

hoops

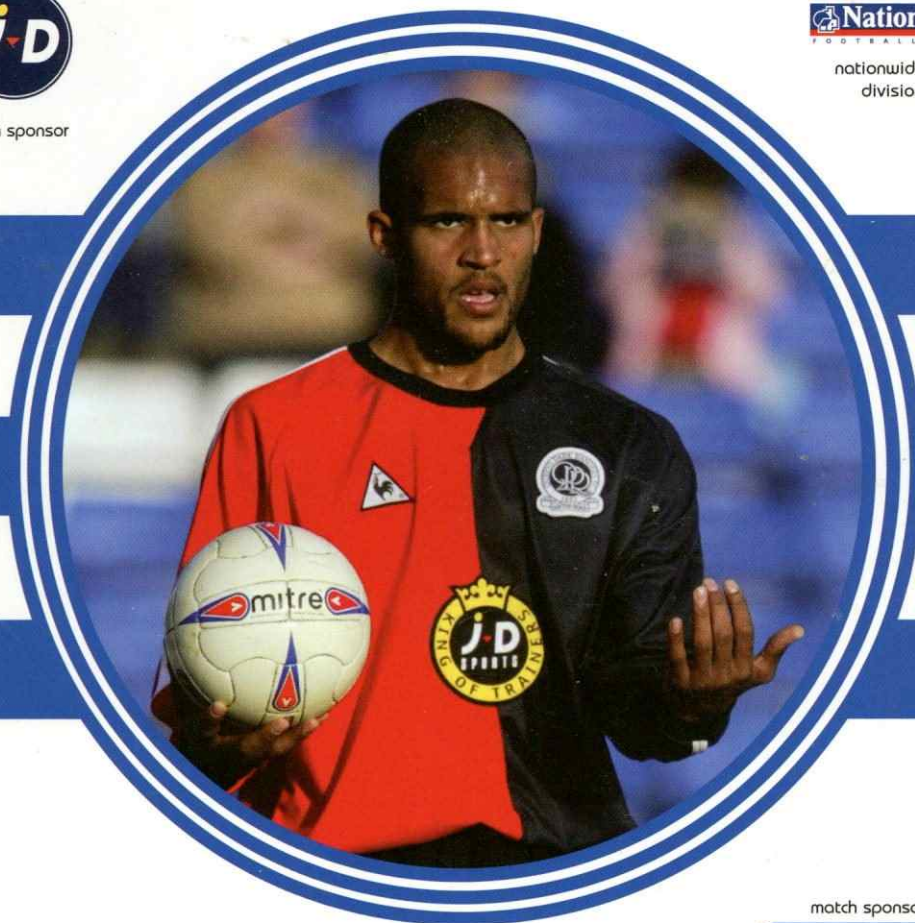
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CLARKE CARLISLE

RANGERS' ROCK AT THE BACK REFLECTS ON
A GREAT MONTH

PAUL FURLONG

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PARTNERSHIP CHATS TO HOOPS

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WELCOME TO LOFTUS ROAD

Welcome back to Loftus Road everyone and yet another crucial game. Is there any other kind at this time of the season?

For those of us who had the pleasure of witnessing Rangers' victory in Cardiff last weekend, it felt as if promotion became a real possibility the instant Richard Langley swept the ball home to silence 15,000 hitherto boisterous Bluebirds fans. But of course,

there is plenty more to be done - starting today. Come on lads, you can do it!

In today's edition of Hoops we talk to Clarke Carlisle and Paul Furlong about that game and the remainder of the season and we hear from regular columnists Steve Palmer, David Davies and Tom Watt. Amongst other things, Mr Davies discusses the issue of litter at Loftus Road and we would like

to ask you to show consideration whenever you visit Loftus Road.

The Club picks up the bill for refuse collection and the more helpful and thoughtful you the supporters are with your rubbish, the better it is for everyone.

Have a great day everyone - get right behind the team and let's hope for another three points to celebrate come a quarter to five.

LET'S KICK OUT OF FOOTBALL

Heard racist abuse at your club?

Report it! 0800 169 9414

A lot of good work has gone on in the game to fight racism. At grounds across the country it is no longer as common to hear racist chanting and to see black players being abused because of the colour of their skin. But it still happens.

Football's anti-racism campaign, Kick It Out, operates a freephone telephone number to enable fans of all clubs to report incidents of racist abuse inside and outside stadiums. With your help we can make this an issue that football has tackled once and for all.

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What do you think of Hoops magazine?
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38 PAUL FURLONG

THIS ISSUE

05 IAN HOLLOWAY

The Rangers' boss reflects on recent events

06 DIARY

A round up of recent Rangers news

09 STEVE PALMER

The captain gives us his view on Rangers' latest games

10 CLARKE CARLISLE

Rangers' centre back reflects on his season so far

13 TREATMENT ROOM

Physio Prave Mathema brings us the latest fitness news

15 DAVID DAVIES

The Loftus Road Chief Executive on Rangers and the wider game

16 RANDOM RANGER

Phillip Tureck picks his all time favourite QPR XI

18 REWIND: CARDIFF

Words and pictures from last weekend

20 LUTON TOWN

A detailed examination of today's opponents

26 SEASON TICKETS 2003/04

Details of next season's prices

29 FOCUS ON YOUTH

The latest from Gary Waddock

31 LONDON EYE

Tom Watt of BBC London 94.9FM writes for Hoops

33 IN RESERVE

The latest news from the Avon Insurance Combination

36 REWIND: BLACKPOOL

Words and pictures from the 'Langley show'



38 PAUL FURLONG

Rangers' in form striker chats to Hoops

41 THE RUN-IN

Who plays who and when

42 TWO NEWS

The latest stories from around the Second Division

45 QPR WORLD

A round up of news from the interactive TV and audio service

47 STATS ENTERTAINMENT

Derek Buxton brings us a host of weird and wonderful facts

48 REAL FANS REAL FOOTBALL

The Rangers family send us in their snaps

51 REWIND: WIGAN

Words and pictures from our defeat by the leaders

53 JUNIOR AS

News, views and competitions for the younger fan

54 COMING UP

Ticket & travel news plus a full preview of forthcoming opponents

58 MARKETING BEAT

Sam Taylor discusses the latest initiatives

62 KIT SPONSORS

Your name in print

64 HOOPS STATISTICS

Fixtures, results, line ups, appearances, tables - joy unconfined for the statos

64 TODAY'S SQUADS

Rangers and Luton's line ups



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IAN HOLLOWAY

THE THOUGHTS OF THE RANGERS MANAGER



Good afternoon everyone and welcome back to Loftus Road for this afternoon's game against Luton Town.

Since I last spoke to you on these pages we have played three games and won two of them, with both those victories coming away from Loftus Road. The only blemish was a 1-0 defeat by league leaders Wigan, here, three weeks ago. At the time, I was devastated by the result because I felt there wasn't much in it - they created the better chances though and their goal came about because we fell asleep at a corner.

Nevertheless, since then we have bounced back with two outstanding results and I am absolutely delighted with the players' efforts during the past fortnight. The 3-1 win at Blackpool was thoroughly deserved and when we needed a big performance from the team that is exactly what we got.

I cannot praise Richard Langley too highly for his efforts in that game. After taking a bit of stick the previous week he responded in the best possible fashion with a fine hat-trick. Once again, Tranmere pulled a result out of the bag and therefore it was vital that we didn't give them any ground.

And so to last weekend and another marvellous win - this time at Cardiff. This was a fantastic game and I was delighted that we managed to hang on after Cardiff

equalised. They put our defence under all kinds of pressure but we didn't buckle and then scored a great goal.

The defence kept Robert Earnshaw quiet for the game and that is no mean feat. We showed spirit and togetherness - qualities that bode well for the remainder of the campaign.

Tranmere failing to win was a big result and we knew that with them on our tail we couldn't afford any slip ups. But as I said after the game last weekend, there is still a long way to go and plenty of points to be won and lost.

Today we take on a Luton side who are by no means out of the running and they will be giving everything today to haul themselves back in to the picture. A win here today would give them hope and it

is up to us to make sure they don't have any hope after today.

When these two sides met at Kenilworth Road earlier in the season there were plenty of fireworks and I imagine this will be another competitive match. But we must be strong today and in every game we play between now and the end of the season.

Your support will continue to be vital as we push towards the play-offs. I would ask you to get right behind the lads this afternoon and give them every ounce of support you can muster. This is an exciting time and we are all in it together. Another three points today and the excitement will increase.

Enjoy the game everyone and come on you Rs!



DIARY

ROUNDING UP LATEST QPR NEWS 20.03.03 - 05.04.03



20.03.03

Ian Holloway swoops to bring a replacement for the departed Lee Cook, signing winger Kevin McLeod from Everton on a one-month loan. Holloway decides to act promptly after the injury to Tommy Williams against Cheltenham. Rangers Chief Scout Mel Johnson believes McLeod fills the gap on the left side.

'He is an orthodox left-sided player who can play on the wing, at full back or as a wing back. He can also play up front if required.'

22.03.03

A Nathan Ellington header early in the second half is enough for Wigan Athletic to defeat Rangers at Loftus Road, 1-0. Though control of the game was even throughout, Rangers' attack was stifled by the Wigan defence and a single weak moment in the QPR back line provided Wigan with the opportunity to take the spoils. Ian Holloway is understandably disappointed.

'I'm devastated with the result. There wasn't much in it, but they created the better chances and were very well

20.03.03

Ian Holloway swoops to bring a replacement for the departed Lee Cook, signing winger Kevin McLeod from Everton on a one-month loan.

organised. I'm annoyed because everything we talked about at half time was forgotten - we didn't get tight and it cost us. They were just a little bit better in the end and we came up short.'

24.03.03

Over 4,000 Rangers fans vote for next season's home kit in a vote on the official QPR website. Seventy percent of voters select a classic design with hoops on the torso and sleeves. The chosen design will now go into production by Le Coq Sportif and QPR announces it will notify fans of a launch date as soon as the new kit is ready.

25.03.03

The Loftus Road medical team receives the results of Tommy Williams' MRI scan and it shows a slight tear to his ankle ligament. This is not as bad as first feared, but he will be out for at least two weeks.

Rangers also face problems on the right side of defence with Terrell Forbes a doubt for the Blackpool game. The right back took a knock to his ankle in the Wigan game. A scan later determines Forbes stretched ankle ligaments and experienced swelling around the tendons.



27.03.03

Spurs' Stephen Kelly passes his medical and is signed on a one month loan.

29.03.03

Richard Langley scores a hat trick against Blackpool as Rangers win, 3-1.

27.03.03

Tottenham's Stephen Kelly passes his medical and is signed on a one month loan. The 19-year-old Republic of Ireland youth international is brought on to take the right back spot of Terrell Forbes, who is hampered by an ankle injury. Kelly goes straight into the travelling squad for Blackpool.

The squad also includes Matthew Rose, now recovered from a series of injuries. It's been a tough few months for Rose with an ankle injury coming hot on the heels of knee ligament damage in January. After working his way back to fitness, he suffered an unlucky ankle injury while getting out of his car, causing him to miss three games.

29.03.03

Richard Langley recovers from an uncharacteristic performance against Wigan by scoring a hat trick against Blackpool as Rangers win, 3-1. In addition to Langley's spectacular efforts, the game includes a disallowed Dan Shittu goal and a bizarre goal line scramble that ended in a fight. Ian Holloway is thrilled by the victory.

'We needed a big performance and we

gave it. It always looks like we're the ones who are going to get caught but we're still focused on catching the others above us and we needed the win today.'

02.04.03

Loftus Road announces that 'Sir Les' Ferdinand, Ray Wilkins, Glenn Hoddle and Dennis Wise are all on board for Gavin Peacock's testimonial match against Chelsea on May 20th. Ferdinand is one of the all-time great QPR strikers, while Wilkins was a fan favourite in the early '90s and was also QPR player-manager in the mid-80s.

Hoddle, the former England head coach, was also Peacock's manager at Chelsea, having made Gavin one of his first signings after arriving at Stamford Bridge. Wise was a teammate of Peacock's at Chelsea, and was also a boyhood fan of QPR.

05.04.03

A fantastic last minute goal from Richard Langley earns Rangers a thoroughly deserved win and all three points at Cardiff. The Rangers defence was superb in holding off the pressure Cardiff's attack heaped on them and Langley came through just as it looked



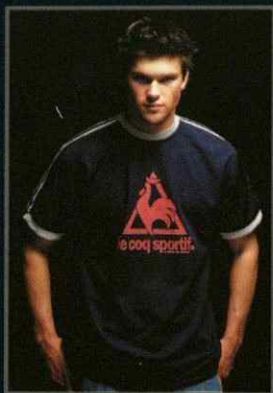
like a draw was the most likely outcome. Ian Holloway is delighted by the effort and the win.

'It was a fantastic game and I am so pleased that after Cardiff scored we hung on, came out and scored a wonderful goal. The character wasn't there when they beat us 4-0, but it was today. There's a long way to go, but we're moving in the right direction. It pleased me more than anything knowing Tranmere were on our tail. A defeat might have crushed us, but we showed character and skill.'



