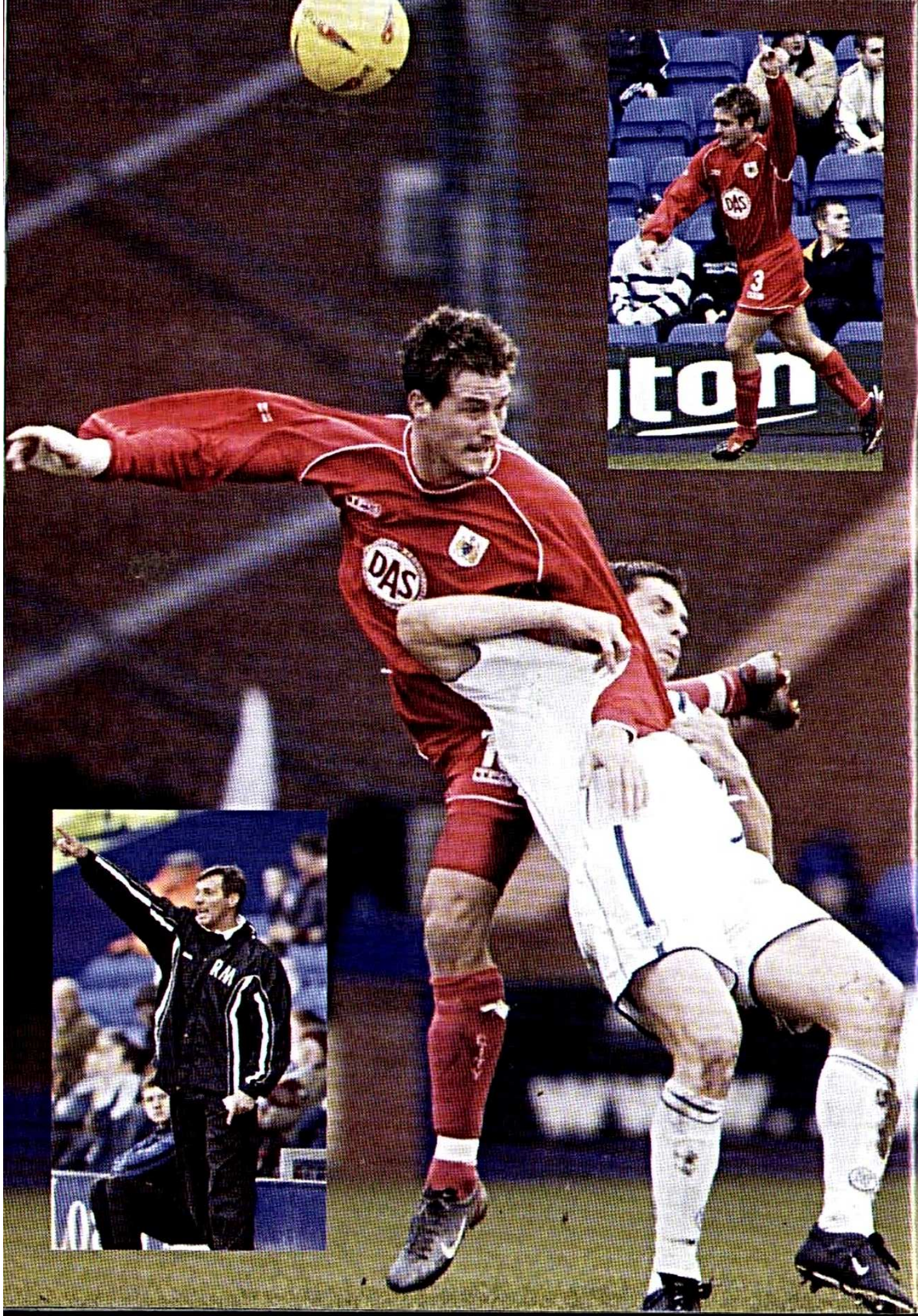
Tranmere 2

(M. Robinson 80, Haworth 90+3)

At Loftus Road Att: 12,249

'Robin-us blind' as City deny Rovers a deserved three points at Prenton...

...But a right royal winner at the expense of the Queens, sees Rovers complete a season double over the 'R's' at Loftus Road...



supportingrovers



1

Tranmere Rovers
versus Oldham
1.1.03

1 - Matchball Sponsors
BROMBOROUGH CROSS CAR
SALES, the team captains, club
mascots and the match officials
line up for the customary pre-kick
photo...



2

2 - Our young matchday mascot
enjoyed his day, assisted by
Stuart Barlow...



3

3 - Gary Jones took the plaudits
from Match Sponsors CHESTER
MEDICAL SOLUTIONS...



4

4 - ...While Michael Jackson won
the vote from our Dixie Dean
members.



5

5 - It was left Gary Jones
however to pick up his second
award of the day from our VP
members.

S...SORS

something to celebrate?...



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in the community



Gary's Top Of The Table

The final of our annual table football competition, which is sponsored by Smoby, has now taken place. It was held in the Prentonian suite at the ground. It was an enjoyable afternoon for the finalists and their supporters who came along to the football ground. Kevin Gray and Richard Hinds popped in to give their support and some advice to the finalists.

The overall winner of the competition was Gary Robinson from Gilbrook who saw off the challenge of Nathan Robinson from Hayfield and David Cahill from Lindale. There was some very vociferous support as usual for all the children, which added to the excitement of the final.

Gary will now go to the area finals at Blackburn Football Club to represent Tranmere Rovers in the area finals, which will take place at the end of February. He will be competing against teams from the Northwest and hopefully if he wins he would progress to the Grand Final, which will take place in March.

We would like to wish Gary the best of luck in next stage.

Girls U13 Adidas Community Cup

Our annual under 13 girl's competition has now got underway at the Oval in Bebington. The teams that have already qualified to the finals on 28th February are Woodchurch High, Park High and Ellesmere Port Catholic High. There was lots of good football on display from the girls and all the games were very competitive.

The winner of our competition will go forward and represent Tranmere Rovers in the area finals, which are

being held in March. We would like to wish all the teams who make through to the finals good luck.

Half-Term Tots Courses

Due to the high demand for places on our half term Tots Courses we have had to arrange a third course because the first two have already full up. The newly arranged course will take place at Bebington High Sports College on Mon 17th, Tues 18th & Weds 19th February at 2.00pm to 4.00pm. and costs £18.00.

If you require any further information or would like to book a place on the course phone the community office on 608 2354.

We still have places available on our two Main courses, which are being held at Bebington High Sports College and Acre Lane Education Centre.

Finally I would just like to welcome Mosslands High School to the game this afternoon. The boys who are attending the game today took part in our Kick It/Kick Off scheme. Enjoy the



RAILTRACK
SAFETY IS OUR GOAL



community

over a few



29

passionforprogrammes

new Northampton v Tranmere Rovers
 Nationwide League Division Two, Saturday 14 December 2002

Layout & Design:

Remembering Northampton's nickname of 'The Cobblers', it was probably not surprising that the editor had declined to incorporate it into the programme's name as many clubs choose to do! However, in some respects, which shall soon become apparent, it could well have served as a fairly accurate description of the nfc.co.uk Matchday Magazine!

Perhaps using the website address inspired programme name as an excuse, most pages had a broad band replicating a computer menu list taking up a quarter of the valuable space. The relevant title was then highlighted which would perhaps have been an original touch if more space at the top of each page wasn't then used for a conventionally printed title!

As the menu idea actually took up a total of FIVE pages, I'm sure many readers who buy their programme to find out as much as possible about their favourite club see it as a load of *****s!

Otherwise the layout was fine with the main club colour of maroon and an attractive print style for headings providing pleasing continuity throughout. There was also a wide selection of quality news and action photographs to illustrate most articles.

