

BLACKBURN ROVERS



Official Match Programme 30p

Blackburn Rovers v Luton Town

Football League Division Two, Saturday, 13th September, 1980. Kick-off 3 p.m.



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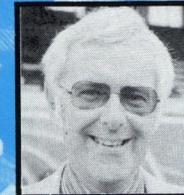
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HOWARD KENDALL

THIS afternoon it is a pleasure to extend a greeting to the players, management, directors and fans of Luton Town F.C.

The men from Kenilworth Road have, like Blackburn Rovers, had mixed fortunes in recent years, but last season they for so long looked like making it to the top grade. Unfortunately for them, a number of bad results right at the end of the season meant that they missed out on promotion for what would have been their third spell in the First Division. However, I am sure that if they can emulate their earlier form of last term, they will certainly be in the hunt for premier status football.

The 'Hatters' have built up a reputation over the last few years of a side that likes to play an open and attractive style of soccer which is so important for the game as a whole. Credit for this must in no small way be attributed to their Manager, David Pleat, who took over the reigns as 'Boss' during a difficult time at the club. He was for a spell manager of non-League Nuneaton - an excellent training ground for the pressures of full-time management in the Football League. I wish him and his side well for the future, although, of course, we cannot guarantee them any joy this afternoon!

Our last home game with Shrewsbury proved to be an exciting encounter and I was particularly pleased with our overall performance, although I felt we were unlucky not to have scored more goals than we did with so many on-target shots. If we can keep our shooting on such an accurate footing, then it is only a matter of time before we get the goals that everyone wants to see.

The game at Gillingham proved as tough as I had predicted. The Kent side always seem to reserve their best performances for

clashes with the Rovers, and so I was delighted with the final result, which although going into extra time, I felt we deserved.

Gillingham gave us two hard games last season and if they continue to play against other teams as they have against us, I'm sure that they will be mounting a serious drive for promotion to a higher status come the end of the term.

Although we have had an early crop of injuries to key players, it is pleasing to note the form shown by players coming into the side. It is always difficult to tell a good professional that he has been left out of the first team - but if they are not disappointed then they are not good professionals! I have tried to get the message through to the players that over the next few months I will need all of them. It is a credit to all of my players that they so desperately want first team duty and we are indeed fortunate that such a good spirit exists within the club - something that is vital if we are going to make a positive effort in facing this season's difficult campaign.

Two of our younger players have received some recognition recently. Chris Pierce was put on stand-by for the Welsh Under-21 squad and Phil Williamson, who at 17, is a regular member of the Central League side, has been selected to attend an F.A. Youth coaching session. I congratulate them both.

Talk about

**by J. W. HOWARTH (Secretary)**

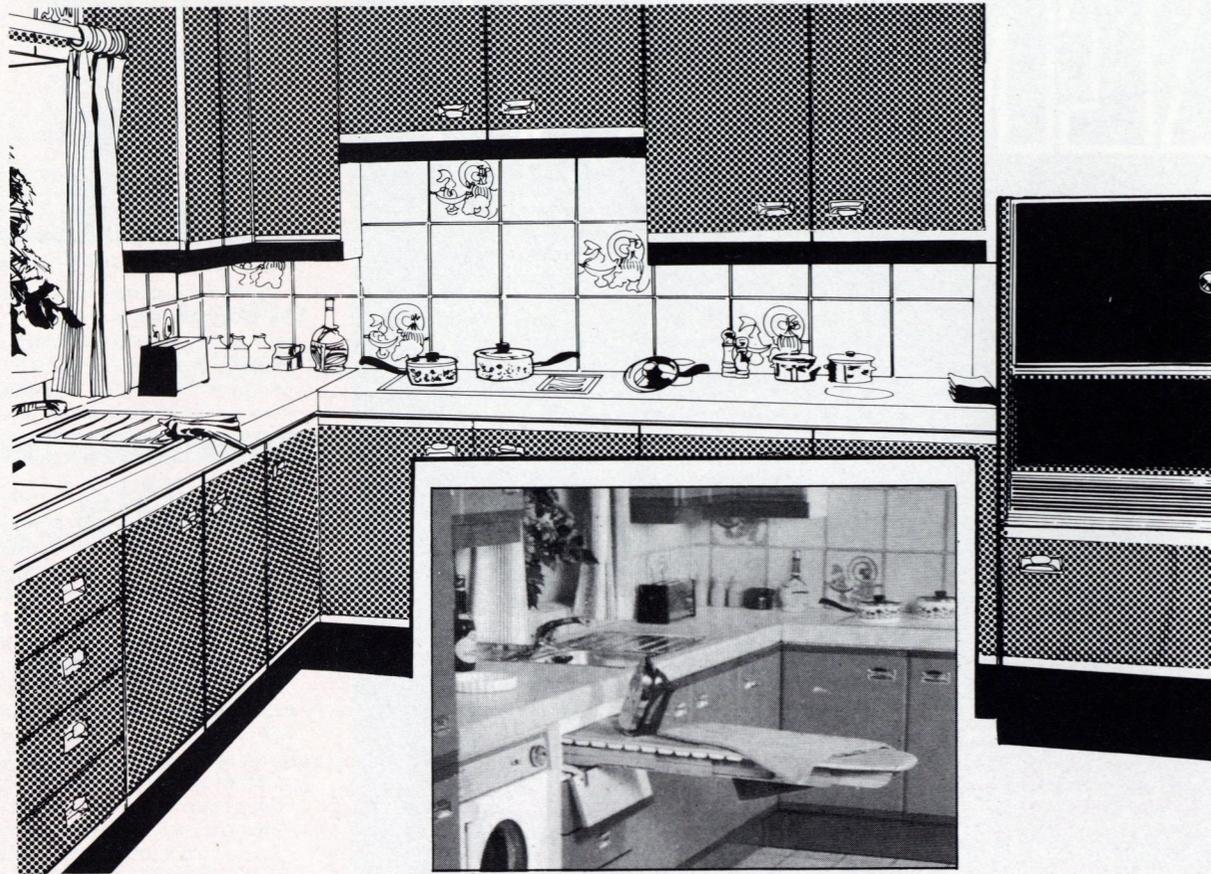
I THINK it is important for supporters of Blackburn Rovers to realise that a lot of hard work goes into the organisation of first team home matches. And we at the Rovers recognise that the Club has responsibilities to ensure that matches remain trouble-free by seeing that crowd behaviour is maintained in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Football Association and Football League.

Today I would like to mention a few points so that supporters can help us in a positive manner. Firstly by ensuring that supporters who stand in the Enclosure areas refrain from climbing onto the new fence we have erected. Also, we have received several complaints from customers who don't like the unnecessary noise from the use of radio sets, especially at Central League matches. Once again, I would like to make a come early plea to evening matches. Our turnstiles are in operation at least one hour before the advertised time of kick-off unless otherwise stated and, when supporters are arriving ten minutes before the kick-off it causes last minute congestion at the turnstiles.