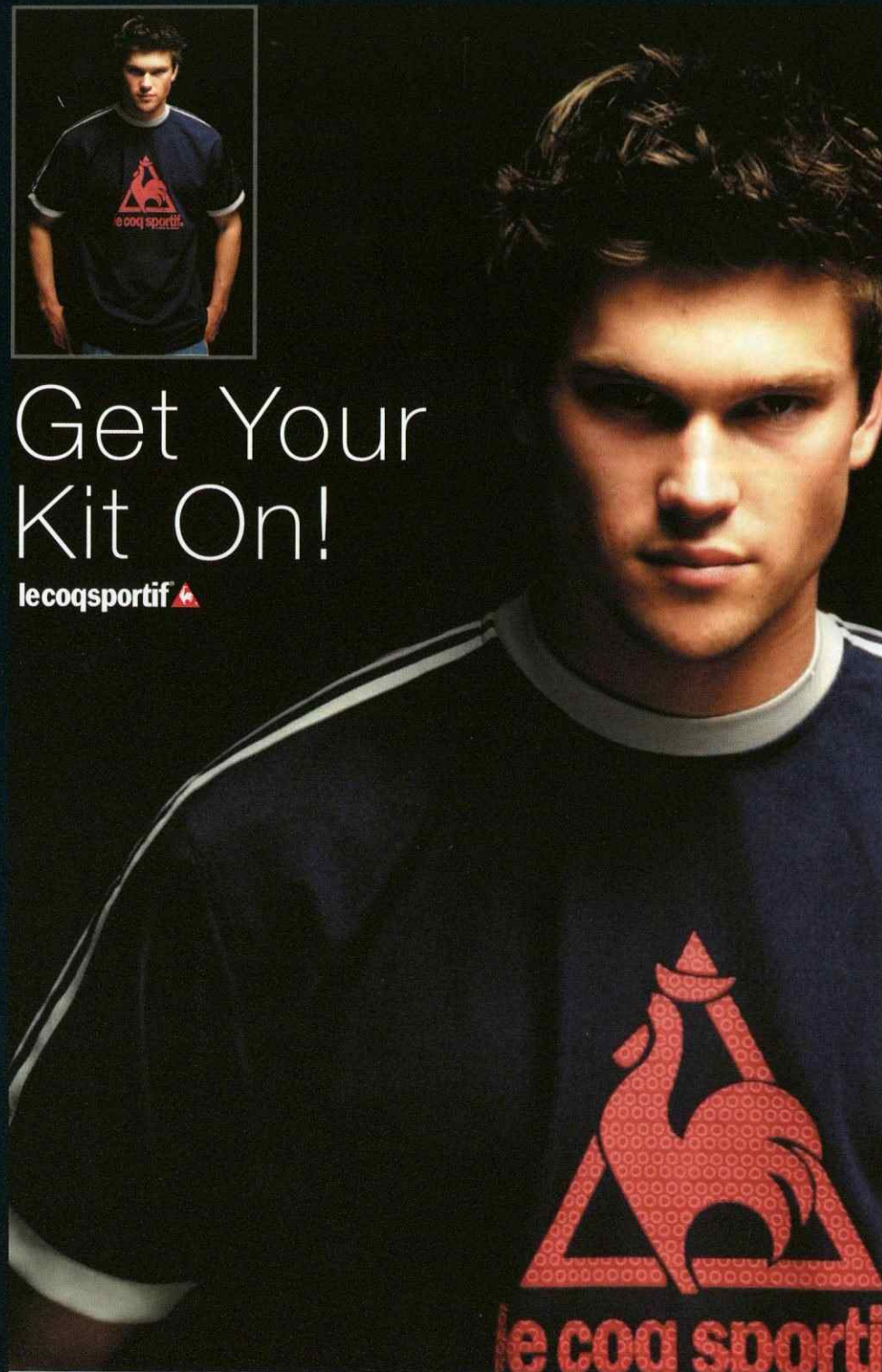
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CAPTAIN'S NOTES

THE THOUGHTS OF THE RANGERS SKIPPER STEVE PALMER

Good afternoon and welcome to this afternoon's game.

Since our last home match the team has enjoyed two fantastic away victories which have given the dressing room a very positive atmosphere. Having battled our way through over 40 games and some difficult times the so-called 'business end' of the season is now upon us. Each game has added significance and great importance is placed on other results up and down the country.

As I have mentioned a number of times in these notes the mental side of the game becomes increasingly important to players in these situations. With bigger crowds

and greater expectations the pressure on the individual increases and the ability to remain positive and confident is a test of mental strength.

As supporters you can help this process by again keeping a positive outlook and channelling the great passion that is apparent for the club to help the team to be successful. We are aiming to play eight more game this season and there will be a few up & downs along the way but there is a desire & determination amongst the players to finish the campaign as strongly as possible.

The one thing that has been apparent throughout the season is the necessity to work hard and pressurise the opposition. The demands of modern football necessitate that successful teams are those that work the hardest. What makes them different is that in addition they have players that have the quality to be creative.



However this creativity without the hard work and effort does not produce success. At times it might not be the most pleasing on the eye but a realisation of where we are, how we got here and how we can move on is the basis of plan to take the club back up the divisions.

The two best teams in this country over the past few years have been Man Utd and Arsenal. I recently heard Peter Schmeichel being interviewed and his response to a question, asking for the



"As supporters you can help this process by again keeping a positive outlook and channelling the great passion that is apparent for the club to help the team to be successful."

one factor that has been key to the success of Arsenal and Man Utd, was that they worked the hardest. With the type of player that is performing at this level it is easy to forget the basics of the game.

This afternoon we face Luton who have had a strong season after being promoted last year. The match at Kenilworth Road game was eventful in a number of ways and this afternoon is sure to be an interesting encounter.

Enjoy the game.



CLARKE HOLDS COURT

THE TWO WORST THINGS THAT COULD HAPPEN TO A FOOTBALLER ARE TO GET INJURED AND TO BE ON A SIDE THAT SUFFERS RELEGATION. THE TWO BEST THINGS THAT COULD HAPPEN TO A FOOTBALLER ARE TO BECOME A PERMANENT PART OF A SIDE AND TO HELP HIS CLUB TO PROMOTION...

After getting too much of the former in a three-year span, Clarke Carlisle is finally getting a taste of the latter. And he couldn't be happier.

"I was starting to think I was a bit of a jinx on teams that I've played for. This season, we've turned that around, hopefully, and I can experience the other side of the coin."

In the 1999-2000 season, Clarke was in a Blackpool side that was relegated and, the next year, on top of facing relegation again, he suffered a knee injury that kept him out of action for one-and-a-half seasons. Clarke said he is glad that is all in the past. With his play so far this season, QPR must be happy, as well.

With Dan Shittu, Clarke has formed a formidable partnership in the central defence, providing a virtual stone wall that is impenetrable to opposing attackers. Even Robert Earnshaw, the Cardiff striker who has scored over 30 goals this season, couldn't crack the back line a week ago.

"Not only did we match Cardiff for their work and effort, but we matched them with our ability on the ball as well, and

we just crowded them out of the game. Earnshaw is a very, very good player. He's lively. He's good on the ball. Danny marshalled him extremely well and, really, the guy didn't get a sniff."

By turning back the immense pressure Cardiff piled on Rangers after equalising in the second half, Clarke and the QPR defence allowed Rangers to continue their outstanding form and showed the rest of Division Two they are a force to be reckoned with.

"Everyone's feeling very upbeat. We're coming into this part of the season on the back of an excellent run of form. You usually find that it's the team with the best form going into the play-offs who ultimately are successful.

"I genuinely cannot see any reason why we shouldn't continue playing like we are, not just during the remainder of this season, but from here on in. The boys are working well together. We've gelled together."

The defence certainly has gelled, as the Cardiff win shows. That's no small feat considering the number of players who

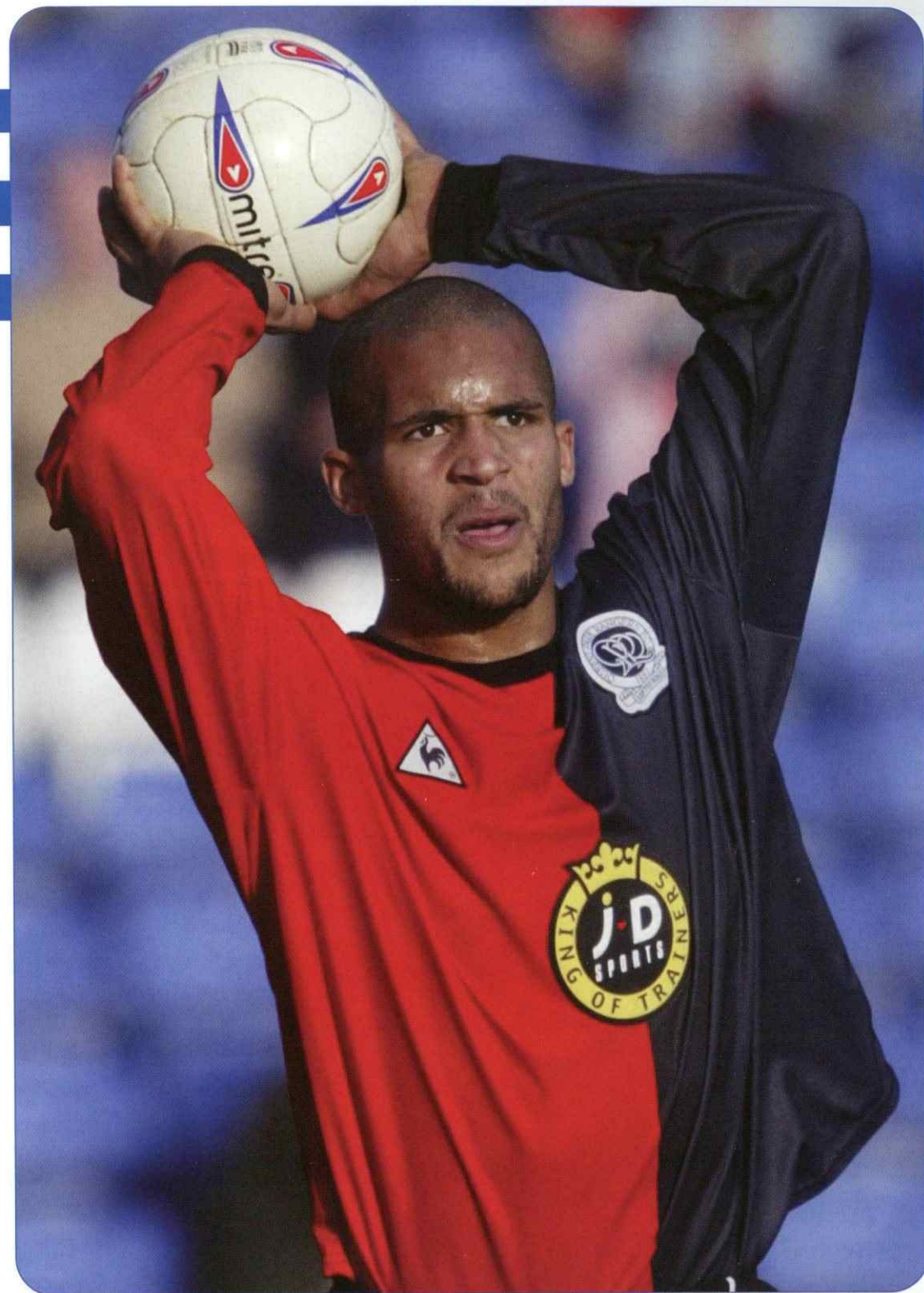
have lined up at the back this season. Through a mix of injuries and attempts to field his best possible side, Ian Holloway has had to change defensive formations with some frequency this season. The changes, Clarke said, have not been disruptive because everyone who has come in knows his role.

"They're have been changes, but they haven't been wholesale changes and we work hard every week on the defensive line-up and what our jobs are and what we're expected to do.

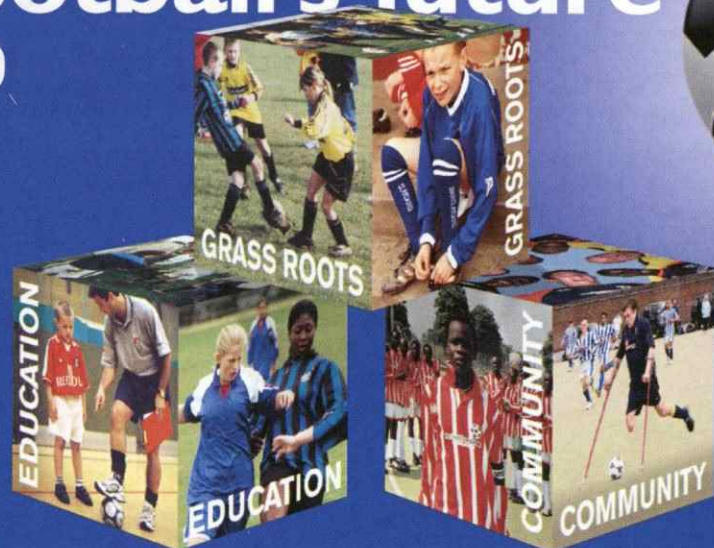
"As long as everyone's paying attention, if someone has to step into the breach, then they should instantly know what their job is. Kenny and Ollie have instilled into us what they want us to do and it's starting to pay dividends now."

With such positive feelings in the dressing room and outstanding play on the pitch, it seems Clarke's days of bad luck may be through, with something brighter on the horizon.

"Promotion is something not many players get to experience in a lifetime and I hope I'm one of them."



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THE TREATMENT ROOM

Rangers physio Prav Mathema brings us the latest fitness news



after suffering another ankle injury against Cheltenham and he also enjoyed a run out with the reserves on Tuesday afternoon.