Category Score:- 14

Tranmere Coverage:

On a double-page that was laughingly described as 'Pre-Match Analysis' on the aforementioned menu list, detailed but unedited pen-pics were provided on fifteen players. While this would normally give the home fans a reasonable guide to the opposition, unfortunately this was not the case on this occasion. Instead of spending a couple of minutes researching recent Rovers line-ups, the editor must have simply

stuck his pin randomly in our squad list until he had sufficient names to fill his space.

Just as it rarely does the trick when picking winning Grand National horses or Lottery numbers, this unscientific approach was no more successful here, producing just four players who started the game and six out of our selected sixteen-squad members. On reflection though perhaps the editor's slackness contributed to his teams' thrashing at our hands, as he failed to introduce, among other facets of our play, the promise of Alex Hay, the midfield dominance of Micky Mellon and the free-kick expertise of Ryan Taylor!

Apart from this unhelpful coverage of Tranmere and the head-to-head statistics page supplied by soccer-stats.com the home fans were left completely in the dark about such things as our recent form, club history, past meetings between the teams and player links.

Category Score:- 9

Statistics:

An orthodox double-page of fixtures, results and line-ups gave all the necessary details about the first team and the Youth Team also had prominent coverage. However, although the Reserves were listed on the menu list the editor obviously had problems 'clicking on' as no mention could be found of their results, fixtures or match reports! Players' biographical and appearance details were neatly incorporated into the boxes showing their sponsors.

Category Score:- 15

General Features:

Several pages were dedicated to bringing supporters up to date regarding the arrival of new chairman Andrew Ellis. Following a



nightmare start to his regime which saw an FA Cup exit against Third Division Cambridge in a replay at Sixfields and another 0-4 defeat at Stockport quickly follow our superb performance, I'm sure Mr. Ellis didn't regret a single word of his praise and encouragement for manager Kevan Broadhurst! Surely he didn't mean his complimentary remarks to be seen as the dreaded vote of confidence. Watch your back Kev! (which soon proved to be right Tony - what a prediction!! - Ed.)

Elsewhere, there were many words of congratulation for Town's young left-sided prospect Chris Caruthers who had been called up to the England U-20 squad. Those fans with longer memories will have enjoyed reading the imaginatively entitled (?) 'History' article which reminded them of four heroes of yesteryear who helped the Cobblers beat Arsenal in the Fourth Round of the FA Cup in 1958.

Category Score:- 17

Value for Money:

In addition to the five wasted 'pages' mentioned above, adverts account for 33% of the 48 pages. At least Northampton hadn't followed the trend of many Southern based clubs in charging £2.50 for their programme, but even at £2 this would certainly not class as the best Christmas bargain to be snapped up!

Category Score:- 11

TOTAL:- 66

Tony Evans

If it's not in print...check out www.tranmererovers.co.uk



fanbase



Barring first team results of late especially away from home what would you say was also the most impressive part of Tranmere Rovers Football Club?

Ask anybody connected with the Whites and you'll probably get the same answer - the youth team.

Not many other clubs can boast about nurturing youngsters like we do. Players like Jason Koumas, Sean Thornton and Clint Hill are all examples of our excellent YTS system and what it can produce.

They were given their chance, now it's time to bring in the new generation of Tranmere stars. It doesn't take a genius to see the talent we currently have in our youth and reserve teams right now, so lets start bringing them through. Many of our budding stars are definitely ready to make the grade to the first team and make their mark in the professional game.

I don't want to be harsh on the current first team but the youth players have everything they have and probably more. The youth players combine passion, desire and true quality and are

good enough, to grace the first team now.

Everyone who has seen our young starlets will know exactly what I'm talking about. Week in, week out, the youth teams slaughter their opposition with skilful and clinical performances. Some of the youth players, need a little more time before they step in to the action, others are ready right now.

So what's stopping them emulate Iain Hume and Danny Harrison in joining the first team now?

The consensus between fans is that Ray Mathias is against putting the youngsters into the first team at such an early age. He worries that they aren't developed enough to grace the 2nd Division playing fields.

Surely if your good enough, your old enough. And the reserve players and the youngsters are definitely good enough, there's no doubting that.

I know it's coming to the business end to the season and experimentation isn't on the top of everybody's list, but these players can change our season for the better. It's obvious that Sean Connelly isn't at ease at centre back, so why can't

the talented defender, Paul Linwood, be given a chance. He's strong and confident at the back and much better than any of our loan players that we've taken on trial. Or maybe give striker Paul Robinson a go up front. He's naturally gifted at putting the ball in the back of the net, and any team these days cannot pass on such vital players, who can turn the game in an instant.

It's time we give these players their chance or their talents are going to pass us by. Somehow we've let go of 'Pip' Baker, who was a classy defender who could of made the grade. Unless Ray Mathias acts soon, these players who have the ability to make it to the top level of English football don't stand a chance. They'll never be able to show their classy abilities to the Tranmere faithful.

I heard a comment the other day that made me think; If Wayne Rooney had of been in the Tranmere youth team, would we have put him in the first team as quickly as the bluenoses have? I doubt it.

Enjoy the game and lets hope the youngsters get their chance soon.



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TUESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2003



Cheltenham Town
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION 2
CHELTEHAM TOWN
VERSUS
TRANMERE ROVERS
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'Hi-Ho Silver Lining' (Pre-match pitch inspection)

One more mention of 'postponements' or 'pitch inspections' and I'll scream!

It was no laughing matter following 'January 11' when a good proportion of the SWA set off for the M5 - and immediately tried to cash a blank cheque!

With a midweek slot the order of the day (or night rather), this you would have thought might have all but reduced the large numbers expected on the last visit rather heavily.

However, as you'll discover later the final figure wasn't too bad at all...

'This Town Ain't Big Enough For The Both Of Us' (The Ground)

There's a first time for everything they say - and a visit to Whaddon Road (for the second time of course) was highly anticipated by those 'SWA anoraks' amidst our hordes.

On first impressions, you could be forgiven to feel rather disappointed - much like Gillingham a few seasons ago, when after personally a breaking a duck of 25 years to get there, the final surroundings at Priestfield were all a bit of an anti-climax.

It was rather the same story here really, although you had to remember that no so long ago Whaddon Road was a non-league venue.

This of course meant you either felt sorry for the homely set of fans who solidly follow the Robins, or rather disgusted that such a simple venue was ever allowed to host League football.

On closer inspection though, the home of the Robins is rather tidy and neat and decorated in the colours of the club - red and white. A nice modern structure - The InPrint 2 Stand - graces one side, while faced with a rather ageing UCAS stand, which obviously hails from the clubs' non-league days. The C&G Stand, which compliments these seated areas, houses the home fans perched on rather narrow terracing, but pleasing all the same.

Finally, the Whaddon Road End, which welcomes the away fans, is probably the 'worst' section of the ground. Acute angles are in abundance, as block sections of both terrace and concrete offer a rather shallow view of the action - apart from the areas close to the corner flags.

A good number of Rovers fans turned out here, but it begs the question as to what it would have been like had there been more. Rather crowded I would have said, but you can't have it all your own way during a single season I suppose...

'Mr. Tamborine Man' (The Away Support)

424 - Great for a trip such as this, although the fact that it was a first-ever trip to Gloucester might have helped.

There's not much else to say here, apart from the

kids who were searching for the 'crying chicken' housed in someone's backyard, which backed onto the terrace, and the 'itchy' stewards who blinked at every SWA move.

While some were still singing at 1-3 down, it all was rather muted throughout despite some urging on from the train travellers - but will no doubt it'll improve overall during the remainder of the season...

'Itchcoo Park' (The Game)

Bottom of the League usually counts for nothing, as far as Tranmere have experienced in the past, but we had hoped for at least another three points against a pre-tapped poor side in our own race for the Play Offs.

How wrong we were! In fits and starts, Cheltenham belied their league status, no doubt fuelled by the usual and positive exuberance of Bobby Gould's encouragement, and revelled in their first win under their new boss - all following on from two 'successful' 0-0 draws.