This season we have acquired more season ticket holders in 'A' Block of the Nuttall Street Stand and arrangements have been made for them to enter through turnstiles numbered 11 and 12.

Another acquisition this season is the use of Little Wembley Car Park (charge 30p) and supporters wishing to use this Car Park should enter via Calico Street entrance ONLY.

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HOW THE MIGHTY FALL

LAST week's crop of League Cup clashes realised the usual upside down results that are a special feature of Cup competitions. Every manager must dread the possibility of such a result when he hears that his particular side has been drawn against a side from a lower division.

It is one of the features of our national game when one of the League's minnows topples the giant from his loft perch.

Lawrie MacMenemy will have felt the chills run down his spine as Elton John's Watford side gradually eroded the Saints' four-goal lead from the first leg – but to have seven put past you, especially when you are in joint first position of the First Division! Southampton will have to bear the brunt of chants and jibes all season from rival fans.

Mind you, former Rovers' favourite Ken Knighton won't feel much better over at Roker Park. Little Stockport County went up to the North East for the second leg and they, too, managed a David and Goliath act, sending the newly-promoted First Division side crashing out of the competition.

This feat by the men from Edgeley Park has earned them a trip to Highbury for a lucrative tie with the mighty 'Gunners'.

Former Rovers' manager Jim Iley must have chuckled when his relegated Bury side bundled Newcastle United out of the Cup, although the Magpies are having a lean spell and are without a manager since the departure of Bill McGarry.

Results like this, although proving a real sickener for the suffering clubs and their fans, are generally good for the game.

When the two-legged system was introduced recently for the Second Round, 1 and many others felt that if anything this would give the advantage to the bigger clubs. Even if the mighty fell at the first hurdle (as Liverpool did at Bradford City) they could always put it to right at the next attempt.

Receipts from such a tie as Stockport away to Arsenal can provide such a cash bonus to the smaller club that it would probably take in their case a dozen or so games to amass the pickings drawn in just one match. This is

often a lifeline for the smaller clubs, who can ensure their future survival from a good Cup run.

As for Rovers – well, we progress to a game with another former manager, Jim Smith, at St. Andrews, which should prove an interesting clash.

By checking through the history books, we recall some red faces, too, around Ewood in days gone past.

In just the second year of the League Cup the Rovers started a run which included the scalps of Peterborough, Bristol Rovers, Notts Forest (away), Ipswich and Rotherham. This put the Ewood club in the semi-final with Rochdale. The Spotland side defeating First Division Rovers by four goals to three on aggregate!

The classic result of all time for Rovers is undoubtedly in the 1964-65 campaign for the League Cup. After going to Bolton in the Second Round and thrashing the Burnden men by five goals to one, we were paired with lowly Workington, away. After a goalless draw up there we entertained them – or should I say they entertained us at Ewood, beating us, still a First Division outfit, by five goals to one. What a humiliation!

It happens to all clubs and it's good for the game that it does. Soccer would be very boring if the outcome of a game were to become so predictable.

Half Time Quiz...

THIS week we have received a letter from G. Paul, of 504 Whalley New Road, Roe Lee, Blackburn, who writes: "After reading the latest issues of the Rovers' programme, I am disappointed to see that you have stopped including the quiz which was popular with supporters before the game and at half-time".

This is a good point, Mr Paul. We felt that last year's programme was rather stereotyped and the aim this season is to give the fans plenty of reading material and to review features and articles, to enable not only an attractive programme to be available, but one which is different in make-up each week.

However, on the point of the quiz, we have, as you will have noticed, run a couple of quizzes for our junior members in their

column on page 20, but as our policy is to give you, the fans, what you want, we have produced some questions 'to get you going' below:

- 1 Watford goalkeeper Steve Harrison formerly played for Vancouver Whitecaps but which other Football League Club did he play for?
- 2 Which famous player of the past became the oldest footballer to play in an F.A. Cup game at the age of 49 back in 1924?
- 3 Who was the first coloured player ever to wear an England shirt?
- 4 Which European International scored a debut hat-trick in 1966 for his country?
- 5 This player won his first England Cap at the end of the thirties, scored in each of his first six games for his country and ended his playing career with Arsenal. Who is he?

- 6 Which two League Clubs failed to register a win away from home last season?
- 7 For which English First Division side did the present manager of Leicester City keep goal?
- 8 Besides Kevin Keegan, which other player did Liverpool sign from Scunthorpe?
- 9 Which country won the European Nations Cup in 1960?
- 10 Which English League Club scored the most goals in a single game, how many, and who were the unlucky victims?

Answers: 1, Blackpool; 2, Billy Meredith; 3, Swindon Town v Bury, 8-0.
Wallace); 8, Ray Clemence; 9, Russia; 10, and Charlton Athletic; 7, West Brom (Jack 4, Johan Cruyff; 5, Tommy Lawton; 6, Bolton Lawrie Cunningham (Under-21 International);

Welcome to our VISITORS

Luton Town F.C.

TODAY we extend a warm greeting to the men from Kenilworth Road – **Luton Town**.

It was in 1897 that Luton made their Football League entrance as members of Division Two, but after just three seasons they failed to secure re-election and they dropped into obscurity until 1920 when they re-appeared on the League scene as founder members of the newly-formed Division Three (South).

In 1937 they were successful in climbing into the Second Division and later in 1955 they reached the First Division for the first time in their history. In 1959 they made their one and only trip to Wembley for an F.A. Cup Final, where they were beaten 2-1 by Nottingham Forest.

What followed this was something short of the incredible – the club slipping to the basement division by 1965. But to their credit the 'Hatters' made a recovery and in just nine seasons they made their way back to Division One, albeit for one season in 1974-5.

Around that time it was well known that the club was in serious financial difficulties, but despite that pressure the club has been a regular member of the Second Division since that time and have kept up a policy for being a footballing side, thus giving the spectators the entertainment they deserve.

Dramatic upheavals at the club enabled **David Pleat** to take over the hot seat in the Spring of 1978, after the departure of Harry Haslam. Previous to this he had been reserve team coach for just one month!

The former Kenilworth Road favourite had a spell with non-League Nuneaton as manager, which has stood him in good stead. He is a fully qualified F.A. Coach and in the mid-sixties he was a winger for the club during three seasons. After that he spent some time on the coaching staff with Luton's junior sides before stepping up to the Manager's office.

Last season the club had a good season and were pressing for promotion for most of the time but in the final run-in the club just slipped out of the coveted top three positions and missed out on a third attempt in the Premier League.