Likewise Terrell Forbes who also featured for Tim Breacker's team against Swindon. Both full backs will be pushing for a place in the team for today.

Matthew Rose is also challenging for a place in the first team following substitute appearances against Blackpool and Cardiff. He has fully recovered from his run of bad luck with injuries and is building up his match fitness.



Good afternoon everyone and welcome back to the Treatment Room. As Rangers' season reaches its most crucial period, the Loftus Road medical team are happy to report an almost injury free squad.

Dennis Oli is training again after knee ligament damage and he too played for the reserves in the week.

After a campaign in which there have been up to 13 players receiving treatment at any one time, only two members of the first team squad are currently unfit.

Meanwhile Chris Plummer continues to build up his match fitness after his lengthy lay-off and he too came through another reserve game with no ill-effects.

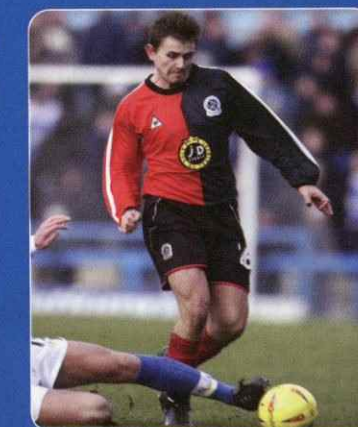
Of the two, Ben Walshe is responding well to treatment for a knee injury and could return to training in the next couple of weeks. The news on Karl Connolly is not so good though. His foot injury, which has kept him out of the side since November, is still giving cause for concern and is not responding to treatment.

I do not want to tempt fate of course - but it is nice to have such a healthy squad at such an important time of the season. All the best everyone and come on you Rs!

Karl will visit a surgeon to establish whether he will need an operation, but whatever happens - it appears increasingly likely that he has played his last football for this season.

Yet elsewhere, it is all good news for Ian Holloway as he prepares his players for the run-in.

Tommy Williams is back in full training

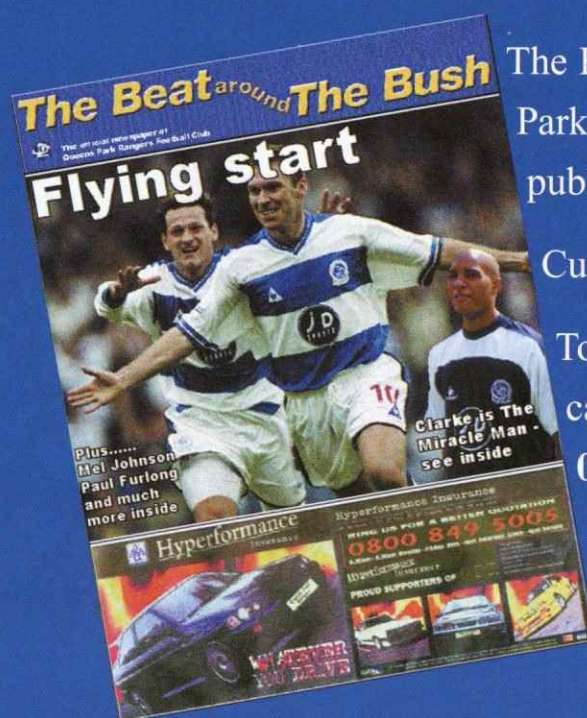


"After a campaign in which there have been up to 13 players receiving treatment at any one time, only two members of the first team squad are currently unfit."

Prav Mathema

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DAVID

THE THOUGHTS OF THE



DAVIES

LOFTUS ROAD CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to this afternoon's game against Luton Town.

In the intervening period since the notes for the Wigan game, there have been a number of reminders of the state that football is in currently. Not only have the players at Huddersfield Town taken the club into administrative protection, but also the League has had to administer a final warning to Notts County that they can no longer expect to remain in the League unless they find a new owner by the end of May.

At the same time there have been announcements from the Office of Fair Trading that the report will finally come out about the behaviour of Umbro, the FA and Manchester United over the vexed subject of replica kit pricing. At the same time, the game is expecting a final decision from the EEC on the implications of the continent's Leagues negotiating television rights collectively. The decision that lies in front of the EEC is whether this practice, which has been present in football for many years, is in direct contravention of current European competition laws.

During last week I attended and spoke at a conference of lawyers in which a representative of the EEC opined the outcome could be that this practice would be deemed to be illegal. The result would be that clubs would have to go out and negotiate TV contracts individually. The upshot of this would be that in the

Premier League, at least a third would not get a contract at all, another third would get a fairly low value contract, while all the wealth rested in the top six.



"It was clear from the discussion that things will continue to change within football and it's undoubtedly going to affect every club at every level as the implosion of TV fees continues to have a huge effect upon the game that's loved by so many."

The question was raised by a lawyer that this would make the wealthier far more wealthy and the poorer clubs even poorer. It was interesting at this point to notice the reaction of Maurice Watkins, who was also a speaker at the conference. Maurice, being the wily old bird that he is, nodded sage-like at this stage, but

seemed much more perturbed when the representative from Europe suggested that the way round the inequality would be to invoke a wealth tax on the higher clubs with the revenues then being redistributed out to other clubs on a more fair and equitable basis.

It was clear from the discussion that things will continue to change within football and it's undoubtedly going to affect every club at every level as the implosion of TV fees continues to have a huge effect upon the game that's loved by so many.

On a related issue, we will be making announcements during today's game asking you to reduce our cleaning costs by picking up your own rubbish after the game is finished. This request has been brought about at the suggestion of a large number of fans who feel that the cleaning cost could be reduced if people were more helpful picking their own refuse up once the game's finished.

An extra series of bags have been attached to the backs of the handrails in the concourses to enable you to do this. I've been able to enlist support of both supporters' clubs and this I recommend to you to help us reduce the cost further.

As this programme is the last opportunity prior to Easter, I wish every one of you a Happy Easter and hopefully we'll see you for the forthcoming match against Notts County.



RANDOM RANGER #20

NAME: Phillip Tureck

AGE: 43



FIRST GAME:
QPR v Hull City 09/08/1969

I remember clearly who we played the first time I went to see Rangers in the late 60's. The first game was a 3-0 win on August 9th 1969 against Hull City.

We travelled from Willesden on the 220 bus to the ground and I recall all the people outside, it was a tremendous atmosphere and overwhelming for a 10 year old.

We sat up in the South Africa Road stand near the front at the Loft end; I was awe inspired by the excitement of it all and was always after my uncle to take me back to the ground and my beloved Rangers.

**RANGERS FANS PICK
THEIR ALL TIME
HOOPED HEROES.**

**THIS WEEK:
PHILLIP TURECK
DISCUSSES HIS XI**

• PHILLIP'S FAVOURITE SEASON - 1975/1976

There can be only one favourite season for me and that was the year we should have won the league. After all the fantastic games that we played most notably away from home, scoring 5 at Derby County. In the end we lost at Norwich 3-2 right at the death and the Championship slipped away from us. Who could ever forget the way the team of Thomas, Francis, Bowles and Givens mesmerised the fans? It was not the fact that we won games but the way we won games. I loved the opening move where the kick off took place and the ball was belted out to either Givens on one wing or Thomas on the other. We won over fans from all over the country as we were the team of the moment. To all come down to one final game, I can still remember praying we would hang on but three goals from the Reds did us in, life was so cruel and never to be the same until the 80's.



• PHILLIP'S TEAM

My favourite team of all time has to be Parkes, Clement, Gillard, Parker, McDonald, Bob Hazell, Thomas, Francis, Ferdinand, Bowles and Givens.

It is so hard to pick everyone but I started with **Phil Parkes**, a player who should have played more games for England except for being around the same time as Clemence and Shilton, an injustice if there ever was one. The full backs of **Clement** and **Gillard** looked after Rangers rearguard and were never afraid to get forward and join the attack; these guys took no prisoners but were never afraid to get stuck in when the going got tough.

Paul Parker came to us from Fulham before going on to Manchester United - another credit to us for playing for his country. We had the best years and his pace and willingness to get forward inspired many a generation. **Alan McDonald** was a lion and a brave one at that; he wore his heart on his sleeve.

Alongside was **Bob Hazell** with those terrific runs up field. He scared all defenders as he was rushing towards their goal. Will we ever forget how Bob almost single-handedly kept Cyril Regis at bay in the cup semi final? **Dave Thomas** mesmerised the opposing defence with his socks rolled down and behind him England Captain **Gerry Francis** our rock was patrolling midfield with venom and determination. **Les Ferdinand** scared the pants off so many defenders with his strong runs and bullet headers; he was a handful at the best of times. What Rangers could do with Les now terrorising the second division opposition.

But for me the dynamic duo of **Bowles** and **Givens** were the greatest partnership we ever had. Stan was everything we believe in football - graceful, artistic and decisive. For all those fans that longed for the days of Rodney, Stan was it but in his own style. How many times did Stan pop up and win a match maybe single-handedly? Does anyone remember a last minute free kick in a Cup replay versus



Coventry City to win 3-2 when all seemed lost, or hat tricks in European matches?

Don was the foil but a master in his own right, dynamic and thrusting into the heart of the opponents area, Don scored a lot of goals but he did not always get the recognition he deserved.

A team of legends, but I missed out Roeder, Venables, Marsh, McIntock, Hollins, Sansom and Leach and Clive Allen - where could I fit them all in?

• PHILLIP'S MANAGER



My special manager is still in football today. **Terry Venables** typified for me what you need from a manager, he brought flair and experience to guide us to our only F.A. Cup finals as well as promotion back to the First Division. In Terry, we saw all that was good about Rangers exciting blend of attacking football and knowledge of the game which saw us rise again in the 80's. If it was not for the opportunity he took in Barcelona who knows what may have happened, but the run to the F.A. Cup final and promotion the following year were brilliant and never to be forgotten.

DRAWING



A fantastic last minute goal from Richard Langley earned Rangers a thoroughly deserved win and all three points at Cardiff. After Peter Thorne had cancelled out Paul Furlong's second half opener it looked as if the spoils would be shared, but with the clock ticking down, an inch perfect cross from Gino Padula was met by the onrushing Richard Langley who fired the ball past Martyn Margetson to send the Rangers supporters in to dreamland.

Rangers had begun the game confidently and the first chance of the game fell to the visitors in the third minute. Spencer Prior misjudged a high ball and Gallen stole in before squaring the ball to Furlong who couldn't keep his first time effort down from five yards out. Two minutes later Rangers were threatening again and a spectacular effort from skipper Steve Palmer so nearly

opened the scoring. Palmer let fly from 30 yards out and Margetson did well to push a fierce looping effort behind for a corner.

But if Cardiff were surprised by this early onslaught they didn't show it and a minute later the dangerous Robert Earnshaw brought the best out of Chris Day. The little striker looked favourite to score as he raced towards goal, but Day made himself big and deflected his shot behind for a corner.

Then, in the 25th minute, Rangers had a goal ruled out when, not for the first time, Prior looked utterly ill at ease under a high ball played towards Kevin Gallen. The Rs striker shrugged off the challenge before lobbing Margetson for what appeared to be a perfectly legitimate goal. But the referee thought otherwise and disallowed the effort, much to Gallen's amazement.

MAN OF THE MATCH



A game full of heroes - where do you start? Day, Gallen and Palmer were outstanding - but the nod goes to **Gino Padula**. He dealt with antagonism both on and off the pitch, he defended coolly and set up both goals. Gino has been the revelation of Rangers' season and he just goes from strength to strength

CARDIFF CITY

THORNE 78

QPR

FURLONG 64 LANGLEY 89

1

Margetson, Jenkins, Prior, Barker, Croft (Legg, 76), Ainsworth (Gordon, 71), Boland, Kavanagh, Mahon, Thorne, Earnshaw unused subs: Bonner, Collins, Walton

Yellow cards 0
Red cards 0

2

Day, Kelly, Carlisle, Shittu, Padula, Langley, Palmer, Bircham, McLeod (Rose, 89), Gallen, Furlong unused subs: Culkin, Forbes, Pacquette, Thomson

Yellow cards 1
Red cards 0



It was the home side who came out of the blocks the quicker in the second period with an Earnshaw effort just clearing the bar and Chris Day then forced to tip a Gareth Ainsworth cross on to the bar and over.

But in the 65th minute, the breakthrough arrived. Paul Furlong won a free kick on the right and when Gino Padula swung in the dead ball it was Furlong who headed firmly home with no blue shirt in view.

As the clock ticked down the Bluebirds' attacks became more urgent. In the 76th minute Earnshaw's sharp strike was well saved by Day and Peter Thorne's first time effort was comfortably claimed by the Rangers stopper.

It looked as if Rangers were heading to a hugely impressive away win but with 12

minutes to go they were undone at a set piece. Andy Legg came on for Gary Croft and it was his corner that was met by Thorne with a firm header past Day.

Ninian Park exploded and the home side scented blood. They poured forward, buoyed by a goal that had looked unlikely to come, and forced a host of corners. Rangers were wobbling and needed every ounce of effort and concentration to keep out a home side transformed by the equaliser.

As full time approached though a draw seemed the most likely result. But up popped Langley to win the game in the last minute. Ninian Park fell silent, bar the 980 Rangers fans tucked away in the far corner. Unsurprisingly, they went berserk - and could you blame them? A huge, huge moment in Rangers' season and a magnificent result.