Their confidence was sadly never undermined by Rovers, who failed to capitalise on Town's relegation plight, and all but ensured they would leave Whaddon Road empty handed.

Following our second half equaliser, it had looked in fact as if all the hard work had been done to get us back into the game, and press for a vital second.

Instead though, we muddled and toiled to very little effect, while Cheltenham took every opportunity handed to them - which deservedly earned them the win.

A spectacular opener from Marvin Brown (on just eight minutes!) it certainly was - but on the other side of the coin, this set the alarm bells ringing for Rovers, simply because they failed to close the opposition down.

From then on, very brief moments of superiority were sadly overshadowed by rather mediocre football, which only served to benefit one party - the home side.

Several close-cut chances went the way of both the Robins and Rovers, right up to the close of the first half. But with a final ball losing its way in front of goal for the visitors, it left most SWA observers now hoping for a better return in the second period.

Things looked bright at last - well for ten minutes anyway - as a corner-cum-goalmouth scramble resulted in Ian Sharps claiming the final touch, and put us back on level terms.

'Let's go for it lads!' - the option many thought we would have taken with relish, was mysteriously overturned firstly by that ever-lasting Tony Naylor jinx, which struck once again.

Previous to this, news filtered through that John Achterberg was pelted with a coin (or coins) from the home fans, while receiving treatment. The resulting diagnosis then saw John replaced by Russell Howarth, and the game resumed.



Oh, though how many of the SWA wished it hadn't, as poor Russell then endured a nightmare opening as two further goals sealed Cheltenham's win. Whether it was down to defensive errors or the like, this all suddenly became immaterial, for as the third goal in particular hit the net, the followers promptly headed for the exits. Nowhere near as bad as Mansfield, but a golden opportunity to push us back into the frame certainly missed all the same...

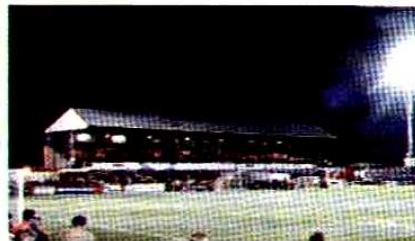
'What The World Needs Now' (The Final Word)

We scraped it against Port Vale just days before, and with a mouth watering home fixture with Swindon this Saturday, the place is buzzing (honest!).

A target of nine points from all three games wouldn't have been beyond us, but anything less than seven would have been seen as 'unacceptable' in some people's eyes. However by the time 9.30pm approached, the prospect of just getting 'anything' whatsoever had filled the SWA minds.

This was a great disappointment to all concerned, and left many disgruntled looks among the departing fans, some of whom were left wondering where it had all gone wrong. I hate to say it, but in recent years, while watching Tranmere in general, we seemed to have developed this bad habit of visiting sides placed well below us in the table and coming away with a sound beating - especially if that particular opposition hasn't won for a good few months or so. Was this defeat then any real surprise?

Overall tonight, a big 'X' on the Family Fortunes scoreboard sadly everybody. End of story...



nostalgia page

Chairmen come and go but occasionally one comes along who makes a difference. One such was R.S. (Bob) Trueman but, sadly, his visionary and innovative plans were overtaken by World War 2. Yet his story shows that we today do not have a monopoly on all the best ideas and solutions.

Bob Trueman lived 50 yards from Prenton Park, at 27 South Road, and, already well known in Wirral and Merseyside football circles, was appointed a director in 1936. When the chairman, Alderman R.P. Fletcher, became incapacitated by illness in early 1939, he became de facto chairman until elected to the position himself in May 1940.

On 29 June, 1939, he chaired the 1939 agm to face shareholders still angry after the ignominious season in Division 2 when Rovers finished bottom with just 17 points from 42 games. The Birkenhead News reported that, without trying to justify the dismal failure, Bob Trueman's vigorous speech made it clear that he was unhappy with the way things had been done in the past and he was going to make big changes. For a club of Rovers' stature, his analysis was that there were three possible ways to try to achieve success:

1. purchasing players for fabulous transfer fees - impracticable and impossible;
2. engaging players on free transfers or for very modest fees. This had been the way Rovers had previously operated with varying results - results that were not lasting, and could not be looked upon as being sound;
3. attracting and developing young players from the locality who could be systematically trained. Having persuaded the rest of the board of the benefits, the club were already running a summer school, the only one of its kind in the country, which catered for every type of player.

Although war was declared soon afterwards, at the beginning of September, 1939, Bob Trueman pursued his new strategy until peacetime football resumed in 1946. Not for him the policy of playing guest players from the forces who happened to be available week to week.

Instead, and despite what appear on paper less than satisfactory results, Rovers turned out each week three teams of young players of varying ages with the best progressing to the First XI where, alongside a sprinkling of seasoned professionals, they faced some great players - Stanley Matthews, Tommy Lawton, Bill Shankly, Tom Finney, Peter Doherty, Joe Mercer, Johnny Carey, Frank Swift and Billy Liddell, for example - when they met the big clubs from the North West in the wartime regional league. Many young players emerged from this régime after the war, notably Harold Bell, Johnny Wheeler (England international) and Len Kieran (England B international).

On the local soccer scene, Rovers' young teams carried all before them and, in 1942-3, the C team took this to a new level with a playing record of: Played 25, Won 25, For 261, Against 7. Incredibly, a rare wartime team photograph was

taken of this young bunch of players, a fine copy of which has survived in the care of 'keeper Robert Potts, now 75 and still living in Wirral. Thanks to his grandson, Matthew, and Christina Chadwick (Chris is one of our long distance supporters - from Oswestry, where she and Matt are colleagues in BT), I was able to borrow the original to copy.

At a time of national shortages, photography of this nature was severely curtailed and, to my knowledge, only one other team photo of that era has survived, also C team youngsters, from 1940. There are no known 'First XI' photos, perhaps indicating just how proud of his young men Bob Trueman was. Regrettably, I have never come across a good photo of him - my only image is a small headshot from the local papers wearing a white homburg giving him an alluring Capone-esque aspect.

Having steered Rovers through seven years of demanding wartime soccer as chairman-cum-manager, with the help of a few committed helpers, including Jimmy Moreton (died 1942), Frank Kettlewell and Bill Ridging, Bob must have looked forward to the better times knowing he had a stable of good young players at his disposal. However, during the war, three directors had died, one had resigned and another was on active service. None had been replaced and, by 1946, this left him as the sole active director with the company operating outside the letter of Company Law.

When, prior season 1946-7, he opened negotiations with Oldham Athletic to secure centre-forward Edward Chapman, Rovers' crusty old solicitor, Tom Jackson, who had helped set up the company in 1911, decided that, despite those straitened times of national exhaustion and scarcities, it was preferable to immediately rip out the foundations laid by Bob Trueman in order to satisfy some arcane stricture that said there had to be so many directors for the company to operate legally. Quite who was poised at that very moment, when Britain was almost on its knees from the efforts and sacrifices of wartime, to storm Prenton Park, clap Bob in irons and close Rovers down was not made clear by the perrickety Mr Jackson!

So it was, at the special general meeting of shareholders, held in the club's offices on 7 August, 1946, Mr Jackson took his stand formally and, despite desperate pleas from those present for the chairman to remain, engineered the resignation of Bob Trueman who announced 'I'm finished with football.' Who can blame him but what a loss and we can only speculate about what, but for the war, Bob and his youngsters might have achieved.

R.S. Trueman died on 22 January, 1964, aged 67, in Caldly Manor Heart Hospital. Away from football, he had been manager of the North of England Carpet Cleaning Company in Cleveland Street, a member of Lancashire County Cricket Club and had fought in two local council elections as a Liberal candidate, without success.