Luton's highest-ever fee for a goalkeeper changed hands when Scots-born **Jake Findlay**

was brought out of the shadows at Villa Park to be given the chance to prove that he is capable of winning international honours. He had been almost permanently in the reserves for nine years before he moved from Aston Villa to Luton for £100,000 in November, 1978, but is now firmly established as one of the best goalkeepers in the Second Division.

Alan Judge was recruited from schoolboy soccer in Hertfordshire. He has the unenviable task of being understudy to Findlay. He joined Luton as an apprentice in 1976, and made his League debut at Newcastle last season.

Club captain and Luton's longest-serving player is **Paul Price**, whose career has had more than its share of ups and downs. As a defender he was marked out as something special as a schoolboy at Welwyn Garden City, in Hertfordshire, and Luton had to move swiftly to sign him as an apprentice. He was on the verge of winning a place in the League side when he was 20, but then broke his leg. Tragedy struck again when he made his comeback, because he broke it for the second time a year later. Once more he fought back and has been one of Luton's most consistent Second Division players for the past five seasons. And his battle against adversity brought an extra bonus last summer when he became a Welsh International, qualifying for the country of his father's birth.

Inside information in the hard world of non-League football enabled Luton Manager, David Pleat, to snap up **Kirk Stephens**, a young prospect who has since become the envy of several First Division clubs. Stephens was happily playing as a part-timer at Nuneaton when the Luton boss signed him in the summer of 1978 and pushed him straight into the Second Division. Quick in the tackle and ever willing to raid down the flanks, Stephens rapidly became a firm favourite at Kenilworth Road, collecting the supporters' 'Player of the Year' award in his first season.

Luton nipped in smartly with a £50,000 cheque to bring defender **Mark Aizlewood** out of the Fourth Division. Other clubs had made enquiries to Newport County about the Welsh Youth International, and at Luton he went on to

be capped by Wales at Under-21 level as well.

But increasing competition for places last season meant that Aizlewood always had to battle for his chances in the Second Division.

Luton's record fee of £200,000 persuaded Mansfield to part with their star centre-half **Mike Saxby** in the summer of 1979 – and every penny was money well spent so far as Luton were concerned. His consistency, particularly his strength in the air, was a major reason for Luton's ability to stay in the promotion race for so long last season, and at 22 he looks well set for a long career as a defensive kingpin.

Football supporters in Larne, in Northern Ireland, are still smarting over the loss of elegant defender **Mal Donaghy**. Luton snapped him up for a bargain £20,000. Inexperienced and still only 20, he settled immediately into the Second Division and has developed into a versatile and thoughtful player. He made such good progress at Luton that he became a Northern Ireland International last summer.

Luton's first excursion into the European transfer market brought **Radomir Antic** (pronounced Anteesh) to this country, with five Yugoslav International Caps to his name. He had been playing for Zaragossa in Spain and there was a public outcry when they decided to let him go. Luton signed him for a token fee, just a few weeks after the 30-year-old defender had been chosen "Foreign Player of the Year" by the Spanish soccer Press.

A place in Luton's League squad last season was just reward for **Wayne Turner**, a player who has been nurtured at his home town club since becoming an apprentice in 1977. He is happy in midfield or defence, and is one of the youngsters at Kenilworth Road putting increasing pressure on the established names for a regular place in the Luton side.

Fans and officials of Orient were convinced that they had been robbed when Luton swooped to sign **Tony Grealish**, their midfield star, in the summer of 1979. An Eire International, he took advantage of freedom of contract to insist on a change of club, and no-one was too surprised when Orient slapped a £350,000 price tag on him. By taking the case to a tribunal Luton had the fee



cut to £150,000, and it has looked a bigger bargain with each appearance the player makes.

Stark tragedy has been the over-riding feature of **Pasquale Fuccillo's** career in the last couple of years. Son of Italian parents and known as Lil to his friends and Luton fans, Fuccillo came up through Luton's junior teams to make his League debut as a 19-year-old in 1976. He became firmly established as a midfielder with the knack of scoring goals, but broke his leg in a match at Brighton in December, 1978. He missed the rest of that season and six months later his comeback ended when he broke the leg again. His determination to fight back saw him working on his own for a further 12 months to be able to renew his challenge for a place in the Luton side and when they lined up for the traditional pre-season team photo he had more reason than most to appreciate his place in the picture.

Alan West is now one of the most experienced players on Luton's books. He played his 250th League game for the 'Hatters' last season – against Burnley – where he began his career. Luton paid £100,000 in 1973 and West has been their midfield inspiration ever since. An England Under-23 International, he almost went to Sunderland from Turf Moor. They claimed he was not fit enough but Luton had no doubts and their confidence has been more than justified by West's consistency.

West Ham, famous for liking players of skill and flair, had their eye on schoolboy **Ricky Hill** in

North London when he was still only 14. His midfield elegance and explosive shooting made him outstanding at schoolboy level but Luton beat the Hammers to sign him and gave him his League debut in 1976, when he was still only 17. He scored on his debut and has been regularly on target ever since.

Fans often argue about which signing was a Manager's best and the long list of candidates at Luton has to include **David Moss** very near the top. He had spent nine years in the Third Division with Swindon when Luton bought him for £110,000 in the summer of 1978. A quicksilver winger, with the ability to cross a ball accurately from either flank, he soon made his mark with Luton. He was their leading scorer in each of his first two seasons with them and started this campaign with the 100 League goal mark well in view – he notched 60 for Swindon and 37 in his first two terms as a Luton player.

An inspired move for a player Luton fans had never heard of, transformed life for 20-year-old **Brian Stein** in October, 1977. Stein was a local health authority clerk enjoying non-League football with Edgware Town in North London when Luton persuaded him to try his luck as a full-time pro. He made his debut within a month and his sharpness in the box and quick ball control has made him a regular ever since.

Godfrey Ingram is a former England Schoolboy International. He developed in Luton's schoolboy and reserve teams and is a youngster of immense promise. Before the start of this

Luton Town F.C.

Back row (left to right): Andy Pearson, Rob Johnson, Les Harriott, Michael Small, Robert Walker, Herbie Smith, Clive Goodyear, Wayne Turner, Seamus Heath.

Third row: David Coates (Coach), Steve White, Mark Aizlewood, John Findlay, Mike Baxby, Raddimir Antic, Alan Judge, Mal Donaghy, Godfrey Ingham, John Moore (Coach).

Second row: Kirk Stephens, Alan West, Tony Grealish, Brian Stein, David Pleat (Manager), Paul Price, John Smith (Chief Executive), David Moss, Pasquale Fuccillo, Ricky Hill, John Sheridan (Physiotherapist).

First row: Ray Bremmer, Alan Crosby, Andy Foot, Brian Phelps, Neil Madden, John Woodward, Andy Beesley, Frank Bunn, John Cole, David Patterson.

season his League chances were restricted, but Luton have high hopes that he is on the verge of a breakthrough this term.