Attendance: 15,245
Referee: P Armstrong (Thatcham)

OLLIE'S VERDICT



"It was a fantastic game and I am so pleased that after Cardiff scored we hung on, came out and scored a wonderful goal. The character wasn't there when they beat us 4-0, but it was today. The defence needed to be solid and they were. It was a great game for the second division and I'm glad it went our way."

LUTON TOWN



Overview

Name: Luton Town

Year Formed: 1885

Nickname: The Hatters

Manager: Joe Kinnear

Honours

Division Two champions 1981-82
Division Four champions 1967-68
Division Three runners-up 2001-02
FA Cup runners-up 1959
League Cup winners 1988

Highest League Position:
7th in old Division One 1986-87

Best in FA Cup:
Runners-up 1959

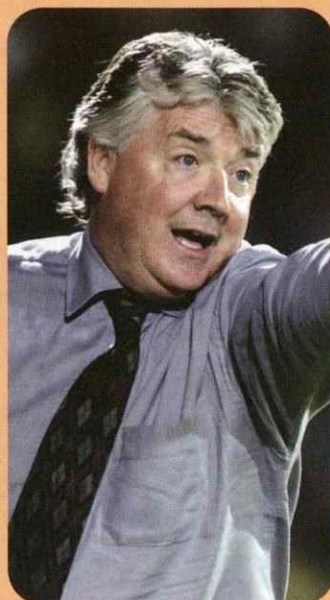
Best in League Cup:
Winners 1988

Last 6 League Fixtures

Apr 8th	Cheltenham	a	2-2
Apr 5th	Tranmere	h	0-0
Mar 22nd	Crewe	h	0-4
Mar 18th	Oldham	h	0-0
Mar 15th	Wigan	a	1-1
Mar 8th	Huddersfield	h	3-0

Last 6 Seasons

Season	Division	Pts	Pos.
2001/02	3	97	2
2000/01	2	40	22
1999/00	2	61	13
1998/99	2	58	12
1997/98	2	57	17
1996/97	2	78	3



Luton Town come to Loftus Road today on the outside looking in and with time running out.

Joe Kinnear's men are desperate to make one final push for a play-off spot and will need to beat Rangers today to have any hope.

The Hatters have been unable to maintain solid form recently, including recent critical losses to Brentford, Notts County, and Mansfield Town. In fact, all season long, Luton have been up and down, balancing a handful of three, four, and five-game unbeaten streaks with a four-game losing run

to open the season and further defeats spread through the rest of the schedule.

Similarly, Luton Town have been both up and down during their time in the Football League. After hovering in Divisions Two and Three for 35 years, they made it to the old Division One in 1955.

Ten years later, they were all the way down in Division Four, but by 1982 had reclaimed a spot in the top level. A place in the first Premiership season was not to be, however, as they missed staying up the year before the reorganisation

by just two points.

The long slide down continued in 1996 with relegation to Division Two and again in 2001 with a drop to Division Three, both of which were brought on by scores of injuries that disrupted the side and financial trouble that left Luton in administration.

Luckily for the Hatters, a permanent move to the bottom of the Football League was not in order, and they returned to the second Division last year. Also, the club's boardroom woes eased and Luton now have a young squad that is full of potential.

This year Luton's young squad have challenged for promotion, but their chances are waning; the Hatters are just as close on points to the middle of the table as the top and the rest of the campaign will not be easy. Loftus Road has been especially difficult on the Hatters, as they have not won here since 1984.

Strikers Steve Howard and Tony Thorpe have done their best to put Luton Town in front of their opponents by combining for 32 goals in all competitions. However, they haven't had much control over the defense, which has allowed 53 goals, a number that is only average when

Last Eight Meetings

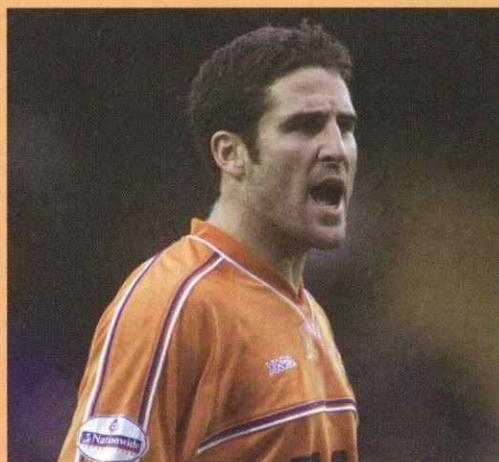
Nov 02	Div 2	Luton Town 0-0 QPR
Jan 01	FA Cup	QPR 2-1 Luton Town
	FA Cup	Luton Town 3-3 QPR
Apr 92	Div 1	QPR 2-1 Luton Town
Sep 91	Div 1	Luton Town 0-1 QPR
Feb 91	Div 1	Luton Town 1-2 QPR
Sep 90	Div 1	QPR 6-1 Luton Town
Jan 90	Div 1	Luton Town 1-1 QPR

compared to the rest of the division.

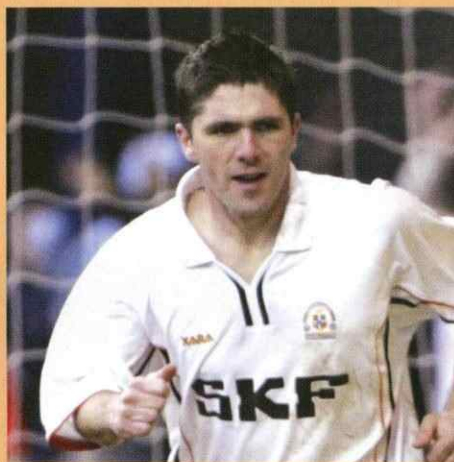
Though they may now need something special to make the play-offs, the Hatters have played remarkably well against the teams above them. Their loss to Crewe on March 22nd was their first to any team currently higher in the table.

Today Rangers look to reverse that trend, whilst Luton Town are determined not to give in. After the spicy encounter at Kenilworth Road earlier this season, today's game shouldn't be dull. Luton are at the last chance saloon - will they come out firing?

LUTON TOWN



CHRIS COYNE



TONY THORPE

PICK OF THE SQUAD

CARL EMBERSON (goalkeeper) came to Luton in the summer of 2001 from Walsall because manager Joe Kinnear wanted competition for the goalkeeper's spot. He began his career at Millwall as a trainee, but made his name in a seven-year spell at Colchester.

IAN HILLIER (defender) made his League debut for Luton in the second game of last season. The day before he was in training for Spurs, where he was captain of the reserves, but was brought to Luton on loan due to several injuries in the Kenilworth Road side.

RUSSELL PERRETT (defender) helped Cardiff City win promotion to the Second Division in May 2001, but was squeezed out due to a huge recruitment drive at Ninian Park. Kinnear brought on the big central defender, and he slotted into the Luton side quickly and was a large part of last year's promotion-winning side.

CHRIS COYNE (defender) signed with West Ham as a teenager after coming to the Hammers notice during the 1994 youth World Cup. Because his chances with the Premiership side were rare, Coyne was eventually transferred to Dundee before moving to Kenilworth Road in September 2001 for £50,000. He has since become a Luton Town fan favourite.

SOL DAVIS (defender) left Swindon after his contract expired at the end of last season. Swindon boss Andy King failed to persuade him to sign a new deal, and Joe Kinnear added the tough-tackling left back to his squad. Davis joined Swindon as a trainee in 1998 and rapidly became a regular in the first team.

MATTHEW SPRING (midfielder) after a League debut at only 17, he soon became a regular in Luton's Second Division Team and had made 100 appearances by the time he was 20. He

was an influential part of last year's promotion-winning side and was convinced to stay last summer after his contract ran out.

KEVIN NICHOLLS (midfielder) began his career as a trainee at Charlton and skippered England's under-18, under-19 and under-20 squads. After two years playing at Wigan Athletic, Kevin was brought to Kenilworth Road for £150,000 in 2001. He quickly became team captain, and his enthusiasm and ferocious tackling have made him a favourite with Luton fans.

AHMET BRKOVIC (midfielder) is a Croatian player who came to Luton in the summer of 2001 on a Bosman free transfer. He played with Leyton Orient for two years, but left after Leyton failed in the play-offs to win promotion to Division Two. He thought he might have a better chance with Luton and was proven right with the Hatters move to Second Division



after last season.

PAUL HUGHES (midfielder) rose from being a trainee at Chelsea to being part of their Premiership team under Glenn Hoddle, gaining experience through several loans. Hoddle recruited Hughes after becoming manager of Southampton, but a serious groin injury left him out of football for nine months. Southampton, under new management by then, made him available for transfer, and he joined Luton just before last season.

TONY THORPE (striker) 'came home' to Luton as a Bosman free transfer in the summer, the fourth time he has signed for the Hatters. He first came to Luton in 1992 at the age of 18 after a traineeship at Leicester. A 31-goal campaign in 1996-97 led to his transfer to Fulham, but he could not catch on there or at Bristol City later and returned to Luton twice in 1999 on loan deals before a permanent deal could finally be reached this summer.

STEVE HOWARD position: STRIKER

Howard was brought to Luton from Northampton for just £50,000 on transfer deadline day in March 2001. Howard had helped Northampton win promotion to Division Two and did the same with Luton Town after the bargain deal. Howard finished top in Division Three with 24 goals, and, not surprisingly, the fans voted him their player of the year.

So far this season, Howard has again been the catalyst as Luton's top scorer and has developed quite a successful partnership in the attack with Tony Thorpe. Howard is one of the main reasons Luton have reversed their fortunes and are challenging for promotion for a second straight year. Rangers' defence must be wary of this talented scorer.



Queens Park Rangers v Luton Town

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

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

Clubs Comparison

Goals Scored	Shots	Headers	Volleys	Penalties	Free Kicks	Own Goals
30	34	10	10	3	1	0

Where Goals Scored

Goals	Scored
21	19
30	32
11	7

Where Goals Conceded

Goals	Conceded
15	16
27	30
2	9

When Goals Scored

Goals	Scored
0-15	15
16-30	15
31-45	15
46-60	15
61-75	15
76-90	15

Form Guide - Last 6

W	D	L	For	Against	Points	Goal Difference
4	1	1	6	7	7	-1

Yellow & Red Cards

Yellow	Red
62	79
6	6

Seasonal Progress Comparison

Swings

QPR	Games Won from:	LT
0	3 Goals Down	0
0	2 Goals Down	0
4	1 Goal Down	6

Lost from:

QPR	Games Won from:	LT
0	3 Goals Up	0
0	2 Goals Up	0
3	1 Goal Up	3

Drawn from:

QPR	Games Won from:	LT
0	3 Goals Down	0
1	2 Goals Down	1
4	1 Goal Down	0
0	3 Goals Up	0
0	2 Goals Up	0
3	1 Goal Up	5

Margins

QPR	Games Won from:	LT
7	Won by 1 Gl	11
8	Won by 2 Gl	2
3	Won by 3 Gl	3
2	Won by 4 Gl	0
0	Won by 5+ Gl	0
5	Lost by 1 Gl	9
2	Lost by 2 Gl	1
3	Lost by 3 Gl	2
1	Lost by 4 Gl	1
0	Lost by 5+ Gl	0

Misc stats

QPR	Games Won from:	LT
1	Highest Pos.	6
13	Lowest Pos.	24
5	Winning Run	5
6	Unbeaten Run	7
2	Losing Run	4
9	No Win Run	5

2002-2003 Attendances

R's	Aggregate	Hatters
257,452	142,786	
15,559	Highest 9,477	
10,387	Lowest 5,890	
12,873	Average 6,799	
67	% of Capacity	68

10 Year Record

R's	Avg Pos.	Hatters
32	among 92 clubs	53.3
14,133	Avg Att 1993	7,878
12,891	Avg Att 2002	6,842
-9	+ / - %	-13

Top League Scorers

Player	Goals
Gatten	13
Howard	16

2002-2003 Figures

Player	Goals
Players Used	38
Clean Sheets	14
Failed to Score	9
Goals scored from...	
Corners	7
Free Kicks	4
Goals conceded from...	
Corners	4
Free Kicks	6

Luton Town's 10 Year History

Season Leading Scorer

Season	Leading Scorer	Ave Att
01/02	Howard	6,853
00/01	George	5,754
99/00	George	5,658
98/99	Douglas	5,527
97/98	Thorpe	5,879
96/97	Thorpe	6,294
95/96	Guentchev/Marshall	7,223
94/95	Marshall	7,350
93/94	Dixon	7,878
92/93	Gray	8,213

SP WHAT ABOUT THIS FOR A STAT.. OVER 40 PAGES OF SPORT **PEOPLE**

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Crew Neck T-shirt Royal - £ 19.99 (cotton jersey 180-190gsm 100% cotton)	Polo Shirt Royal - £ 25.99 (cotton Pique 240gsm 100% cotton)	Track Top Royal - £ 37.99 (3 Thread Fleece 300gsm 100% cotton)	Hooded Sweatshirt Royal - £ 39.99 (combed cotton 3 thread fleece 300gsm 100% cotton)	Baseball Cap one size Royal - £ 12.99 (heavyweight brushed cotton 100% cotton)
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CLOTHING RANGE 2: QPR CREST & ST GEORGE

A stylish new range of Rangers & St George leisure wear, including t-shirts, tracksuit tops and caps - once again, all clothing is available in S, M, L, XL, XXL