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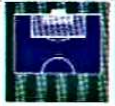
1942-43 C team photograph
belonging to Robert & Matthew Potts

it's all archived... ..at www.tranmerrovers.co.uk

ast

Tranmere Rovers v Swindon Town

Location <http://www.soccer-stats.com/headtohead>



For/Against Goalscoring Home/Away Top Scorer Form Guide Discipline Attendances Swings/Margins Miscellaneous



Clubs Comparison

Goals Scored		
17	Shots	19
10	Headers	5
9	Volleys	10
1	Penalties	5
2	Free Kicks	2
2	Own Goals	0

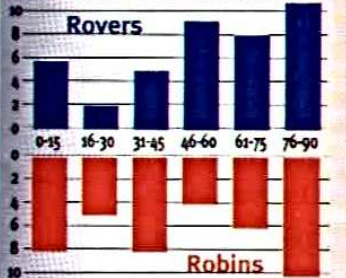
Where Goals Scored



Where Goals Conceded



When Goals Scored



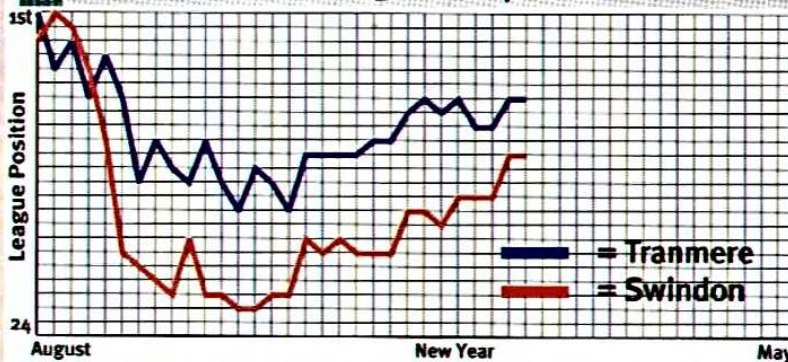
Form Guide - Last 6

2	Won	3
2	Drawn	3
2	Lost	0
8	For	13
9	Against	6
8	Points	12
-1	Goal Difference	7
LDDWWL	Sequence	DWWDWD

Yellow & Red Cards

43	Yellow	44
5	Red	1

Seasonal Progress Comparison



2002-2003 Attendances

Rovers	Aggregate	Robins
113,747	76,441	
9,795	Highest	7,564
5,980	Lowest	4,136
7,583	Average	5,096
46	% of Capacity	35

10 Year Record

Rovers	Avg Pos.	Robins
37.1	among 92 clubs	44.7
8,095	Avg Att 1993	15,011
7,602	Avg Att 2002	5,109
-6	+ / - %	-66

Average Goals per game

1.37	For	1.37
1.40	Home For	1.40
1.33	Away For	1.33
1.50	Against	1.43
1.00	Home Against	1.13
2.00	Away Against	1.73

2002-2003 Figures

33	Players Used	24
6	Clean Sheets	3
7	Failed to Score	9
4	Goals scored from...	
5	Corners	6
5	Free Kicks	3
6	Goals conceded from...	
2	Corners	2
2	Free Kicks	7

Top League Scorers

Player	League Goals	Games Played	Lge Goals/Game
Haworth	14	25	0.56
Parkin	17	27	0.63
	9	8	1.125
	8	3	2.667
	10	10	1.0
	1	5	0.2
	5	5	1.0
	4	4	1.0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0

Swings

TR	Games Won from:	ST
0	3 Goals Down	0
0	2 Goals Down	0
4	1 Goal Down	3
0	3 Goals Up	0
0	2 Goals Up	0
2	1 Goal Up	1
0	3 Goals Down	0
0	2 Goals Down	1
3	1 Goal Down	2
0	3 Goals Up	0
1	2 Goals Up	0
3	1 Goal Up	5

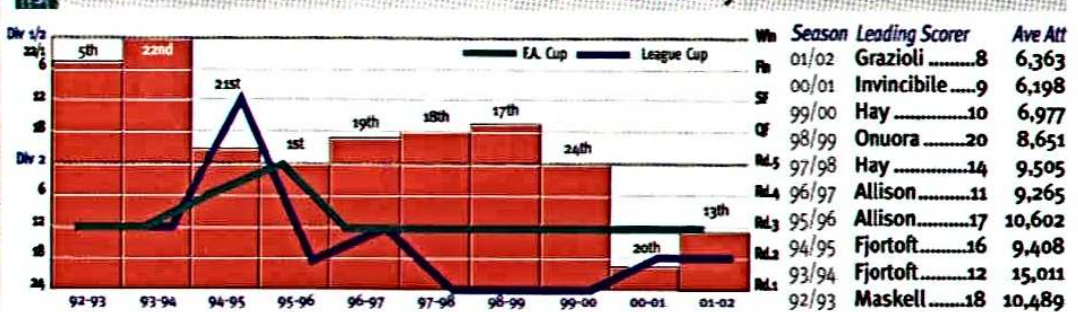
Margins

8	Won by 1 Gl	5
2	Won by 2 Gls	3
2	Won by 3 Gls	2
1	Won by 4 Gls	0
0	Won by 5+ Gls	0
2	Lost by 1 Gl	4
6	Lost by 2 Gls	6
1	Lost by 3 Gls	1
1	Lost by 4 Gls	0
1	Lost by 5+ Gls	0

Misc stats

1	Highest Pos.	1
15	Lowest Pos.	22
2	Winning Run	2
4	Unbeaten Run	7
2	Losing Run	6
3	No Win Run	7

Swindon Town's 10 Year History



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1. Which Second Division club have just smashed their transfer record by signing West Ham's Grant McCann for £50,000?
2. What was the nickname of 70's Leeds' star Allan Clarke?
3. Which nation lost in the final of Euro '96?
4. Which former Birmingham striker left Layer Road at the end of January after being in charge since 1999?
5. Which former Bury boss has just been named manager of non-league Southport?

half time quiz?

6. Which club was once known as Small Heath?
7. From which Spanish club have Bolton signed striker Saiva Ballesta on loan for the rest of the season?
8. What nationality is Coventry's Muhamed Kanjic?
9. Who was the most capped player in English International football between 1962 and 1973?
10. Name the First Division club which former England bosses, Sir Alf Ramsey and Sir Bobby Robson managed?

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Can you name this famous football boss from the "retro" picture above and clues below?

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Played for Tottenham, Monaco, Chelsea and Swindon Town.
CURRENT PREMIERSHIP MANAGER
Guided Swindon into Premiership as player/manager in 1992.

SOCCER DINGBATS

Guess the football team from the cartoon of their nickname and the clue provided.



CLUE

Their Manager once won European Cup-Winners Cup with Aberdeen

did you know?

Exeter City's new Honorary Director, actor Dave Prowse, played the villain DARTH VADER in the Star Wars feature films... AND, for those old enough to remember, he was also the 'Green Cross Code' man back in the '70's!!!



A fierce volley by the home striker bursts the matchball just BEFORE it crosses the opposition's goal-line. What decision do you give?

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Can you unscramble these four Premiership players?

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ozrico flanagan
dustychirographer

TRUE OR FALSE?

West Ham's new on-loan striker and ex England international Les Ferdinand, played in the FA Vase Final for Southall in the mid-90's?

NORM & EC

by Norman Hood



ANSWERS

HALF TIME QUIZ: 1. Creighton, 2. Swindon, 3. Aston Villa, 4. Steve Watson, 5. Mike Walsh, 6. Birmingham City, 7. Valencia, 8. Bobby Moore, 9. Ipswich, 10. Ipswich, SOCCER DINGBATS: Man Utd, WHO'S THE BOSS? Brian Clough, WHO ARE WE? Duff, Emmanuel, Peter, Christopher, Duggan, Clapham, 24. THE TRUE OR FALSE? True, IF YOU WERE THE REF. No goal as the ball size and weight is not in accordance with the laws of the game when it crossed the line.