Steve White is a direct front-running attacker. White was making a name for himself as a goalscorer at Bristol Rovers when Luton started to take an interest in him early last season. He gave them an unwelcome reminder by scoring twice when Luton lost at Bristol a couple of months later White was transferred to Luton for £175,000.



DANGERMAN

BRIAN STEIN

BRIAN STEIN'S claim to fame is something more akin to a story from Boys Own and Roy of the Rovers.

It is amazing to think that this popular and deadly striker only came into professional soccer at the age of 20. Previous to this he had a full-time job in local government and playing soccer for non-League Edgware Town in London was something of a hobby.

Luton must have done a lot of fast talking to lure him away from what seemed at the time to be the best of both worlds to try his hand as a full-time professional.

He impressed so much at Kenilworth Road that in the space of three weeks he was thrust into the first team where, to his credit, he has remained ever since.

His eagerness to run with the ball is something the fans today will have to watch. He is stockily built and no pushover when it comes to a challenge from a big defender.

Stein possesses what every manager in football today urgently searches for – a sharpness in grasping and taking chances, which he has executed with amazing regularity. He also has an uncanny knack of skilful ball control, being able to dummy his marker, thus gaining a clear pass to goal.

Brian Stein certainly is the Dangerman to watch today, not only by the fans, but by the Rovers' defence!

KICK THOSE CHEAPIES INTO TOUCH!

MANY authoritative voices have been raised in recent weeks about the problems facing football in the 80's. Crazy, sky high transfer fees – spectator facilities – negative play – hooliganism – too many games – are just a few of the complaints by those who seek to provide the answers.

But, believe it or not, there are those who are firmly of the opinion that the game faces an even bigger threat to its future.

The subject cropped up not in the pages of the national Press or on television, but in the bar of a local hostelry.

The talk was about a certain bunch of young lads, every one of them with the same ambition – to be a soccer star. Fired with enthusiasm and bursting with confidence – the result of phenomenal success in their park and street corner kickabouts – they decided to get some real action and organise a team of their own.

Sadly, that first game proved a total disaster. Not a single goal did they score; while the opposition succeeded in knocking

in a bagful. The after-match inquest concentrated on discovering just where it all went wrong. Particularly puzzling was the apparent inability of any of the lads to boot the ball more than 10 yards – or even head the thing properly.

The answer, if you'll pardon the expression, was: "Plastic balls!" To be precise, the type on offer at any good neighbourhood store or supermarket from 50p or so – the type that tempts a youngster to believe that he can shoot with the power of Peter Lorimer in his Leeds heyday; or head a ball like the late, great Dixie Dean did to the delight of thousands at Goodison Park.

Until, that is, he tries it for the very first time with the real thing. Then it's a case of a sore foot . . . or a slight touch of concussion.

And, of course, a result those particular youngsters – conditioned to the plastic ball – didn't bargain for in that first game.

The point raised conjures up two pictures of the future game. Pitches will either have to be modified to accommodate players unable to pass or head the ball more than a few yards. Or the playing area will be of mind boggling proportions as players crack the plastic ball 200 yards or more . . . and power headers into the clouds.

It isn't of course a total argument against the use of the plastic ball by children.

Indeed, as any parents know, they do have their good points. They are cheap, they don't break windows, and they also encourage kids to play the game. All that those who live in fear urge is a little moderation.

And when Christmas comes, Dad, it might just be worth dropping a hint to Santa – especially if you want to help junior achieve that ambition!

board and one player calling his own Press conference to proclaim the club as being unprofessional. So it is a case of good luck to Arthur Cox, who certainly has his work cut out at St James Park.

Some say that managers should have a trade union but that could case more unrest. As it is, once a manager is given the push, he tends to walk quietly out of the back door and out of the news for a period of time. The sack is, in the main, built in to a manager's thoughts when he accepts a job. He has to be conditioned to the fact that one day it is an odds-on bet that he will be shown the door.

So, what makes them do it – because it matters not what sort of success he has brought to a club, it always is a matter of the results today. The answer can be found with the Geordies – just a great passion for the game. Managers thrive on pressure and I suppose that when the times are bad there is always the memory of the good games when he was the toast of the town.

It's a funny world, isn't it!

WHO WOULD BE A MANAGER?

ABOUT this time every season we read our newspaper columns to see which player is wanted by whom and for how much. But all too often the news stories carry gossip pieces about managers under fire. If a club begins a new season and fails to take a couple of points in the opening games a war cry seems to bellow forth from the terraces – 'Manager Out' or 'Sack the Board'.

It is time to state that professional soccer must be the most fickle business of all. One minute it is all excitement and joy, with mass hero worship of players and managers alike; the next minute bloodthirsty fans call for 'Madame Guillotine'!

Last season managers like Gordon Lee and Malcolm Allison were regularly on their way if we were to believe what the newspapers were suggesting. These two men in particular were still under pressure from all concerned during

the summer and at the start of this season. The problem is that it all makes for good reading, unless you are the person concerned! Tickle-tackle, that's all it is, probably akin to a Coronation Street script.

Action by so-called supporters can only create problems for a club and seriously affect the team's performance. The situation at Leeds got so bad in a recent game that the fans of their opponents chipped in with the same 'lament' from their end of the ground.

Already this term one well-known face has departed from his club – Bill McGarry, for so long the manager of Wolves and late of Newcastle United, where the passion for the game is probably greater than anywhere else in the world. The Magpies have had their problems in recent years with directors accused of buying players without the manager's knowledge, 'player power' with votes of no-confidence in the