Crew Neck T-shirt Navy - £ 19.99 (cotton jersey 180-190gsm 100% cotton)	Polo Shirt Navy - £ 25.99 (cotton Pique 240gsm 100% cotton)	Sweatshirt Navy - £ 34.99 (3 Thread Fleece 300gsm 100% cotton)	Track Top Navy - £ 37.99 (3 Thread Fleece 300gsm 100% cotton)	Baseball Cap one size Navy - £ 12.99 (heavyweight brushed cotton 100% cotton)
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Season Ticket Holder's Benefits 2003/2004 (Seats guaranteed if renewed by April 30th)

- o Renew before Early Bird deadline for priority on pre-season friendlies
- o Save the equivalent of up to **11 FREE games** – saving £220*
- o Reserved seat for every Nationwide League home fixture
- o Introduce a friend and save £££'s
- o **FREE** Membership of the **NEW Official Supporters Club**
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- o Discounted away travel
- o Seat can be moved up to five times during the season without charge
- o 5% discount in Club Shop
- o Priority booking for away games, cup competitions and play-offs
- o Greater savings for Families, Juniors, OAPs and Students
- o Entry to Members bars on Matchdays where available and subject to capacity
- o Juniors receive automatic Membership of the **NEW Junior Rs**

Early Bird
Prices available
until
April 30th

*Based on an adult renewing in The Loft with a minimum of 23 home games

Season Tickets

Renewal Date 30th April

	Paddocks		Upper & Lower Loft		Ellerslie Road		South Africa Road	
	Renewal	New	Renewal	New	Renewal	New	Renewal	New
Adult	£199	£209	£235	£246	£293	£307	£352	£370
OAP/Student	£100	£105	£117	£123	£147	£155	£176	£184
Junior	£82	£85	£93	£97	£117	£123	£140	£147
Family tickets								
1 Adult + 2 Children	£322	£337	£375	£392	£469	£493	£562	£591
1 Adult + 3 Children	£384	£401	£445	£465	£557	£584	£667	£701
2 Adults + 1 Child	£456	£482	£540	£565	£674	£707	£809	£851
2 Adults + 2 Children	£521	£546	£610	£638	£762	£799	£914	£961
2 Adults + 3 Children	£583	£610	£680	£711	£850	£891	£1019	£1071
+10% Post 30/04/03								
Adult		£233		£274		£342		£412
OAP/Student		£117		£137		£173		£205
Junior		£95		£108		£137		£164
Family tickets*								
1 Adult + 2 Children		£375		£436		£548		£657
1 Adult + 3 Children		£446		£503		£688		£779
2 Adults + 1 Child		£536		£628		£786		£946
2 Adults + 2 Children		£607		£709		£888		£1068
2 Adults + 3 Children		£678		£790		£990		£1190

Should we get promoted, Season Ticket Prices will be increased by 10%.
All tickets purchased before promotion will be honoured at the current price.

Matchday prices	Paddock	Loft	ER	SA
Adult	£17	£20	£21	£24
Junior/OAP/Student	£9	£10	£11	£12

*This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Payment plan available to spread the cost over six months.

*Adults and Juniors do not have to be blood or legal relations.

Family Season Tickets provide a 25% saving on the price of each Junior Season Ticket.

We can only guarantee the same seats from last season until April 30th. After this date we will endeavour to place you as near as possible to the seats you prefer.

This cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. All prices and benefits subject to availability.

Juniors must be under 16 on 1/8/03 and OAPs must be over 60 on 1/8/03.

Students provide a letter from your school or college to confirm your full time student status.

QPR reserve the right to run promotional games throughout the season without compensating Season Ticket Holders.

Matchday prices may increase should QPR be promoted to Division One.

Tel: 020 8740 2575
Fax: 020 8740 2505



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For every new Season Ticket Holder you introduce (someone who wasn't a Season Ticket Holder in 2002/03), you get 20% off the cost of your Season Ticket. You can watch Rangers for free after introducing five friends!

- o You will need an application form for each person
- o Application must be returned with renewal applicant to receive discount
- o Offers cannot be issued at a later date
- o This scheme is open to Adult Season Ticket Holders only

Offer cannot be used in conjunction with Family Season Ticket or any other offer. Seat is not guaranteed next to the existing holder.

Loftus Road Stadium Plan



Disabled

Wheelchair users (available in West Paddock and subject to availability) with helper at concession rate. Please contact the Box Office for details on 020 8740 2575.

Address

If you have any queries with this application please do not hesitate to contact the Loftus Road Box Office direct on:

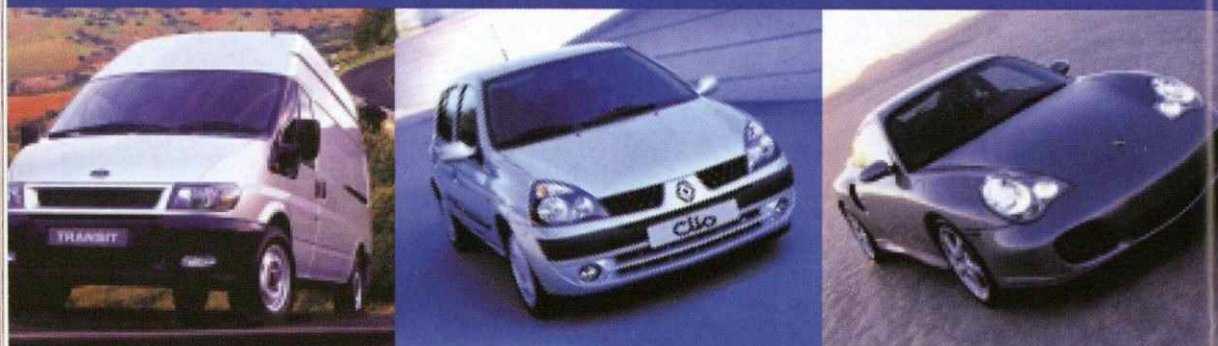
Tel: 020 8740 2575
Fax: 020 8740 2505
E-mail: boxoffice@loftusroadplc.co.uk
Post: Box Office, Loftus Road Stadium, South Africa Road, London W12 7PA

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GARY WADDOCK:
"OUR ATTACKING PLAY WAS EXCELLENT
AND I THOUGHT WE WERE UNFORTUNATE
NOT TO GET ANYTHING."

SATURDAY APRIL 5TH FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE MERIT MATCH

COLCHESTER UTD U19S 3
QPR U19S 2

Gary Waddock's Under 19s lost narrowly to Colchester United last weekend - going down 3-2. But having fielded a very young side for the game, Waddock was perfectly happy with his players' efforts.

"We went 2-0 down quite quickly, but the players' heads never dropped and we took the game to them. Our attacking play was excellent and I thought we were unfortunate not to get anything.

Dout Djatdoyev and Luke Townsend grabbed Rangers goals in the second half, either side of a third for the home side. But try as they might Rangers couldn't find the equaliser their approach play merited.

"We were on top for long periods," Waddock observed "But we needed to take our chances. Nevertheless, we never gave up and I cannot fault the commitment of a very young team. This bodes well for next season.

Rangers: Heselton, Hall (Tague),



Murphy, Mills, Fletcher, Johnson, Lewis, Coke (Donnelly), Williams (Townsend), Djatdoyev, Scully

DUTCH & BRAZILIAN TEST FOR UNDER 16S

Rangers' Under 16 squad face the might of PSV Eindhoven and the English Representative squad of the Brazilian Futebol de Salao in the London Cup Tournament next week.

The competition takes place over six days in Horsham with Rangers also playing London rivals Crystal Palace in their qualifying group.

Twelve other clubs will contest the

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

UNDER 19S - MERIT MATCHES

APRIL

SAT 12	KIDDERMINSTER (H)
SAT 19	TORQUAY (A)
SAT 26	WALSALL (A)

inaugural staging of this prestigious tournament: West Ham, Chelsea, Fulham, Brentford and Millwall will make up London's contingent.

Meanwhile overseas competition comes in the form of Royal Antwerp (Belgium), Crumlin United (Northern Ireland), Delta Dragons (Nigeria), IMG Soccer Academy (USA) and the national squads from Wales and Thailand. Sheffield Wednesday will also take part.

Rangers' squad will be made up of many of next seasons incoming Scholars along with players from the Under 15 group.

Gary Waddock believes this will provide an interesting challenge for the Rangers youngsters.

"It is important that our young players are exposed to a variety of different techniques and experiences and playing in a competition with players from so many different parts of the world can only help their education.

"We want to try and win, but the experience will be just as valuable and we are all looking forward to it.



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LONDON



EYE

TOM WATT OF BBC LONDON 94.9FM WRITES FOR HOOPS MAGAZINE

I thought I'd leave it a week or two, just in case people were having trouble finding the right words for what they wanted to say, or were having trouble getting them out through such big mouthfuls of humble pie. Maybe it doesn't make the best headline ever: 'YOU WERE RIGHT AND WE WERE WRONG'

But I'd say we all, and the greater part of the media in particular, owe the England manager something more than has been on offer by way of apology. The defeat of Turkey at the Stadium of Light ten days ago was about as good as it gets in the course of European Championship qualifiers. Playing the third best team at last summer's World Cup, England absolutely dominated all but the first 25 minutes, ran Turkey ragged, outpassed a technically superior side, wound up the opposition's wind-up merchants and then found enough for the two goals which deservedly won the game and put England top of the Group.

According to the morning's papers, Sven Goran Eriksson had gone into that game with his job prospects hanging by a thread. On TV documentaries, on radio phone-ins, on the back pages, Sweden's answer to Peter Sellers in 'Being There' has taken a pasting, since we lost to Brazil in Japan - fierce enough, surely, to have seen off many lesser mortals. The baiting and condemnation reached new heights after the 2-0 win in Vaduz a fortnight ago. The fact that we beat

Liechtenstein, apparently, was neither here nor there. Popular opinion seemed to be screaming: Go! We'd come to the end of the road, it was being claimed, with yet another muppet in charge of the national team. All the Turks had to do was turn up in Sunderland on the Wednesday to beat us and see the clamour force Eriksson out of a job.

There'll be poor performances around the corner for the national team. Count on it. But one or two things might be worth remembering before we start tearing our hair out about them. Since That Glorious Summer, we've reached the semi-finals of major tournaments twice, under Bobby Robson and then Terry Venables, both of whom, you may recall, had resigned before those tournaments began and were thus immune to the slings of disgruntled fans and the English tabloids' arrows. If we make the finals in Portugal - or, indeed, in Germany - and Sven announces the week before that he'll be going back to club football at the end of the competition, trust me: that'll be the time to put the lot on England to win something again at long last.

The Wednesday before last, Argentina last summer and the 5-1 against the Germans in Munich; the fact that, when Eriksson took the job, England weren't likely to make a playoff, never mind head off to the 2002 World Cup as Group winners; just the one defeat by the odd goal in three, to the best team in the

world, in fifteen competitive games. That's a CV for a first couple of years in charge that puts Sven, plain and simple, no argument - out there on his own as an England manager. Nobody in history even comes close, even if one or two of his predecessors did eventually get the hang of the thing later on. Eriksson's England have already stirred enough pride about the national team to keep my faith in the bloke intact through any number of scrappy wins in the middle of nowhere.

Neither his words nor his actions ever seek to shift the blame for underachievement onto his players. He just stands there, blinking in the arc lights, while we all vent our frustrations. On a night like the one ten days ago on Wearside, though, he makes sure all the credit goes to the team and not their coach. Even on the touchline: he doesn't berate players' mistakes; likewise, in triumph, he tries not to react too strongly lest the camera should linger too long on him rather than on his players.

That's just one of many reasons why, whatever people may try to mislead you into believing to the contrary, those players both like and respect Sven Goran Eriksson. Which, in its turn, strikes me as a pretty sound argument for the rest of us to continue pinning our hopes, rather than the traditional donkey's tail, on the man who's making steady progress, trying to realise England's dream.

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In Reserve



Comprehensive coverage of the Avon Insurance Combination season



NICK CULKIN:
CALLED INTO ACTION ON
NUMEROUS OCCASIONS

Tuesday April 1st
Avon Insurance Combination

Cambridge United 1
QPR 1

On a very chilly and damp afternoon in Cambridge, a young Rangers reserve side recovered from going a goal behind to earn a creditable 1-1 draw.

In an evenly matched contest, both goalkeepers were called upon to keep their sides in the game, with Nick Culkin tested many times. Most notably by Leigh Meadows, who was unfortunate to see his first half shot hit the near post.

At the other end Rangers made little headway in the opening stages and were made to pay when Cambridge took the lead on the half hour. Lloyd Opara's shot was spilled by Culkin, but the wet ball squirmed out of his hands and the ball was prodded home.

An eye catching run and shot from Wes Daly soon after tested the United keeper Brennan but he stood firm. Andy Thompson also saw a decent effort saved

just before half time.

With the rain continuing to fall, there was a pitch inspection at the interval. But it was agreed that the game would go on and Rangers came out looking the livelier side, with efforts from both Leroy Griffiths and Richard Pacquette going only just wide.

But Cambridge responded well with a few moves of their own and were unlucky not to create anything of real note.

By now the conditions were deteriorating rapidly with the players finding it hard to stay on their feet and Rangers were left to wonder quite how the breakthrough would come.

Substitute David Booles, on for Griffiths, was looking lively and saw a shot agonisingly hit the post as Rangers applied the pressure. Then Pacquette was taken off for Dennis Oli, to offer some further fresh legs up front.

Finally with a few minutes left, Booles' perseverance paid off with a shot that took a slight deflection before rolling in to the Cambridge net.

There was further trouble for Cambridge moments later when Brennan was stretchered off. With all United's substitutes used, midfielder Martin Shinn was forced to don the gloves.