UP CLOSE & PERSONAL



danny harrison

Who was your favourite Team when you were growing up and why?
It was in fact Tottenham - mostly because my dad supported them, and during that period, they had some great players...

Who was your favourite player when you were growing up?
Paul Gascoigne...

What the best ever goal that you've seen?
Gazza's wonderful free kick for Tottenham, against Arsenal, in the FA Cup Semi Final at Wembley in 1991...

What's the best ever game that you've seen?
It has to be Tranmere's amazing 4-3 win over Southampton in the FA Cup, when we came back from 3-0 down at half time...

What's the best game you've played in?
The 2000/2001 Lancashire Youth Cup Final against Blackpool at Bloomfield Road, when we won 2-1 - and my first team debut at home to Wigan last season...

What's the best goal you've ever scored?
My first senior goal against Hartlepool in the LDV Vans Trophy earlier this season, when we won 5-0...

Who is the toughest opponent you've faced?
Ali Benarbia from Manchester City - I faced him in this season's pre

season friendly, which we lost 7-1!
What was the first Football match you ever went to?
No doubt a Tranmere match - but I can't remember which one!

What's the funniest incident you've seen?
Kevin Gray almost rolling down the hill at Barnston Dale - and then falling into the stream at the bottom!...

What has been your most embarrassing moment?
Bowling in a cricket match against Corwen!...

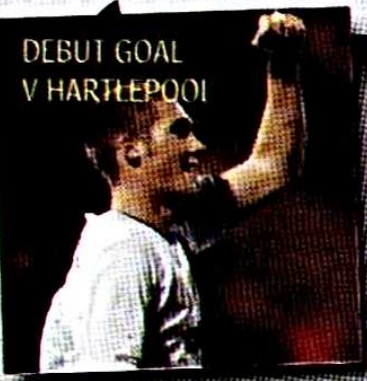
What's the best piece of advice you've been given?
"Enjoy your football and always work hard"...

Who has been the biggest influence on your career?
It has to be my family...

Who are your best friends in football?
All the lads at Tranmere, and Danny Climo, an ex-Rovers YT player...

Who do you room with and what are their worst habits?
Iain Hume - he spends all night cleaning his teeth with a broom and texting his missus!...

What do you hope to do after you finish playing?
Easy! - win the lottery and move abroad!...



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nationwide league division two

Date	Opponents	Res	Attn	Away	Goalkeeper															
Sat 10 Aug	A Port Vale	W 4-1	5,629	969	Welch(1)	Hinds	ALLEN	Gray	Sharps	Nicholson	Navarro	Mellon(2)	KOUMAS	Price(3)	HAWORTH					
Tue 13 Aug	H Colchester United	D 1-1	7,499	110	Feuer	Allen	Mellon	Gray	Sharps(1)	Price(2)	KOUMAS	Haworth	Navarro(3)	Nicholson	McGibbon					
Sat 17 Aug	H Cheltenham Town	W 1-0	6,807	378	Feuer	Allen	Mellon	Gray(3)	Sharps	Price(1)	Haworth	Navarro(2)	Harrison	Nicholson	McGibbon					
Sat 24 Aug	A Oldham Athletic	L 0-2	5,933	1,066	Achterberg	Allen	Gray	McGibbon	Navarro(1)	Nicholson	Sharps(2)	Koumas	Mellon	Price(3)	Haworth					
Mon 26 Aug	H Huddersfield Town	W 2-1	7,534	1,011	Achterberg	Sharps(1)	McGibbon	GRAY	Allen	Navarro(2)	Mellon	Koumas	Nicholson	Haworth(3)	Barlow					
Sat 31 Aug	A Bristol City	L 0-2	9,849	402	Achterberg	Allen	Mellon	Gray	Sharps(1)	Haworth	Barlow	Hinds	Nicholson(3)	Jones	Curtis(2)					
Sat 7 Sep	A Blackpool	L 0-3	6,834	1,338	Achterberg	Allen	Gray	Sharps(1)	Hinds	Jones	Mellon	Curtis(2)	Nicholson(3)	Barlow	Haworth					
Sat 14 Sep	H Brentford	W 3-1	6,626	198	Achterberg	Allen	Sharps	Gray(1)	Taylor	Jones	Mellon	Curtis(2)	Roberts	HAWORTH 2	PRICE					
Tue 17 Sep	H Wigan Athletic	L 0-2	8,153	1,461	Achterberg	Allen	Roberts	Mellon	Sharps	Price(1)	Haworth	Barlow	Taylor	Jones	Curtis(2)					
Sat 21 Sep	A Crewe Alexandra	L 0-2	6,875	1,231	Welch(1)	Allen	Roberts	Mellon	Price(2)	Haworth	Barlow	Taylor	Edwards	Jones	Curtis					
Sat 28 Sep	H Stockport County	W 1-0	7,513	837	Whitehead	Allen	Roberts	Taylor	Edwards	Mellon	Hay	Jones	Curtis	HAWORTH	Barlow					
Sat 5 Oct	A Mansfield Town	L 1-6	3,668	545	Whitehead	Taylor	Allen	Edwards	Nicholson	Mellon	Jones	Curtis	HAY	Haworth#	Parkinson					
Sat 12 Oct	A Chesterfield	L 0-1	4,111	563	Achterberg	Taylor	Allen	Edwards	Harrison	Mellon	Jones	Connelly	Nicholson	Hay(1)	Haworth					
Sat 19 Oct	H Barnsley	W 1-0	6,855	466	Achterberg	ALLEN	Mellon	Barlow(2)	Harrison	Taylor(1)	Nicholson	Connelly	Edwards	Jones	Curtis					
Sat 26 Oct	A Cardiff City**	L 0-4	12,096	202	Achterberg	Allen	Roberts(2)	Mellon(1)	Olsen	Harrison	Taylor	Nicholson	Connelly	Edwards	Proudlock					
Tue 29 Oct	H Peterborough United	D 1-1	5,980	187	Achterberg	Connelly	Allen#	Edwards	Nicholson	Taylor	Harrison	Jones	Roberts	Proudlock	Barlow(1)					
Sat 2 Nov	H Plymouth Argyle	W 2-1	7,083	575	Achterberg	Allen	Mellon	Haworth	Harrison(2)	Taylor(3)	Nicholson(1)	Connelly	Edwards	Jones	Proudlock					
Sat 9 Nov	A Swindon Town	D 1-1	5,077	481	Achterberg	Allen	Edwards	Connelly	Nicholson(2)	Roberts	Mellon	JONES	Price(1)	Haworth	Proudlock					
Sat 23 Nov	A Wycombe Wanderers	W 3-1	5,386	483	Achterberg	Allen	Roberts	Mellon	HAWORTH	BARLOW 2	Nicholson	Connelly(1)	Edwards	Jones	Proudlock					
Sat 30 Nov	H Luton Town	L 1-3	8,273	839	Achterberg	Allen	ROBERTS	Gray	Barlow(1)	Harrison(2)	Taylor	Nicholson	Edwards	Jones	M.ROBINSON					
Sat 14 Dec	A Northampton Town	W 4-0	4,268	487	Achterberg	Allen	Mellon	HAWORTH 2	Barlow	Hume(1)	TAYLOR	Nicholson	Connelly	Edwards	Jones					
Sat 21 Dec	H Notts County	D 2-2	8,275	324	Achterberg	ALLEN#	Mellon	HAWORTH	Barlow(1)	Hay(7)	Taylor#	Nicholson	Connelly	Jones	JACKSON					
Thu 26 Dec	H Huddersfield Town	W 2-1	11,002	1,321	Achterberg	Allen	ROBERTS	Mellon	Haworth	Barlow	Hay(1)	NICHOLSON(p)	Connelly	Jones	JACKSON					
Sat 28 Dec	H Queens Park Rangers	W 3-0	8,434	522	Achterberg	Roberts	Mellon	Sharps(1)	HAWORTH	Barlow(2)	Hay(1)	Nicholson	Connelly	JONES 2	JACKSON					
Wed 1 Jan	H Oldham Athletic	L 1-2	9,795	1,521	Achterberg	Allen	Roberts	Mellon	HAWORTH	Barlow	Hay(1)	Taylor(2)	Connelly	Jones	JACKSON					
Sat 4 Jan	A Colchester United	D 2-2	2,846	402	Achterberg	Roberts	MELLON	HAWORTH	Barlow(1)	Hume	Hay	Connelly	Loran	Jones	JACKSON					
Sat 18 Jan	H Bristol City	D 1-1	7,459	676	Achterberg	Roberts	Mellon	Sharps	HAWORTH	Barlow(1)	Hume	Hay(7)	Connelly	Jones	JACKSON					
Sat 25 Jan	A Queens Park Rangers	W 2-1	12,749	599	Achterberg	Roberts	Mellon	Sharps	HAWORTH	Barlow(1)	Hinds	Hume(2)	Nicholson(3)	Connelly	Jones					
Sat 1 Feb	H Port Vale	W 1-0	7,461	483	Achterberg	Roberts	Mellon	Sharps	Haworth	Barlow	Hinds	Hume	Nicholson(1)	Connelly	Jones					
Tue 4 Feb	A Cheltenham Town	L 1-3	9,936	424	Achterberg(2)	Roberts	Mellon	SHARPS	Haworth	Barlow	Hinds(1)	Hume	Nicholson(3)	Connelly	Jones					
Sat 8 Feb	H Swindon Town																			
Sat 15 Feb	A Plymouth Argyle																			
Sat 22 Feb	H Blackpool																			
Sat 1 Mar	A Brentford																			
Tue 4 Mar	A Wigan Athletic																			
Sat 8 Mar	H Crewe Alexandra																			
Fri 14 Mar	H Cardiff City																			
Tue 18 Mar	A Barnsley																			
Sat 22 Mar	A Peterborough United																			
Sat 29 Mar	H Chesterfield																			
Sat 5 Apr	A Luton Town																			
Sat 12 Apr	H Wycombe Wanderers																			
Sat 19 Apr	A Notts County																			
Mon 21 Apr	H Northampton Town																			
Sat 26 Apr	H Mansfield Town																			
Sat 3 May	A Stockport County																			