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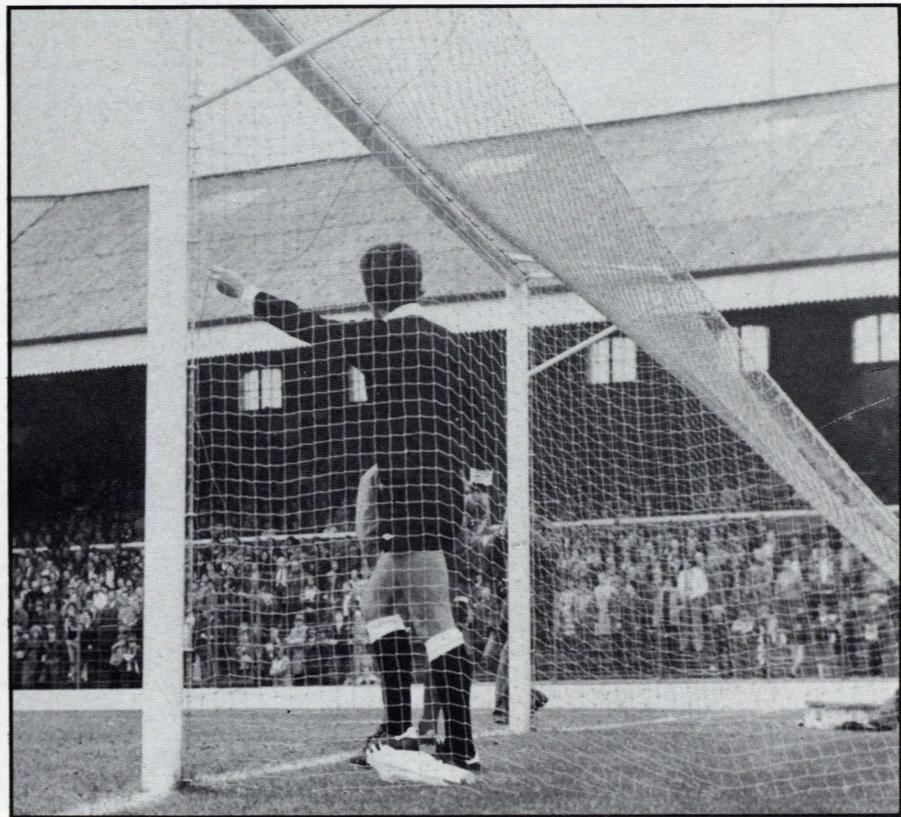
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Above: Shrewsbury Number Five, Colin Griffin, can only stand and stare as Glen Keeley challenges the goalkeeper for the ball.
Top right: Action from our home win against Shrewsbury – Andy Crawford quickly intercepts the ball and loses the defender with a swift turn.

Bottom right: One for the record books! Referee Mr G. Tyson, from Sunderland, holds up the game, and the net, while he indicates to the home bench the broken net line. The culprit – Rovers' player-manager Howard Kendall, who minutes earlier had put the Rovers in front with a fiercely taken penalty.



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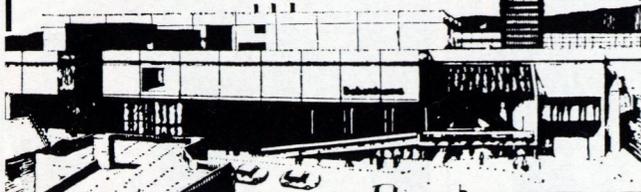
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IT'S back to school, for a simple addition could be your opportunity to win £1,000. There are many combinations which will give you the same result, and for these totals you do not require a calculator!

The weekly prize is now guaranteed and the draw will take place every Saturday. On home fixtures we will utilize the half-time publicity spot, and other venues will include local clubs - in fact, anywhere in the public eye.

Tickets are still 25p and provide two games to play. For the lottery to remain successful we need your support. We have obtained the best ticket available, so come on, take a chance, support the Rovers and win money with MOONRAKER II lottery tickets.

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IF you want a dedication over the public address system, please put your request in writing and ensure it reaches the Commercial Office on the day prior to the fixture.

All records and tapes are supplied by Ames, Tapes and Records Ltd (Blackburn).

You can help repay Ames for their support by making your record and tape purchases from one of their many branches.

Don't forget . . .

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Get your colours . . .

A cheerful wave from Anne Barry, of Poyshaw Avenue, Blackburn, seen with our shop manageress Liz Shand. Both girls are kitted out with a selection of souvenirs and leisurewear obtainable from our own Club Shop. Why not pay a visit after the game today. You will be pleasantly surprised by the range of goods available, all competitively priced.

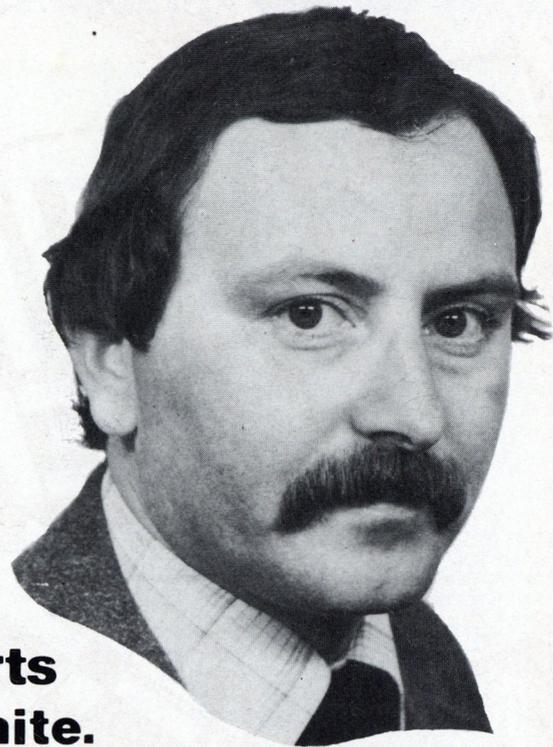
In the news . . .

Our latest addition to the shop range brought the Rovers some welcome publicity. The item in the news, ENGLISH MADE Sweatshirts, embroidered with the Blackburn Rovers Logo. The Sweatshirts, in navy, are available now, prices from £10-50.

Just Arrived - Blackburn Rovers Hooded Tracksuits, children's sizes, from £5-50.

Peter White reports

All the day-to-day news about the Rovers, plus regular match reports by sports writer Peter White. Plus all the local and national news and features.



Lancashire Evening
Telegraph

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This afternoon, we would thank, on behalf of everyone at Ewood Park, Mr McGhee, Bury Road, Haslingden, for his support. Unfortunately, he is on holiday today, but will receive full facilities, plus the match ball, at a later date.

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Mr W. Darlington, Websters Insurance Ltd.
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S. G. Aluminium Ltd.
Luton Town
**Mr McGhee (Confectioners)
Bury Road, Haslingden**
Grimsby Town
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Oswaldtwistle**
Queens Park Rangers
Mercer Brothers (Business Equipment)
Chelsea
Happy Homes, Darwen
Cambridge United
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Swansea City
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For full details on any sponsorship scheme ring the Commercial Manager on Blackburn 663255.



Mr Iain Stanness, of S. G. Aluminium Ltd., receives a very special match ball from Rovers' Chairman David Brown after the Shrewsbury home fixture. Special, not because of the two goals, but because the result sat the Rovers firmly on the top of the Second Division.