Rangers did their best to test the new goalkeeper with a few high balls into the box. But the Cambridge defence held firm

RESERVE FIXTURES

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION

APRIL

15	BRIGHTON & HA	H
23	CARDIFF C	A
29	BOURNEMOUTH	H

ALL HOME GAMES THIS SEASON ARE TO BE PLAYED AT NORTHWOOD FC, NORTHWOOD, MIDDLESEX

in front of him and Rangers were unable to capitalise on their numerical advantage in the final few minutes.

Rangers: Culkin, Duncan, Murphy, Plummer, Trialist, Burgess, Daly, Bean, Griffiths, Pacquette, Thomson

Directions

Northwood's Chestnut Avenue ground is the new home for the reserve side. It is hoped that the evening kick-offs will allow more Rangers fans the chance to take a look at up and coming Rangers stars in action.

Entrance to Chestnut Avenue is free for season ticket holders so make sure you go along and cheer on the Rs! Northwood FC, Northwood Park, Chestnut Avenue, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 1HR.

By Road: A404 (Pinner-Rickmansworth) - Chestnut Avenue, on left by large grey iron railway bridge.

By train: Ground is a third of a mile from Northwood Hills station (Metropolitan Line) - turn right out of station to roundabout, left into Pinner Road, left into Chestnut Avenue after 300 yards.

By Bus: 282 and H11 to Northwood Hills.



RANGERS Collection

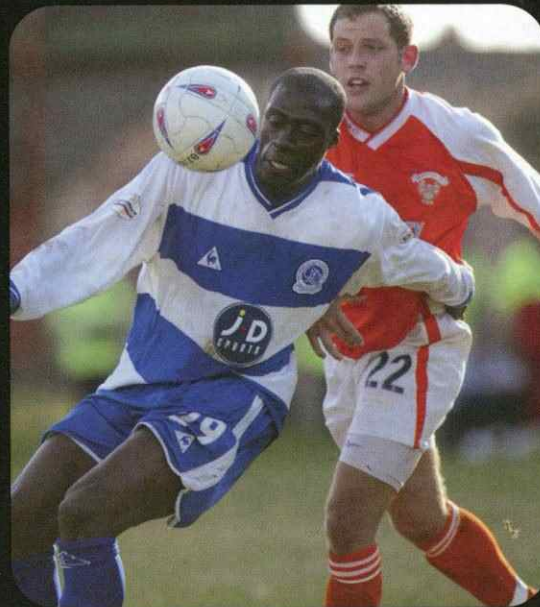
No.19

Dennis Oli

Born: 28th January 1984

Position: Forward

←←DRAWIND



Rangers enjoyed a great day at the seaside, recording a 3-1 win at Blackpool with Richard Langley grabbing his first ever hat-trick for the Superhoops. This promised to be a tough afternoon and indeed, this was by no means a one-sided encounter.

But the visitors took their chances and after a difficult game against Wigan the previous weekend, Richard Langley bounced back in style to produce a memorable display. The first time a Rangers midfielder has scored a hat-trick away from Loftus Road since Mark Lazarus in February 1967.

Langley opened the scoring on 36 minutes from a free kick after Paul

Furlong was fouled by Grayson. Langley curled the ball over the wall into the top left hand corner to cue some wild celebrations.

Dan Shittu thought he had doubled the Rs' the lead after 40 minutes. He headed home Padula's corner but the linesman decided that there had been some kind of contact in the box and the goal was not allowed to stand.

Three minutes after the restart a crazy goalline scramble almost sparked a full scale brawl. Somewhere amongst it all Gallen had a shot tipped onto the crossbar, as did Dan Shittu.

The ball was kicked and blocked in

MAN OF THE MATCH



Richard Langley produced a performance to silence those who welcomed his substitution the previous weekend. Three goals from midfield is a remarkable return and to do so away from home is even more amazing. Outstanding.

BLACKPOOL

TAYLOR 90

QPR

LANGLEY 35, 65, 85

1

Barnes, Richardson, Flynn, Grayson, Hills (Burns 75), Bullock, Wellens, Coid, Taylor, Robinson (Milligan 68), Walker (Blinkhorn 75) unused subs: Theoklitos, Hughes

Yellow cards 2
Red cards 0

3

Day, Kelly, Carlisle, Shittu, Padula, McLeod, Palmer, Bircham, Langley, Gallen, Furlong (Rose 78) unused subs: Culkin, Pacquette, Thomson, Angell

Yellow cards 3
Red cards 0



front of the goal for what seemed an eternity before the referee finally gave a goalkick to Blackpool.

Chris Day was forced to make a save from Taylor on the hour. The pacy number 10 broke through the QPR defence and Day made a comfortable save from Taylor's effort.

But Rangers soon doubled their advantage. Furlong showed great strength and perseverance to release McLeod who fed the ball wide to Langley. From the corner of the box Langley struck a low swerving drive to put Rangers two up.

Blackpool went on the attack and

Holloway responded by taking off Paul Furlong for Matthew Rose as QPR went to a 4-5-1 formation. But it was Rangers who grabbed the next goal. Langley completed his hat-trick on 86 minutes when McLeod burst forward and received a pass from Gallen.

He hit a low cross and Langley stooped to head home. A clearly delighted Langley ran to the Rangers fans as they celebrated in the seaside sunshine.

Blackpool managed a consolation through Taylor in injury time but this goal failed, however, to take the gloss off a fantastic win for the Rs on their travels.

Attendance: 8,162

Referee: A Bates (Stoke-on-Trent)

OLLIE'S VERDICT



"We needed a big performance and we gave it. It always looks like we're the ones who are going to get caught but we're still focussed on catching the others above us and we needed the win today."



FINAL FURLONG

AS THE SEASON REACHES THE HOME STRAIGHT AND THE FINISHING LINE COMES IN TO VIEW, PAUL FURLONG CHATS TO HOOPS ABOUT AN EVENTFUL CAMPAIGN AND HIS HOPES FOR AN EXCITING CONCLUSION

Any side that entertains thoughts of gaining promotion needs someone to score big goals; someone who can get in the right place and put pressure on the defence; someone like Paul Furlong.

QPR's recent run of excellent form has been directly tied to the efforts of the attack, specifically Paul and his partnership with Kevin Gallen. In February and early March, Paul scored six goals in six games, none of which were losses.

Then, a week ago, Paul led Rangers' attack on Ninian Park, opening the scoring of a hotly contested match with the Bluebirds. He said it was a great feeling to score amidst the boisterous Cardiff crowd.

"It's always going to be a good atmosphere when you play at Ninian Park. They're our rivals and we want to get in the position they're in and it was certainly nice to score when I did."

Scoring big goals like the one at Cardiff and those throughout the past two months gives Paul more energy and incentive to go out and help his team. Still, he said he realises he's got to keep his mind on the task at hand, beating opposition like today's visitors and climbing up the table.

"I'm a pretty level headed sort of person. People say I'm pretty laid back and I just go out there and do the sort of job I'm capable of doing. I've played a run of games now and the confidence grows and I'm glad to be putting in some decent performances and scoring for the team.

"We're not gonna treat the Luton game as any different. We see Luton as in our way, so we obviously want to go out and get three points to pursue our mission."

Paul is happy to be in the position he's in now. Early in the season, when he and the team had trouble with injuries and couldn't sustain good form, Paul says, he was always confident that the side could turn things around.

I've always said since I came here that if we keep the players together and steer clear from injuries and suspension, then this side will do well, and we're proving that right now."

Paul's partnership with Kevin Gallen is proof enough. The way Paul and Kevin have worked off one another in attack recently has given opposing defences fits and has not only led to increased scoring from the two strikers, but has resulted in a more potent attack in general. Paul said

he feels comfortable working alongside Kevin, but thinks they can get even better.

"We work hard in the training field, trying to learn each other's game and the partnership is going quite well at the moment.

"Kevin's been the kind of player I've always rated whilst I've been at other clubs and I've seen him play. It was just good to come down here and play with him.

But we're just going to keep working at our game. We're not silly, as soon as you think you've conquered it, it's got a habit of kicking you in the teeth, this game has."

If Paul keeps working at his game and gets even better, Rangers may well find themselves in Division One next season. Paul said the chances look good.

"I feel we've got a good chance, but we're not gonna push too far. At the start of the season, we set out a plan and that was to get promotion and we're gearing ourselves towards that. We're going to take each game as it comes and at the end of the season we'll be there or thereabouts."



ON THE LINE



WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED ON QPR CLUBCALL!!!

QPR ClubCall is the official telephone line for your favourite team bringing you all the latest news, views and interviews from Loftus Road. Last week on ClubCall:

ClubCall also brought you full match commentary from the match against Cardiff.



COMING UP!

Don't forget to phone ClubCall tonight when you get home to hear Ian Holloway giving his verdict on this game. We'll have all the club news and player interviews through the week plus full 90 minutes commentary from the away games coming up against Brentford and Notts County.

So don't miss out!!

"I saw the ball being sent back to Gino Padula and I thought 'just go for it!' So I made a run instinctively and fortunately Gino played a great ball in. It didn't give Cardiff time to pick me up and I was very happy to get the winning goal."

- Richard Langley talking about his matchwinner at Cardiff.

"I am pleased to be back in the side after my long period out injured. I am just working at being consistent. As a keeper, there is no point being great one minute and then making a mistake the next. You are judged on your consistency."

- Chris Day talking to Tony Incenzo outside the dressing rooms at Cardiff.

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THE RUN-IN

AS THE PROMOTION RACE HOTS UP, HERE ARE THE REMAINING FIXTURES OF THE MAIN PROTAGONISTS. CAN RANGERS DO IT? THIS MAY HELP YOU DECIDE!

WIGAN ATHLETIC (89pts)

12-Apr-03	Brentford	H
19-Apr-03	Huddersfield Town	A
21-Apr-03	Oldham Athletic	H
26-Apr-03	Cardiff City	A
3-May-03	Barnsley	H



CREWE ALEXANDRA (77pts)

12-Apr-03	Blackpool	A
15-Apr-03	Bristol City	H
19-Apr-03	Swindon Town	H
21-Apr-03	Barnsley	A
26-Apr-03	QPR	A
3-May-03	Cardiff City	H



CARDIFF CITY (76pts)

12-Apr-03	Chesterfield	A
15-Apr-03	Peterborough United	A
19-Apr-03	Colchester United	H
22-Apr-03	Bristol City	A
26-Apr-03	Wigan Athletic	H
3-May-03	Crewe Alexandra	A



OLDHAM ATHLETIC (74pts)

12-Apr-03	Cheltenham Town	A
19-Apr-03	Chesterfield	H
21-Apr-03	Wigan Athletic	A
26-Apr-03	Swindon Town	H
3-May-03	Huddersfield Town	A



BRISTOL CITY (72pts)

12-Apr-03	Mansfield Town	H
15-Apr-03	Crewe Alexandra	A
19-Apr-03	Luton Town	A
22-Apr-03	Cardiff City	H
26-Apr-03	Chesterfield	A
3-May-03	Port Vale	H



QPR (70pts)

12-Apr-03	Luton Town	H
19-Apr-03	Brentford	A
21-Apr-03	Notts County	H
26-Apr-03	Crewe Alexandra	H
3-May-03	Colchester United	A



TRANMERE ROVERS (65pts)

12-Apr-03	Wycombe Wanderers	H
19-Apr-03	Notts County	A
21-Apr-03	Northampton Town	H
26-Apr-03	Mansfield Town	H
3-May-03	Stockport County	A



LUTON TOWN (60pts)

12-Apr-03	QPR	A
19-Apr-03	Bristol City	H
21-Apr-03	Colchester United	A
26-Apr-03	Stockport County	H
3-May-03	Swindon Town	A



PLYMOUTH ARG (58pts)

12-Apr-03	Stockport County	A
19-Apr-03	Port Vale	H
23-Apr-03	Swindon Town	A
26-Apr-03	Northampton Town	A
3-May-03	Wycombe Wanderers	H



TWO NEWS

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM AROUND THE SECOND DIVISION

MAGPIES GET ELIMINATION THREAT

Notts County have been given until May 27 to come out of administration. If they fail to meet the deadline, they will be thrown out of the Football League.

The Magpies have been in administration since June 2002, and Football League officials have expressed dismay that the club have made little progress correcting their financial problems. The League's frustration led them to giving Notts County eight weeks to right the ship or be eliminated.

"The club have until May 27 to come out of administration," a League spokesman told the Nottingham Evening Post. "Otherwise they will no longer be a League club."

On the pitch, the Magpies appear to have avoided relegation this season, but with heavy pressure from the League to clear up the problems in the front office, the point may be moot.

"There is an increasing feeling that clubs in administration hold an advantage over other teams who have to work hard to clear their debts," the spokesman said. "Clubs have to cut their cloth accordingly."

"Notts County have been in administration for a long time now and there has to be a cut-off point."

TWO TERRIERS SENT OFF

Huddersfield Town have seen the first

casualties of their entry into administration.

Reserve coach Jeff Lee and reserve team physio Dave Buckby had their contracts terminated as part of cost-cutting efforts. Lee had been with the club for five years and Buckby for three.

Administrators felt sorry they had to make the move. A spokesman said, "It is regrettable that we have had to make these redundancies and it is nothing to do with Jeff or Dave's service to the club, it is part of our cost saving measures."

Huddersfield have been assured by administrators that their Academy will be spared and no further redundancies are expected.