fa cup

Date	Opponents	Res	Attn	Away	Goalkeeper															
Sat 16 Nov	H Cardiff City (1)	D 2-2	5,592	466	Achterberg	Allen	Roberts	Mellon	HAWORTH	BARLOW	Taylor(1)	Nicholson(2)	Connelly(3)	Edwards	Jones					
Tue 26 Nov	A Cardiff City (1R)	L 1-2	6,853	104	Achterberg#	Allen	Roberts	MELLON	Gray	Haworth(1)	Barlow	Taylor(2)	Nicholson(3)	Edwards	Jones					

worthington cup

Date	Opponents	Res	Attn	Away	Goalkeeper															
Tue 10 Sep	A Hartlepool United (1)	W 2-1	2,778	117	Achterberg	TAYLOR	Allen	Gray	Sharps	Roberts	Mellon	Jones	Curtis	HAWORTH	Barlow(1)					
Wed 2 Oct	A Southampton (2)	L 1-6	16,603	614	Whitehead	Taylor	Roberts(1)	Edwards	ALLEN	Harrison	Jones	Mellon	Curtis	Hay(2)	Barlow(1)					

ldv vans trophy (northern section)

Date	Opponents	Res	Attn	Away	Goalkeeper															
Tue 22 Oct	H Hartlepool United (1)	W 5-0	3,387	67	Achterberg	Connelly	Allen	Edwards(1)	Nicholson	TAYLOR	HARRISON	Mellon	Curtis(2)	ROBERTS(3)	JONES 2					
Tue 12 Nov	A Macclesfield Town (2)	W 2-1	1,145	683	Achterberg	Roberts	Mellon(1)	Gray	Haworth	Taylor(2)	Nicholson	Connelly	Edwards	Jones	Proudlock					
Tue 10 Dec	A Bury (QF)	L 0-2	1,656	522	Achterberg	Allen	Roberts	Mellon	Sharps(2)	Haworth	Barlow	Taylor(1)	Nicholson(3)	Connelly	Jones					



Nationwide 2 TABLE 2002/03

Sub 1	Sub 2	Sub 3	Sub 4	Sub 5	Referee
Nixon	Harrison	Barlow	Hume	Olsen	S. Baines
Hume	Barlow	Harrison	Parkinson	Nixon	M. Pice
BARLOW	Parkinson	Hume	McGuire	Achterberg	M. Cooper
Harrison	Hume	Barlow	Welch	Hinds	G. Laws
Hume	Harrison	PRICE	Welch	Hinds	G. Salisbury
Hume	Parkinson	Price	Harrison	Nixon	M. Warren
Hume	Parkinson	Price	Welch	Olsen	P. Robinson
Barlow	Parkinson	Welch	Hume	Olsen	P. Dowd
Hume	Parkinson	Welch	Olsen	Edwards	S. Mathieson
Nixon	Parkinson(3)	Hume	Sharps	Harrison	A. Kaye
Sharps	Parkinson	Olsen	Harrison	Nixon	C. Wilkes
Olsen	Barlow	Harrison	Sharps	Achterberg	B. Curson
Barlow	Whitehead	Hinds	Olsen	Sharps	M. Fletcher
Parkinson	Roberts	Sharps	Hay	Whitehead	R. Styles
Barlow	Parkinson	Gray	McGuire	Whitehead	C. Penton
HUME	Gray	Hay	Olsen	Whitehead	E. Evans
ROBERTS	Price	Hume	Gray	Paethorpe	S. Dunn
Taylor	Barlow	Harrison	Howarth	Gray	F. Stretton
Gray	Howarth	Hay	Harrison	Taylor	M. Thorpe
Hume	Olsen	Sharps	Howarth	Hay	A. Penn
HAY	Sharps	Howarth	Hinds	M. Robinson	P. Crossley
Roberts	Hinds	Howarth	Hume	M. Robinson	M. Ryan
Hinds	Howarth	Hume	Taylor	Robinson	A. Leake
Hume	M. Robinson	Howarth	Hinds	Taylor	M. Cowburn
Hume	M. Robinson	Sharps	Howarth	Hinds	C. Foy
M. Robinson	Sharps	Howarth	Olsen	McGuire	I. Cable
Price	Nicholson	Howarth	Hinds	M. Robinson	B. Curson
Hay	Price	M. ROBINSON	Howarth	McGuire	P. Rejer
Taylor	Loran	Allen	Howarth	Hay	P. Robinson
Allen	Howarth	Taylor	Hay	Loran	C. Penton

Sub 1	Sub 2	Sub 3	Sub 4	Sub 5	Referee
Hay	Harrison	Gray	Howarth	Olsen	M. Fletcher
Hume	Howarth	Hay	Sharps	Harrison	M. Fletcher

Sub 1	Sub 2	Sub 3	Sub 4	Sub 5	Referee
Hume	Price	Parkinson	Welch	Harrison	M. Clattenburg
Hinds	Olsen	Parkinson	Achterberg	Sharps	P. Taylor

Sub 1	Sub 2	Sub 3	Sub 4	Sub 5	Referee
Gray	Olsen	Hume	Barlow	Whitehead	M. Warren
BARLOW 2	Harrison	Sharps	Hay	Paethorpe	P. Joslin
Hume	A. Robinson	M. Robinson	Hinds	Nixon	A. Bates