TODAY'S BALL SPONSOR

**is MCGHEE (Confectioners)
Bury Road, Haslingden.**

ROVERS RECORD

FIRST & SECOND TEAMS FACTS, FIGURES & FIXTURES 80/81

Blackburn Rovers 1st Team Fixtures for Season 80/81

Date	OPPONENTS	F	A	Att.	Pts	Pos.
August 9	Huddersfield L.C. 1	0	0	8,670		
August 12	Huddersfield L.C. 2nd Leg	1	1	9,500		
August 16	Cardiff City	2	1	6,908	2	3
August 20	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	1	0	10,831	4	2
August 23	Orient	1	1	5,057	5	2
August 27	GILLINGHAM LC 2 1st Lg	0	0	7,316		
August 30	SHREWSBURY TOWN	2	0	8,465	7	1
September 3	Gillingham LC 2 2nd Leg	2	1	6,315		
September 6	Derby County	2	2	18,159	8	1
September 13	LUTON TOWN					
September 20	GRIMSBY TOWN					
September 24	League Cup 3					
September 27	Wrexham					
October 4	QUEENS PARK RANGERS					
October 7	Sheffield Wednesday					
October 11	West Ham United					
October 18	CHELSEA					
October 22	CAMBRIDGE UNITED					
October 25	Notts County					
October 29	League Cup 4					
November 1	SWANSEA CITY					
November 8	Bristol City					
November 11	Oldham Athletic					
November 15	CARDIFF CITY					
November 22	Watford (1)					
November 29	BRISTOL ROVERS					
December 3	League Cup 5					
December 6	Newcastle United					
December 13	WEST HAM UNITED (2)					
December 20	Cambridge United					
December 26	PRESTON NORTH END					
December 27	Bolton Wanderers					
1981						
January 3	FA Cup 3					
January 10	WATFORD					
January 14	League Cup S.F.					
January 17	Shrewsbury Town					
January 24	FA Cup 4					
January 31	ORIENT					
February 7	Luton Town					
February 11	League Cup S.F.					
February 14	DERBY COUNTY (5)					
February 21	WREXHAM					
February 28	Grimsby Town					
March 7	Queen's Park Rangers (6)					
March 14	SHEFFIELD WED. (LCF)					
March 21	Chelsea					
March 28	NOTTS COUNTY					
April 4	Swansea City					
April 11	BRISTOL CITY (SF)					
April 17						
April 18	BOLTON WANDERERS					
April 20						
April 21	Preston North End					
April 25	NEWCASTLE UNITED					
May 2	Bristol Rovers					
May 9	F.A. CUP FINAL					

Home Fixtures in CAPITALS

League Division Two

(Including 6th September)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackburn Rovers	5	3	2	0	8	4	8
Derby County	5	3	1	1	8	8	7
Notts County	5	3	1	1	7	7	7
West Ham United	5	2	2	1	7	3	6
Orient	5	2	2	1	9	6	6
Oldham Athletic	5	3	0	2	7	4	6
Swansea City	5	2	2	1	5	4	6
Bolton Wanderers	5	2	1	2	7	3	5
Sheffield Wednesday	5	2	1	2	5	4	5
Cambridge United	5	2	1	2	7	7	5
Luton Town	5	2	1	2	6	6	5
Grimsby Town	5	1	3	1	4	5	5
Preston North End	5	1	3	1	3	4	5
Newcastle United	5	2	1	2	5	9	5
Queens Park Rangers	5	1	2	2	6	4	4
Cardiff City	5	2	0	3	7	8	4
Wrexham	5	1	2	2	6	7	4
Shrewsbury Town	5	1	2	2	6	8	4
Watford	5	2	0	3	5	7	4
Chelsea	5	0	3	2	7	9	3
Bristol City	5	0	3	2	2	4	3
Bristol Rovers	5	0	3	2	3	9	3

First Team Appearances and Goalscorers

	Football League	Goals	League Cup	Goals
Arnold	2		3	
Butcher	3		1	
Branagan	5		4	
De Vries	2		3	
Rathbone	3		1	
Speight	5	1	4	
Keeley	5	1	4	
Fazackerley	5		4	
Kendall	5	2	2(1)	
Parkes	1		2	
Brotherston	5	1	4	
Crawford	5	1	4	
Garner	5	2	4	1
Craig	-(2)		-(2)	
McKenzie	5		3	1
Stonehouse	-(2)		-(1)	1
Round			1	

Substitute shown in brackets ()

Blackburn Rovers Central League Fixtures

Date	Day	OPPONENTS	F	A
August 16	Sat.	SHEFFIELD UNITED	2	1
August 23	Sat.	WOLVERHAMPTON W.	2	2
August 30	Sat.	Burnley	1	1
September 4	Thurs.	EVERTON	3	2
September 16	Tues.	Coventry		
September 25	Thurs.	ASTON VILLA		
September 27	Sat.	Derby County		
October 4	Sat.	Bury		
October 9	Thurs.	LIVERPOOL		
October 15	Wed.	Newcastle United		
October 18	Sat.	Manchester United		
October 22	Wed.	West Bromwich Albion		
November 1	Sat.	Leeds United		
November 6	Thurs.	PRESTON NORTH END		
November 12	Wed.	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN		
November 18	Tues.	Sheffield United		
November 20	Thurs.	STOKE CITY		
November 29	Sat.	Manchester City		
December 9	Tues.	Huddersfield Town		
December 13	Sat.	Liverpool		
December 18	Thurs.	WEST BROMWICH ALBION		
December 27	Sat.	NOTTINGHAM FOREST		
1981				
January 10	Sat.	Stoke City		
January 15	Thurs.	BLACKPOOL		
January 17	Sat.	BURNLEY		
January 22	Thurs.	BOLTON WANDERERS		
February 3	Tues.	Wolverhampton Wanderers		
February 10	Tues.	COVENTRY CITY		
February 14	Sat.	Everton		
February 26	Thurs.	DERBY COUNTY		
February 28	Sat.	Aston Villa		
March 7	Sat.	BURY		
March 14	Sat.	Sheffield Wednesday		
March 19	Thurs.	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY		
March 21	Sat.	MANCHESTER UNITED		
March 25	Wed.	Blackpool		
April 2	Thurs.	LEEDS UNITED		
April 11	Sat.	Preston North End		
April 18	Sat.	Nottingham Forest		
April 20	Mon.	NEWCASTLE UNITED		
April 25	Sat.	Bolton Wanderers		
April 30	Thurs.	MANCHESTER CITY		

Home Fixtures in CAPITALS

Central League

(Including 6th September)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester United	5	4	1	0	8	3	9
Burnley	4	3	1	0	5	1	7
Manchester City	5	2	3	0	6	4	7
Aston Villa	5	2	2	1	9	7	6
Blackburn Rovers	4	2	2	0	8	6	6
West Bromwich Albion	3	2	1	0	9	3	5
Coventry City	4	2	1	1	8	7	5
Nottingham Forest	5	2	1	2	6	5	5
Leeds United	5	1	3	1	3	4	5
Everton	5	2	1	2	10	13	5
Liverpool	4	2	0	2	6	4	4
Bury	4	1	2	1	5	4	4
Sheffield Wednesday	4	2	0	2	4	4	4
Derby County	5	1	2	2	4	5	4
Stoke City	4	1	1	2	4	5	3
Wolverhampton Wanderers	4	0	3	1	5	7	3
Preston North End	2	0	2	0	3	3	2
Sheffield United	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Blackpool	4	0	1	3	3	8	1
Newcastle United	2	0	0	2	0	3	0
Bolton Wanderers	3	0	0	3	3	7	0
Huddersfield Town	3	0	0	3	1	6	0