ROBINS NOT APPEALING

Bristol City have decided not to appeal the fine levied by the Football League following their hiring of Tony Pulis as manager from Gillingham in July 1999.

"The Club have been left with no alternative but to bring this sorry episode to a very unsatisfactory end," Chairman Steve Landown told the Robins' official site.

"It is a hollow victory to say that the compensation we have been ordered to pay Gillingham is only £50,000, a decision which I still find staggering bearing in mind the current economic state of football, that these events

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Barnsley vs Peterborough

Blackpool vs Crewe

Bristol C vs Mansfield

Cheltenham vs Oldham

Colchester vs Notts Co

Port Vale vs Northampton

QPR vs Luton

Stockport vs Plymouth

Swindon vs Huddersfield

Tranmere vs Wycombe

Wigan vs Brentford



happened nearly four years ago, and Gillingham actually sacked Tony Pulis prior to his appointment as manager of Bristol City."

The Robins will now pay a £25,000 fine to the Football League, £50,000 compensation to Gillingham and 60 percent of the tribunal fees, with Gillingham paying the rest.

Pulis only led Bristol City for five months, leaving in January 2000 for Portsmouth.

INVINCIBLE OUT OF TOWN

Swindon Town have announced that Danny Invincible will be departing this summer, along with four other players.

Manager Andy King explained that Swindon Town's finances are not sufficient to keep Invincible after this season.

"I made one last offer to the lad this week, but he feels he can better his career elsewhere."

"The upside of these things is that the Club is now being realistic, they are now working within their means and such is the state of football nowadays that it has to."

MEETING OF THE MINDS

Oldham manager Iain Dowie has met with ex-chairman, Honourary President and majority shareholder Chris Moore to discuss the club's finances. Dowie said Moore assured him he will support the

club beyond the end of this season.

Dowie told the Oldham Chronicle, "It was positive - we know finances are difficult, but Chris is committed beyond the end of the season."

"He needs to drive down costs, but he is also prepared to stand a certain amount of losses for a number of years."

"I wanted assurance that his commitment was there, and I fully understand that he is losing money because of a budget we can't stick with."

"The club certainly isn't out of the woods yet, so it's a case of slow revolution rather than overnight change."

HODGES HOLDING ON

Barnsley manager Glyn Hodges has received assurance from owner Peter Doyle that he will stay at Barnsley after this season. Hodges took over after Steve Parkin was sacked and after Barnsley entered administration and has guided the Tykes clear of a second successive relegation.

"I think Glyn has done a splendid job and has proven the knockers wrong," Doyle said.

"I have stood by Glyn from day one and I haven't been looking for managers. That means I can't see anybody else taking his place."

PALMER READING

Stockport County manager Carlton Palmer is convinced six points are all the Hatters need to avoid relegation. Palmer's men stand just two points out of the danger zone with six games remaining, but Palmer thinks safety is close at hand.

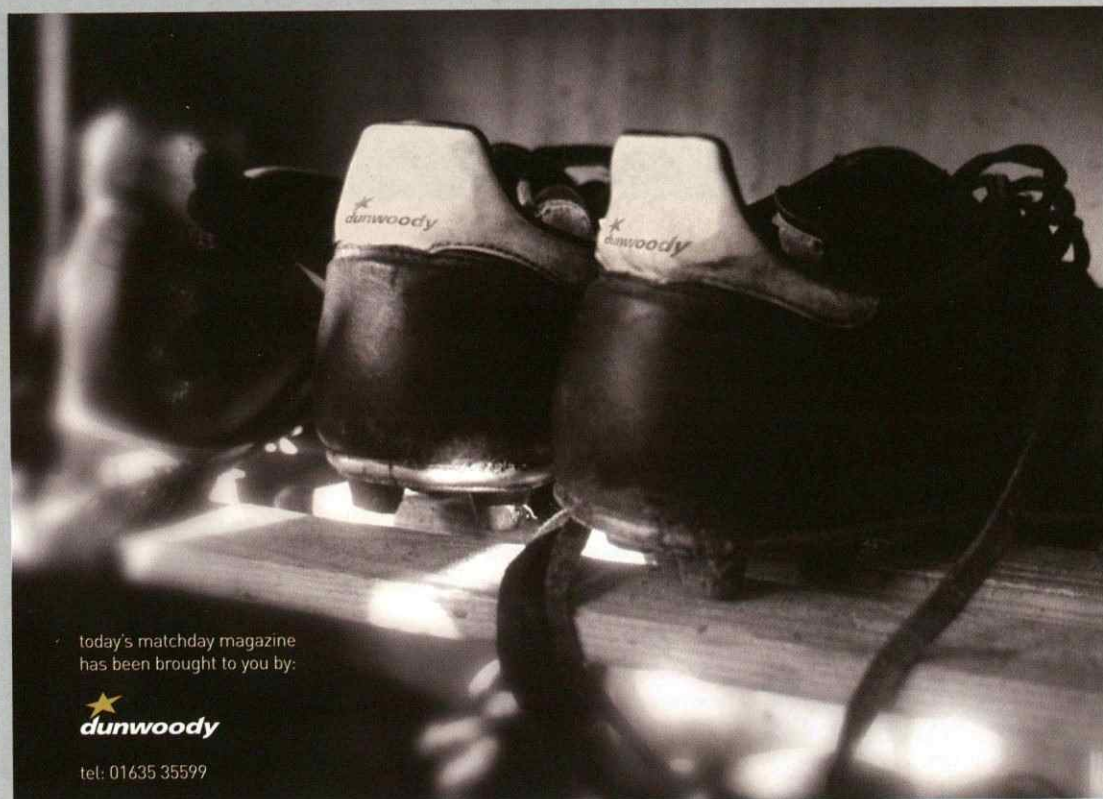
"Looking at the table, I think two wins from the last six games will be good enough to make sure that we stay up," he told the Manchester Evening News.

"Saturday's game at Wycombe is massive for us in that we need to get those wins as soon as possible."



Bristol City have decided not to appeal the fine levied by the Football League following their hiring of Tony Pulis (now manager of Stoke City) as manager from Gillingham in July 1999.

Swindon Town have announced that Danny Invincible will be leaving the Robins this summer after the Australian forward rejected manager Andy King's final contract offer.



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If You Love Rangers Join QPR 1st



QPR1st is the Supporters Trust set up in April 2001 by ordinary fans. It was launched independently of the club at a 1,000-strong meeting at Hammersmith Town Hall and its growth since has been a wonderful reflection of the commitment of QPR fans. QPR1st seeks to bridge the gaps between the QPR board and the QPR community by lobbying on behalf of its paid-up membership and by owning shares in the company.

We need you to join QPR1st.

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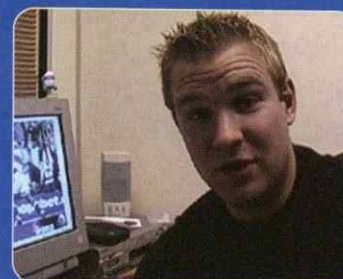
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QPR WORLD



PRESENTER BILLY RICE BRINGS YOU THE QPR WORLD VIEW OF RECENT RANGERS EVENTS



This week on World

It seems a long time ago since our last home game against Wigan. Since then we have had two fantastic away wins in the sunshine.

I'm sure many of those who travelled up to Blackpool decided to make a weekend of it; in fact I saw many hungover QPR fans travelling down M1 on the Sunday, no doubt having a good night celebrating our fine win. We had all the reaction from that game on QPR World with Holloway's press conference

We were sat in the press box where we provide live commentary for QPR WORLD. The press box is located in the middle of the Cardiff main grand stand. I'm sure you have all experienced that 'losing it' feeling when we score and we certainly 'lost it' when Richard Langley converted Gino's cross in the last minute.

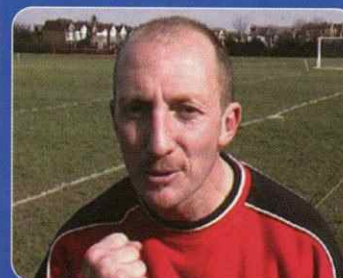
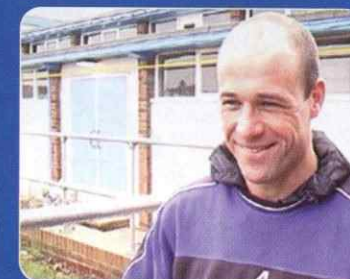
Only when we composed ourselves did we notice the 6,000 or so very angry Cardiff fans sitting just feet in front of us. (Thankfully they were more concerned by their team than us - Ed) Anyway who cares, that game gave me a smile that didn't disappear until sometime on Wednesday morning.

World that in order to improve the squads flexibility he was taking them to ballet classes. We then saw Marc Bircham and Dan Shittu demonstrate their newly learned skill. Thanks to everyone involved, top sports I think you'll agree!

Tune into QPR WORLD tonight where we will have reaction from today's game and tomorrow for all the goals.

Free Trial!

Once again we are running a free trial offer on QPR World. This time, supporters who have yet to subscribe get the opportunity to enjoy a day of free QPR World features - and see what they're missing!



and an interview with Richard Langley on his fine hat-trick.

The next week saw the R's in Europe as we travelled to Wales to take on Cardiff.

On QPR World we saw Ollie face a packed press conference where he talked about the game and spoke to Gino who had a monumental struggle with Ainsworth and set up the two goals.

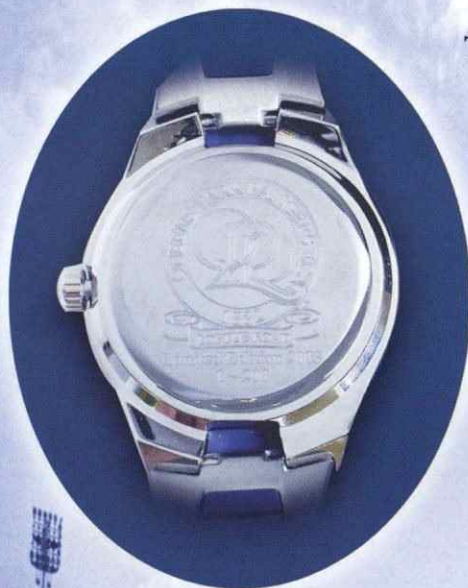
For those of you who knew the date you perhaps would have noticed our story on the 1st of April wasn't entirely true. Fitness Coach Scott Rushton told QPR



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SEKONDA



ENGRAVED WATCH



STATS ENTERTAINMENT

WITH OUR 'STATS WIZARD' DEREK BUXTON



Unlike our last two visitors (Cheltenham and Wigan) we have played Luton a few more times. We've been playing them since 1899 and today's match will be our 121st meeting. Our full record against them is:

	p	w	d	l	f	a
Home	59	35	13	11	118	63
Away	61	10	20	31	57	103



At the risk of putting a 'jinx' on QPR, I can tell you that Luton haven't beaten us in the last 11 meetings. Their last victory against us was on 19th April 1988. Since then, we have won five, and six matches have ended in a draw.



Luton haven't won at Loftus Road since 6th October 1984. Since then, their visits have ended in five draws and five defeats.



Alas, you will not be in a record crowd for this fixture. The record gate is 30,564 for our 5th Round FA Cup match on 7th February 1948. I was there! I'm old!



Only nine of 120 games have ended in a goal-less draw, and there have never been two successive ones -- the last meeting, at Luton, resulted in a goal-less draw.



For those who like strange statistics - I can tell you that we've never lost to Luton in a home match played in April. We've met seven times at home in April. We've won five and drawn twice. I can also tell you that we've lost all four matches played away in April.



We haven't lost at home to a team beginning with "L" since Leeds beat us 1-2 in March 1996. Impressed? You shouldn't be. The only team starting with "L" that we play is Luton.



However, this is will be our 21st home game of the season, and it's one we do well in. Since 1991, only Blackburn have beaten us. We've won six and drawn three of the others.



One very strange fact about today's match is that although 120 games have been played, only two QPR players have scored hat tricks against Luton, and they were both scored in the same match. On 6th November 1964, we won 7-1 and Brian Bedford and Mike Keen both scored three. Richard Langley's hat trick at Blackpool was the 144th by a QPR player, the first since 15th September 2001 (Andy Thomson) and the 41st away hat trick, the

last being scored by Bradley Allen on 20th November 1993 at Everton. It was the first hat trick to be scored in March since Gary Bannister's hat trick against Chelsea on 31st March 1986. It was the 58th time we have won away 3-1, and we now haven't lost to Blackpool for ten matches.



Finally, anything can be proved with statistics. This is how the league table would have looked based on matches played from 4th January to 30th March 2003.

	p	w	d	l	pts
QPR	15	9	3	3	30
Crewe	15	9	3	3	30
Wigan	15	7	6	2	27
Tranmere	15	7	6	2	27
Cardiff	13	6	5	2	23
Bristol C	15	6	5	4	23
Oldham	15	5	7	3	22
Luton	14	6	3	5	21



STATS THE WAY WE LIKE IT!

Derek Buxton has been compiling Queens Park Rangers statistics since 1968 and had a regular column in the Rangers matchday programme from 1968 until 1994. As he says himself his facts may not be important but they are always interesting and fun. We agree! Derek has a treasure trove of obscure and unknown facts. There'll be more nuggets from our Derek in the next issue...

Richard Langley: Registered the 144th hat trick by a QPR player, at Blackpool.