	Home					Away					GD	Pts	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F			A
1 Wigan	30	10	4	1	26	11	11	2	2	23	7	31	69
2 Crewe	30	9	2	4	21	11	8	5	2	32	16	26	58
3 Cardiff	29	10	3	2	27	10	7	3	4	19	14	22	57
4 Oldham	30	7	3	5	25	14	8	7	0	21	12	20	55
5 Bristol City	29	8	4	2	25	10	7	3	5	28	22	21	52
6 QPR	30	9	2	4	23	15	5	5	5	18	19	7	49
7 Tranmere	30	8	4	3	21	15	5	2	8	20	30	-4	45
8 Luton	28	5	4	4	21	15	7	4	4	21	21	6	44
9 Blackpool	29	8	5	2	26	14	4	3	7	12	23	1	44
10 Plymouth	29	7	4	4	24	18	4	5	5	15	16	5	42
11 Swindon	30	6	4	5	21	17	4	5	6	20	26	-2	39
12 Wycombe	30	7	3	5	31	25	3	5	7	12	15	3	38
13 Brentford	27	6	5	2	16	7	4	3	7	16	23	2	38
14 Chesterfield	29	8	3	4	20	15	3	2	9	6	21	-10	38
15 Notts County	30	4	6	5	24	26	2	7	6	19	23	-6	31
16 Peterborough	30	4	4	7	16	16	3	6	6	15	23	-8	31
17 Port Vale	28	4	3	6	15	18	4	4	7	16	23	-10	31
18 Stockport	30	5	5	5	26	26	3	1	11	14	25	-11	30
19 Northampton	30	5	2	8	16	19	3	4	8	11	28	-20	30
20 Barnsley	29	4	6	5	19	23	3	2	9	13	22	-13	29
21 Mansfield	30	5	2	8	27	31	3	3	9	18	33	-19	29
22 Colchester	29	3	6	6	13	16	3	4	7	16	26	-13	28
23 Cheltenham	29	4	4	6	13	19	2	6	7	14	22	-14	28
24 Huddersfield	29	5	5	5	15	14	2	2	10	6	21	-14	28

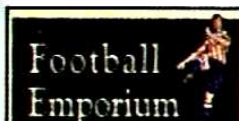
PLAYER STATS 2002/03

Surname	FN	Birthplace	D.O.B	Pos	TOTALS			CLUB		
					A	S	G	A	S	G
ACHTERBERG	John	Utrecht	08/07/71	GK	29	0	0	149	4	0
ALLEN	Graham	Bolton	08/04/77	DEF	30	1	3	163	8	10
BAKER	Phillip	Birkenhead	04/11/82	DEF	0	0	0	0	0	0
BARLOW	Stuart	Liverpool	16/07/68	FOR	23	9	7	74	40	27
CONNELLY	Sean	Sheffield	26/06/70	DEF	21	0	0	21	0	0
CURTIS*	Tom	Exeter	01/03/73	MID	10	0	0	11	0	0
DUNBAR	Karl	Birkenhead	04/10/83	MID	0	0	0	0	0	0
EDWARDS*	Christian	Caerphilly	23/11/75	DEF	17	0	0	17	0	0
FEUER*	Ian	Las Vegas	20/05/71	GK	2	0	0	2	0	0
GRAY	Kevin	Sheffield	07/01/72	DEF	12	3	1	12	3	1
HARRISON	Danny	Liverpool	04/11/82	MID	9	6	1	11	6	1
HAWORTH	Simon	Cardiff	30/03/77	FOR	30	0	15	43	0	21
HAY	Alex	Birkenhead	14/10/81	FOR	10	5	2	16	5	2
HINDS	Richard	Sheffield	22/08/80	DEF	6	3	0	51	18	0
HOWARTH	Russell	York	27/03/82	GK	0	2	0	0	2	0
HUME	Iain	Edinburgh	30/10/83	FOR	5	16	1	8	45	1
KOUMAS*	Jason	Wrexham	25/09/79	MID	4	0	2	114	36	32
JACKSON+	Michael	Liverpool	04/12/73	DEF	5	0	0	6	0	0
JONES	Gary	Chester	10/05/75	MID	30	0	6	175	68	39
LINWOOD	Paul	Birkenhead	24/10/83	DEF	0	0	0	0	0	0
LORAN+	Tyrone	Amsterdam	29/06/81	DEF	2	1	0	2	1	0
MELLON	Mickey	Paisley	18/03/72	MID	33	0	2	127	19	8
McGIBBON*	Pat	Lurgan	06/09/73	DEF	4	0	0	4	0	0
McGUIRE	Jamie	Birkenhead	13/11/83	MID	0	0	0	0	0	0
NAVARRO	Alan	Liverpool	31/05/81	DEF	5	0	0	29	0	2
NICHOLSON	Shane	Newark	03/06/70	DEF	27	0	1	27	0	1
NIXON	Eric	Manchester	04/10/62	GK	0	2	0	432	6	0
OLSEN	James	Liverpool	23/10/81	DEF	1	4	0	1	5	0
PARKINSON	Andy	Liverpool	27/05/79	FOR	1	6	0	130	71	25
PRICE	Jason	Aberdare	12/04/77	MID	8	4	1	34	9	13
PROUDLOCK*	Adam	Wellington	09/05/81	FOR	6	0	0	6	0	0
ROBERTS	Gareth	Wrexham	06/02/78	DEF	23	3	4	164	6	7
ROBINSON+	Andy	Birkenhead	03/11/79	FOR	0	1	0	0	1	0
ROBINSON	Paul	Newcastle	28/05/83	FOR	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROBINSON+	Marvin	Crewe	11/04/80	FOR	1	5	1	1	5	1
SHARPS	Ian	Warrington	23/10/80	DEF	14	0	1	45	5	1
TAYLOR	Ryan	Liverpool	19/08/84	DEF	21	3	3	21	3	3
WELCH*	Keith	Bolton	03/10/68	GK	2	0	0	2	0	0
WHITEHEAD*	Phillip	Halifax	17/12/69	GK	3	0	0	3	0	0
OWN GOALS	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-

* no longer with club + player on loan

STATISTICS KEY

Goalscorers in CAPITALS Number in brackets ie. (3) - player replaced by substitute number
 \$ - Own Goal # - Sent Off > - AET 1-1: Won on golden goal
 ** - Live on SKY SPORTS KO. 5.35pm



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COMING SOON



thenextinstalment

H O M E



Blackpool

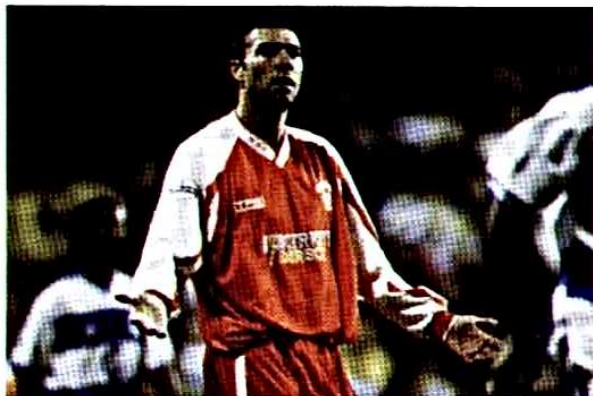
Saturday 22 February 2003
Nationwide League Division Two
Kick Off 3.00pm at Prenton Park

Steve McMahon's Tangerines are next up at Prenton Park in what is always an entertaining encounter.

Last season saw us run out 4-0 winners on a rainy Thursday night on ITV Digital! This season has seen Blackpool not only playing in a nearly finished new stadium, but up there challenging with ourselves for one of the play off spots.

With a 3-0 hammering at Bloomfield Rd to remind us just how difficult they are this season, we will be looking for revenge, and a continuation of our own good home form.

Always a treat, if only to see the McMahon clan in the Tranmere Suite after the game (Steve's brother is Tranmere Youth team supreme John) this is one not to miss!...