Central League Appearances and Goalscorers

	App.	Goals
Field	2	
Butcher	2	
De Vries	1	
Rathbone	1	
Morley B.	4	
Coughlin	3	
James	4	
Williamson	4	1
Round	4	
Hall	4	
Stonehouse	3	3
Craig	3	2
Comstive	4	1
Morley A.	4	1
Graham	1(3)	
Greenwood	-(1)	

Substitute shown in brackets ()

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Blackburn	Mr M. Reed, 155 Pilmuir Road, Blackburn.	Mr S. Tucker, Turners Arms, 82 Bank Top, Blackburn. Tel. Blackburn 51863.
Chorley	Mr T. Miller, Lowerfold Cottage, White Coppice, Tel. Chorley 73728.	Mr. P. Duke, 107 Bolton Road, Abbey Village.
Clayton	Mr I. Green, 50 Albert Street, Clayton-le-Moors. Tel. Accrington 395249.	Mr H. Wheatcroft, 90 Barnes Street, Clayton-le-Moors.
Darwen	D. Haworth, 17 Westminster Road, Darwen. Tel. Darwen 73005.	D. Hembrough, 108 Redearth Road, Darwen. Tel. Darwen 75503.
Great Harwood	Mr T. Bamber, 2 West Street, Great Harwood. Tel. Gt Harwood 884315.	Mr T. Mercer, 45 Edge Street, Great Harwood. Tel. Gt Harwood 885774.
Junior Rovers	Miss K. Holdsworth, 71 Mellor Brow, Mellor. Tel. Mellor 2271.	Mrs E. Shand, 31 Eldon Road, Blackburn. Tel. (Home) 50133. (Work) 670316.
Mellor Brook	Mr J. Makinson, "Moorcroft", Nicky Lane, Mellor. Tel. Mellor 2248.	Mr M. Ramsden, 31 Branch Road, Mellor Brook, Blackburn. Tel. Mellor 2800.
Pendle & Craven	Mr P. M. Johnson, 8 Reeval Close, Earby, Colne. Tel. Earby 2871.	Mr W. A. Slinger, 10 Heather Brow, Earby, Colne.
Rishton	Mr C. Jones, 6 Thornhill Avenue, Rishton. Tel. Gt Harwood 885981	Mr D. Hindle, 40 Brook Street, Rishton. Tel. Gt Harwood 887642.
Rossendale	S. Brunton, 2 Rosebank, Rawtenstall. Tel. Rossendale 26250.	S. Beardsworth, 38 Union Street, Rawtenstall.

**Branches organise support . . .
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Facilities include: Away Travel, Social Evenings, Interbranch Competitions, Football Matches and Training Sessions, Season Ticket Schemes, etc., etc.

and to benefit Blackburn Rovers

Contact the Secretary or Chairman in your area for details of membership and local operations.

Junior Corner

WE continue our feature of the Under-12s by having a look at another rule of the game - Law XV - The Throw-in.

When the whole of the ball passes over a touchline, either on the ground or in the air, it shall be thrown in from the point where it crossed the line, in any direction by a player from the team opposite to that of the player who last touched it.

The thrower, at the moment of delivering the ball, must face the field of play and part of each foot shall be either **on** the touchline or on the ground **outside** the touchline.

The thrower must use both hands to deliver the ball from behind and over his head. The ball shall be in play immediately it enters the field of play, but the thrower shall not again play the ball until it has been touched or played by another player. A goal shall not be scored direct from a throw-in.

Punishment:

- (i) *If the ball is improperly thrown in - the throw-in shall be taken by another player of the opposing team.*
- (ii) *If the thrower plays the ball a second time before it has been touched or played by another player, an indirect free-kick shall be taken by a player from the opposing team.*

REMEMBER: A footballer is not equipped to play the game unless he knows the rules!

**Match Mascot
Ian McLean**

Age: 7½ years

School: St. Oswalds Junior, Knuzden.

Hobbies: Football, swimming, stock cars, cricket.

Favourite player: Andy Crawford.



OUR In Depth Focus this week continues with the insight into the backroom staff, and Rovers' latest addition to that very important 'scene' is Club Skipper **TONY PARKES**.

Sheffield-born Tony was awarded his full F.A. Coaching Award in the close season after completing the course at Lilleshall.

As well as his involvement with the club at player level, Tony now has duties as Reserve Team Coach. He has all the qualities required in doing this job successfully. His knowledge of the game is immeasurable. As a player, in first coming to Ewood he immediately showed a distinct 'vision' for the game - reading situations that were about to

IN DEPTH FOCUS

happen as well as doing something about them.

He arrived at the club 10 years ago from non-League Buxton as a striker, but after a short spell up front he was converted to his now familiar role of left side midfield. It is a curious thing that he has now scored more goals for Rovers than any other player currently on the Ewood books.

Tony has been a tremendous asset to the club since his arrival back in 1970. He has been described as a 'Clubman Supreme', never raising a rebellious voice.

It took him a long time to gain appreciation of his splendid attributes from the critical eyes of the terraces. His style of play - honest endeavour being his motto - possibly lacks the razzle-dazzle of others before him, but to say

he is a players' player is something of an understatement.

They can rely on him when in trouble. His honest graft and sweat rubs off on his colleagues and they acknowledge the fact.

Howard Kendall says of Tony: "It has taken some people a long time to recognise how much he is worth to Blackburn Rovers. I have never met a man more loyal and dedicated - he would play for us on one leg if I asked him".

Thus, Tony Parkes possesses the important and all too rare qualities necessary for a coach. His obvious motivation, his untiring work rate, and his ability to spot the strengths and weaknesses of others.

One other quality which is so important if a person is to succeed in life - he is popular! Tony is always ready to have a joke with someone, that is, after the work is over.

Blackburn Rovers can be proud to have such a 'complete' player on the staff and his undoubted qualities hold him in good stead for his new role of Reserve Team Coach. We wish him well in his new task, confident that the youngsters under his command are learning during their impressionable years from someone who has so much to offer the game.



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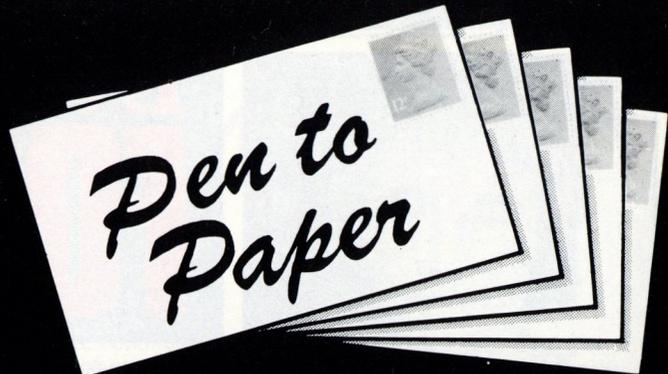
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THIS week Rovers' Manager received a letter from one of the Club's most fanatical supporters - Stewart Odgers, of 5 Boyd Street, Claymore, New South Wales, Australia!