A W A Y



Plymouth Argyle

Saturday 15 February 2003
Nationwide League Division Two
Kick Off 3.00pm at Home Park

By Car: M53/M56/M6/M5 to A38 towards Tavistock Road (A386), then branch left following signs for Plymouth (A386) and continue for 1.25 miles. The car park for the ground is on left (signposted Home Park).

Car Parking: At ground - space for 1,000 cars

By Train: Liverpool Lime Street to Plymouth North Road. Check timetables for availability.

Visitors Section: Barn Park Stand (signposted).

Club Shop: At ground

Disabled Supporters: Spaces for 60 wheelchairs - bookings must be made in advance, ring 01752 562561.

Website: www.pafc.co.uk

Main Telephone: 01752 562561

Last Seasons' Results: n/a



next

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Saturday 15 February 2003 - Nationwide League Division Two - KO 3.00pm
Plymouth Argyle (Away)
 Admission: Cash On The Turnstiles: Seats - Adults £15 Seniors £10 Juniors U16 £5
 Official Coach Travel: Executive Travel Only. Departs Main Car Park 7.00am
 Members: Adults £20.50 Concessions £19.00
 Non-Members: Adults £21.50 Concessions £20.00
 Matchday Programme: £2.50 (Correct at time going to press).



Saturday 1 March 2003 - Nationwide League Division Two - KO 3.00pm
Brentford (Away)
 Admission: Cash On The Turnstiles: Seats - Adults £15 Seniors £10 Student £10adv
 Juniors U16 £2 Terrace - Adults £11, Seniors £5, Student £5adv Juniors U16 £2
 Official Coach Travel: Executive Only. For Departure Details Please Ring The Ticket Office
 Members: Adults £18.00 Concessions £16.50
 Non-Members: Adults £19.00 Concessions £17.50
 Matchday Programme: £2.50 (Correct at time going to press).



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teamselection

Tranmere Rovers v Swindon Town

The Officials

Referee:
Mr. E. L. Roberts

Assistant Referees:
Mr. I. Shaw
& Mr. M. Wilson

Fourth Official:
Mr. J. F. Tattan

This Weekend's Fixtures



- Brentford v Crewe
- Bristol City v Colchester
- Cardiff v Barnsley
- Cheltenham v Stockport
- Chesterfield v Peterborough
- Mansfield v Notts County
- Northampton v QPR
- Oldham v Plymouth
- Port Vale v Luton
- Wigan v Blackpool
- Wycombe v Huddersfield

John Achterberg	1	Bart Griemink	
Graham Allen	2	Gareth Edds	
Gareth Roberts	3	Dean Marney	
Mickey Mellon	4	Matt Hewlett	
Kevin Gray	5	Adam Willis	
Ian Sharps	6	Andy Gurney	
Jason Price	7	Keith O'Halloran	
	8	Jerel Ifil	
Simon Haworth	9	Sam Parkin	
Alan Navarro	10	Stefan Migioranzi	
Stuart Barlow	11	David Duke	
Andy Parkinson	12	Juan Cobian	
Russell Howarth	13		
Richard Hinds	14	Eric Sabin	
Iain Hume	15	Darren Dykes	
Alex Hay	16	Luke Nightingale	
James Olsen	17	Danny Invincible	
Danny Harrison	18	Craig Farr	
Phillip Baker	19	Matt Heywood	
Ryan Taylor	20	Alan Judge	
Jamie McGuire	21	David Bampton	
Paul Robinson	22	Alan Reeves	
Paul Linwood	23	Nathan Edwards	
Karl Dunbar	24	Kevin Halliday	
Shane Nicholson	25	Steve Robinson	
Sean Connelly	26	Alan Young	
	27	Chris Collins	
Tyrone Loran	28	Steve Smith	
	29	Chris Taylor	
	30		
Andy Robinson	31		
Eric Nixon	32		
	33		
Gary Jones	34		
	35		
	36		
Marvin Robinson	37		

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18

Next Home Game

Blackpool

Nationwide League Division Two

Saturday 22 February 2003 Kick Off 3.00pm



teams



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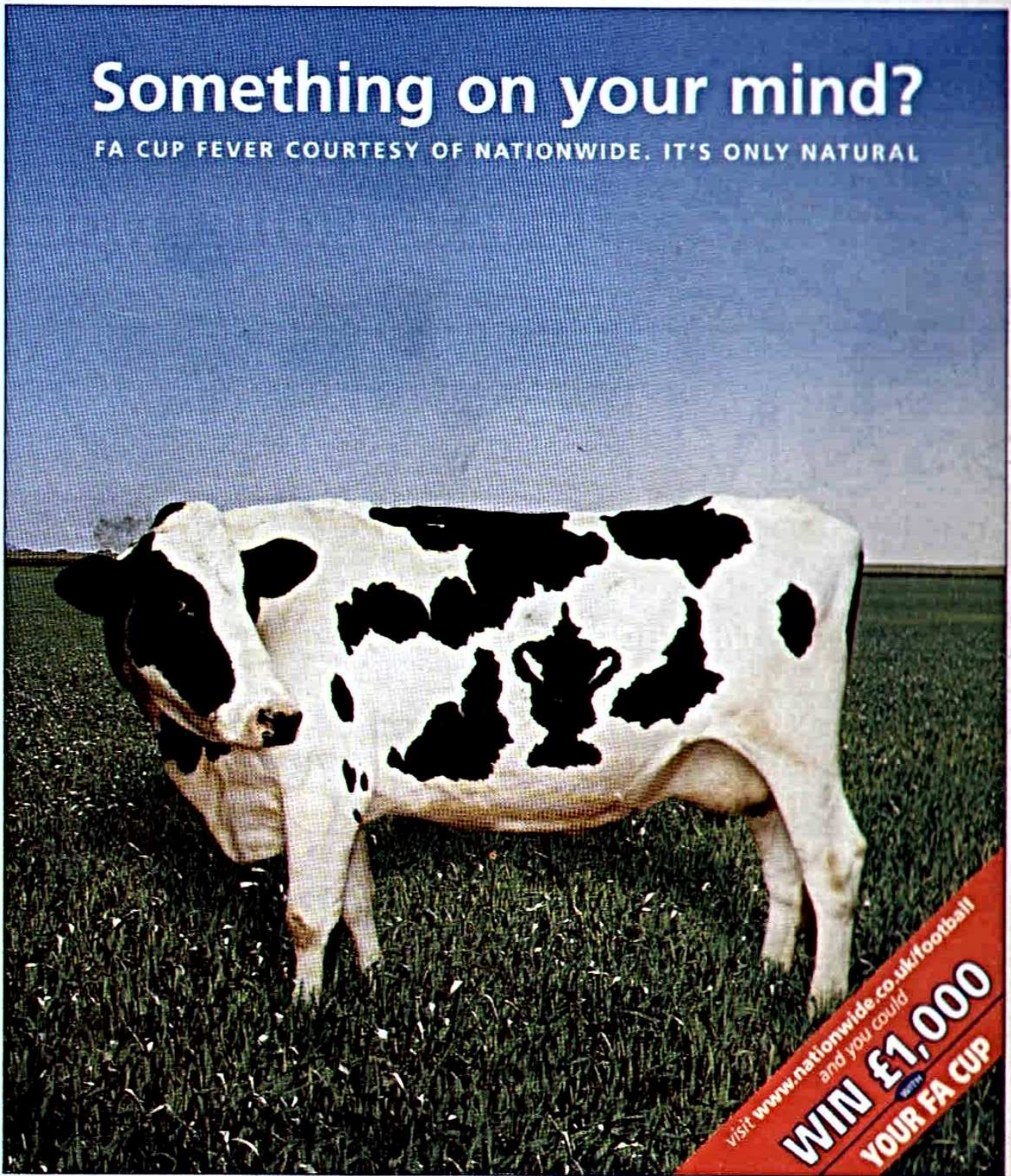
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