Stewart's letter is quite long, but he wants us to point out that he has a number of friends in the Blackburn area who correspond with him fairly regularly about the fortunes of the Rovers.

He also tells us that he runs a blue and white car in Australia whose registration number is BR 809!

He sends the team his best wishes for this new season and tells us that he wants to join one of our Supporters Branches.

It's nice to know that Rovers have such world-wide support. Keep it up, Stewart.

AS each year we seem to see the same faces playing for the reserve team, do none of our juniors ever make the grade?

P. Thompson, Rishton.

Mr Thompson, I think your comments are a little unfair. If you check the appearances for the Central League the Rovers used FORTY players throughout last season. Granted some of the reserves have not sampled first team football, but some boys are still apprentices, and they first have to sample and prove themselves in the Central League. In the next few weeks we will cover the apprentices in our 'In Depth Focus'.

WITH the introduction of the fencing on the Nuttall Street Enclosure, children who now have to pay full price cannot sit on the wall, as in the past.

If they stand at the wall they are too low down and cannot see across the playing area.

Could a step be built against the wall to allow smaller children to watch the game without having to climb the fencing?

G. Brown, Rishton

Editor's reply: Mr Brown, thank you for the questions you have raised. Firstly, on the point about full price admission - You are correct in saying that youngsters must pay the full price if they are to stand in the enclosure. However, there is a concessionary price available if they purchase a season ticket at the rate of £17.50 which shows a saving of £18.20 for all first team games. Central League fixtures would, of course, be free.

Regarding the point about the possibility of a step to view through the fencing (which has had to be erected). The fence is situated directly above a crash barrier which must be a stipulated height from the ground so a step could reduce the efficiency of that barrier.

Also there are drains at the bottom gully and a step would also interfere with the water flow in bad weather.

N.B. Youngsters can be catered for in the Junior Rovers' Club, where they can watch the game from the comforts of the Riverside Stand. Marshalls are on hand at each game to look after their well-being. Details from the Rovers' Club Shop.

Rovers ON THE ROAD

CAR ROUTE TO . . . WREXHAM

Rovers' next away League fixture is at the Racecourse Ground, Wrexham. If you are intending to travel by car the route is fairly easy to follow.

Leaving Blackburn by A677/A59 to Samlesbury, take the southbound carriageway of the M6. At junction 20 follow signs M56 (North Wales) to Chester and Wrexham. On leaving motorway follow signs A483 Wrexham to outskirts of town. Pick up bypass until junction with A541, then branch left and at roundabout follow signs Wrexham into Mold Road for the Racecourse Ground.

CAR ROUTE TO . . . BIRMINGHAM

Rovers travel to St. Andrew's for their Third Round League Cup clash.

By road the most direct route is via Samlesbury, M6 southbound carriageway all the way to junction 6. Leave motorway and follow signs Birmingham Central, A38M. In 1.9 miles branch left at roundabout taking first exit, A45 along Dartmouth Middleway. In 1.2 miles turn left, A45 into St. Andrew's Road for the ground.

Car parking facilities are available on Coventry Road and Cattell Road.

And don't forget . . .

With two successive journeys, both incurring motorway running, it is vital to ensure your car is in first class order. The condition of your tyres is especially important, so make a visual check for side wall damage, sharp objects trapped in the tread, and that you have at least 2mm. of tread on your tyres. Finally, it is wise to note the tyre pressure recommendations for high speed driving and adjust them accordingly - don't forget the spare, too!

AWAY TRAVEL CLUB

Remember, if you wish to travel on any of the organised transport you must be a member of the Away Travel Club.

All it costs is just £1.50 for new membership or £1 for renewals. You will need a current passport photograph of yourself. If you wish to join via the post, enclose a stamped addressed envelope with your remittance and photograph.

TO WREXHAM

As well as coach travel to the Racecourse Ground, the club is running the Ewood Express for members only. The price of the return trip will be £3.75, whatever category. Details of timings will be available from the Club Shop on Bolton Road.

TO BIRMINGHAM

At the time of printing this edition, no specific details are to hand about travel arrangements but as usual coaches will be laid on and the Club Shop will be taking bookings.

REMEMBER TO BOOK EARLY FOR ALL AWAY TRIPS - MEMBERSHIP OF THE TRAVEL CLUB DOES NOT GUARANTEE A SEAT.

Before setting off check your fuel, engine oil and water. Don't forget the windscreen washer reservoir, as this, too, is important when travelling at speed.

Ensure that all your windows are clean and carry a spare fan belt - again time and money can be saved in the event of failure.

Make sure your car is prepared correctly for the journey, it should prevent you missing the kick-off!

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TEAM CHECK

Blackburn Rovers

- 1 John BUTCHER
- 2 Jim BRANAGAN
- 3 Roger DE VRIES
- 4 Howard KENDALL
- 5 Glen KEELEY
- 6 Derek FAZACKERLEY
- 7 Noel BROTHERSTON
- 8 Kevin STONEHOUSE
- 9 Simon GARNER
- 10 Duncan MCKENZIE
- 11 Mick SPEIGHT

Sub To be announced

Next games at Ewood:

Second Division, GRIMSBY TOWN, Saturday, 20th September. Kick-off 3 p.m.

Central League, Aston Villa, Thursday, 25th September. Kick-off 7 p.m.

Luton Town

- 1 John FINDLAY
- 2 Kirk STEPHENS
- 3 Mal DONAGHY
- 4 Tony GREATLISH
- 5 Mike SAXBY
- 6 Paul PRICE
- 7 Ricky HILL
- 8 Brian STEIN
- 9 Franky BUNN
- 10 Raddi ANTIC
- 11 David MOSS

Sub Alan WEST

The cup winner.



Slalom Lager

Brewed by Matthew Brown



Referee: G. E. Flint
(Kirkby in Ashfield, Notts)

Started junior refereeing at 14 years of age and graduated through the Midland and Central Leagues to the Football League list. Has refereed various County Cup Finals and officiated in Italy, 1974, Roma v Newcastle – also a U.E.F.A. Cup match in Moscow.

Married, with three children, he is a Pit Head Baths Superintendent with interests of interior decorating and bowls. Also keen on youth football.

Linesmen:

K. G. Fawcett (Kendal) Red Flag
T. A. Jones (Macclesfield) Yellow Flag

Sports Pink

Your guide to all local and national sports -

— EVERY SATURDAY

LANCASHIRE EVENING TELEGRAPH