WRITE TO:
REAL FANS REAL FOOTBALL
THE PROGRAMME EDITOR
QPR FOOTBALL CLUB
THE LOFTUS ROAD STADIUM
SOUTH AFRICA ROAD
LONDON W12 7PA

OR EMAIL:
PHILH@LOFTUSROADPLC.CO.UK

IF YOU ARE A RANGERS FAN WITH SOMETHING TO SAY, THEN THIS IS THE PLACE. KEEP SENDING IN YOUR LETTERS, REQUESTS AND OF COURSE PHOTOS (WE LOVE THEM AND WE WANT MORE OF YOU IN YOUR KITS!!)

➤ Daley news

Many thanks to Chad Daley for sending us this snap of himself in Tenerife. Chad tells us that he was 10,000 feet up Mount Teide and was standing on lava from an old eruption. He was up there with his daughter Faye and while they were there, they met another Rs fan whose dad lives in Shepherds Bush. It's a small world - and it's a Rangers world.



Our condolences

The landlord and customers of the Castle pub in North Acton would like to pay their last respects to devoted Rangers fan Chris Horan who sadly died in February.

➤ New recruits

1 This is new Rangers recruit Jamie Randall, born on February 6th. Many congratulations to the Randalls on the birth of their first child.

2 And who is this new recruit, already cheering on the Rs? It's none other than Josie Taylor, daughter of Rangers'

➤ Mascot duty

A warm welcome to today's commercial mascots. First up is Danny Fidler who will be 12 years old on April 15th. Danny has been a season ticket holder for five years and his favourite player is Marc Bircham.

Also here today are Hayley, Jack and Sam Bennett - we hope the three of you have a fantastic day!

Finally a welcome to Sean Doyle who is 15 years old and whose favourite player is Richard Pacquette.



➤ Happy birthday

1 Many happy returns to Philip Taylor who celebrates his 19th birthday next weekend. Philip is a devoted Rangers fan, just like his dad, and is here today to celebrate his birthday and hopefully another three points for the Rs.

Happy 70th birthday to Bob Dengel for April 3rd. Bob attended his first game in 1946 and has been a regular ever since. His sons Andrew and Simon would like to thank him for taking them to their first game, back in 1969/70!

Happy birthday to Charlotte Court for April 17th. Charlotte will be 10 on that day - the same number as worn by her favourite player Kevin Gallen!

2 Many happy returns to Paul - although we don't have your surname young man - who celebrated his 10th birthday last week. Paul is seen here on holiday in Gran Canaria and he is a season ticket holder in the Loft as well as a member of the club's under 10s side.

To Dave Wenham - lifelong supporter even though he emigrated to Cornwall 25 years ago - a happy 70th birthday. Happy birthday also to Herbert Clancy - a fine figure of a man and originally a resident of Luton before seeing the light and moving to London. All the best from Chris Wyman and Mick Clancy of Tracklube.



➤ Marathon man

This is Peter Kennedy, head teacher at St Annes Catholic Primary School proudly wearing a QPR shirt, donated by the club, during a recent half marathon. Peter completed the course in under two hours and has raised much needed funds for sporting equipment for the school. Well done that man.

➤ Great Scott

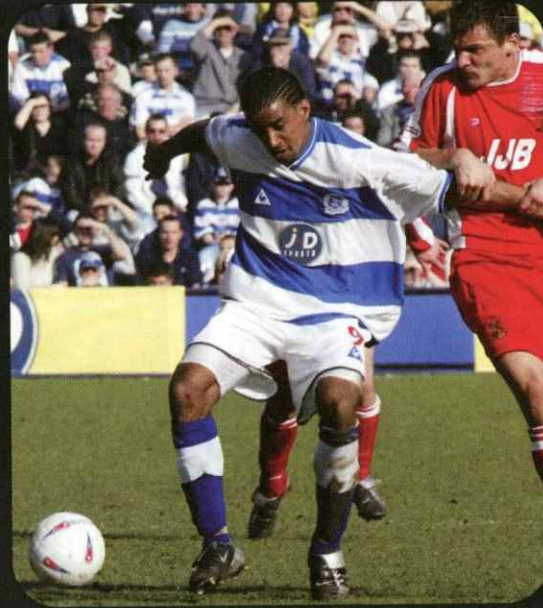
This is Scott Maxwell from Orange, New South Wales in Australia. Even though he has never seen the Rs play he became hooked when his now wife Kylie visited Loftus Road two seasons ago and both are looking forward to visiting soon. The picture is at Evans Point in the Blue Mountains, two hours from Sydney.



Commercial and Marketing Director Samantha Taylor. A regular visitor to Loftus Road - Josie certainly is a Rangers favourite!

3 Finally, we have a picture of new recruit Max Stephen Simmons to proud parents Steve and Justine. Steve is a season ticket holder in the South Africa Road stand.

WIND



A goal 60 seconds in to the second half from Nathan Ellington earned all three points for champions-elect Wigan at Loftus Road. The Latics' travelling support erupted at the final whistle, acclaiming a win that takes them tantalisingly close to securing promotion to Division One. For Rangers, this was a frustrating afternoon with moments of quality too few and far between to inflict only Wigan's third away win of the season.

Holloway's men were slow out of the blocks and it took Rangers 12 minutes to get their first sight of goal, but when it came they squandered a decent opportunity. Kevin McLeod slipped the ball past Nicky Eaden on the left hand side and fired in a low cross towards Kevin Gallen. His shot was blocked and when the ball ran free to Paul Furlong six yards out, John Filan spread himself to keep out

the big striker's snap shot.

But Wigan were soon on the move again and once again Ellington was at the centre of things, driving from midfield before unleashing a shot from 20 yards that beat Chris Day but cannoned back of the upright.

The visitors continued to play the more confident football with Neil Roberts taking advantage of a Shittu slip in the 22nd minute to fire in a looping effort from an acute angle that Chris Day had to stretch to push away.

As the half wore on, Rangers upped the tempo and were able to take advantage of some uncharacteristic slips from the away side and build attacks that, though they came to little, kept the pressure on the visitors.

But within a minute of the second half

MAN OF THE MATCH



A disappointing match, given the recent good form of the home side - nevertheless, there was some encouragement, particularly in the performance of the defence which looked solid throughout.

Dan Shittu gets the plaudits for another mature display.

QPR

WIGAN ATHLETIC

ELLINGTON 47

0

Day, Forbes, Carlisle, Shittu, Padula, Langley (Thomson 73), Bircham, Palmer, McLeod, Gallen, Furlong unused subs: Culkin, Griffiths, Pacquette, Angell

1

Filan, Eaden, Jackson, De Vos, Baines, Liddell (Mitchell 87), Dinning (Jarrett 45), Bullard, McCulloch, Ellington (Teale 73), Roberts unused subs: Breckin, Yeomans

Yellow cards
Red cards

1

0

Yellow cards
Red cards

5

0



getting underway Rangers' gradual improvement counted for nought, when the lively Ellington gave Wigan the lead. Jason De Vos crossed from the left hand side and when Neil Roberts headed the ball goalwards, Ellington flicked the ball home.

With chests puffed out Wigan took control and threatened to tear Rangers apart in a whirlwind first five minutes to the half. The visitors squandered three good chances with the Rangers rearguard pulled from pillar to post. To the great relief of the Loftus Road faithful, the lead was kept at one and Rangers were still in the game.

Once again, Rangers slowly but surely eased their way back in to the game and came close twice before the hour mark. First a Richard Langley free kick after a foul on Gallen was well saved

by Filan and then McLeod stole in at the far post only for the Latics to be grateful to their 'keeper again.

Rangers continued to press, with Wigan adopting a more conservative approach to proceedings. They appeared happy to allow Rangers possession and soak up whatever the home side could throw at them.

Seeing his side get little change of a resolute Latics rearguard, Ian Holloway made a change with 15 minutes to go, replacing Richard Langley with Andy Thomson. This appeared to spark some life in to Rangers, who forced a number of corners in the closing stages that had the hitherto impressive Filan scrambling. But once again Wigan weathered the storm and as the clock ticked down, Rangers ran out of ideas and the visitors eased home.

Attendance: 14,703

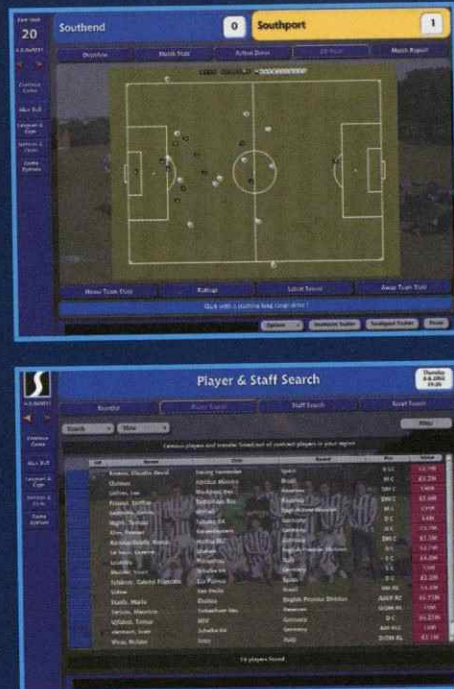
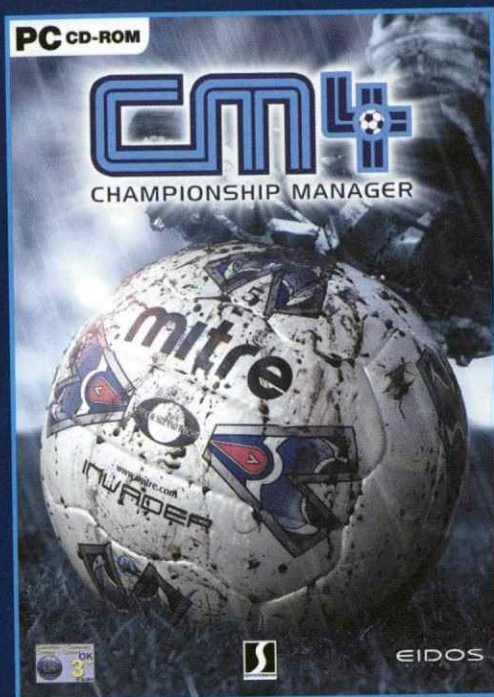
Referee: IS W Dunn (Bristol)

OLLIE'S VERDICT



"I'm devastated with the result. There wasn't much in it, but they created the better chances and were very well organised. I'm annoyed because everything we talked about at half time was forgotten - we didn't get tight and it cost us. They were just a little bit better in the end and we came up short."

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WHO MANAGED QPR TO LEAGUE CUP SUCCESS IN 1967?

Email your answer to qpr@loftusroadplc.co.uk, remembering to put CM4 QUIZ in the subject line of your mail. The closing date for the competition is Tuesday April 22nd - good luck!!

Today's Mascot



Connor Bennett

Our mascot this afternoon is 6 year old Connor Bennett from Fulham. Connor attends Holy Cross Primary School and his hobbies include gymnastics and swimming. His favourite player is Marc Bircham.

Face Ache

Who are these two QPR favourites?
Answers at the bottom of the page!



Happy Birthday!

Birthday greetings to...

Daniel Bond
Christopher King
C Cocks
Ryan Graham
Michael Russell
Emma Fenton
Robert Lewis
Sian Clark
Edward Gilmore
A Sawyers
Mark Campbell
Jack Griffin
Adam Johnson
Stanley Murphy
Wayne Evers
Lauren Chambers
Liam Fanning
Gemma Hayworth
K White
Dean Challis
Paul Underwood

Bradley Voight
JE Meale
Stephen Embleton
Oliver Wood
Thomas Harrison
Georgia Peters
Ben Hollis
Scott Hill
Sean Higgins
Christopher Dillon
Braham Lyons
Michael Hillier
M Voight
Ricky Southgate
Robert Ash
Adam Ives
Daniel Shew
Gary Bird
Jack Lyons
D Gynnell
Michael Forstye
TL Beck
Michael Dillon
Dominic Harle

George King
J Foley
Lorcon O'Shea
Oliver Price

Who have celebrated in the past few days.

And to:

Jason Moriarty
George Francis
Spencer Wakeman
Chloe Wakeman
Luke Sheppard
Robert Brivio
Sean Doyle
Sam Brown
Sean Elliott
Mark Carder
Jordan Tudor-Smith
K Sweetman
Donald Clarke

Who are celebrating this weekend

Junior R's Noticeboard

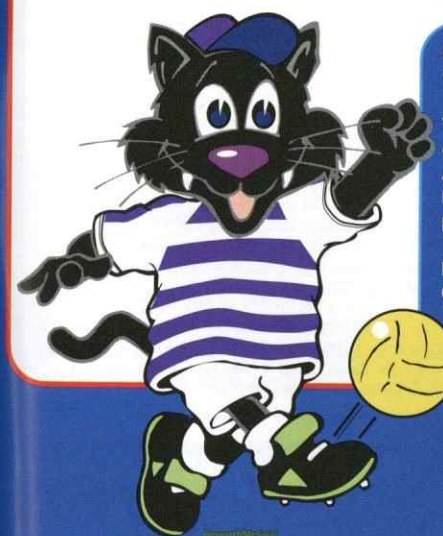
Junior R's Player of the Year

This season's voting was very very close and we had two players in contention for the trophy.

Junior R Will Mason from Somerset will be presenting the trophy to the winner on the pitch before today's game. I am sure you will all agree that the winner thoroughly deserves the honour.

Belated Birthday Greetings

Best wishes to Kyle Targett who was 7 years old on 23rd February and to George Burton who was 10 years old on 27th March.



Good afternoon everyone, and welcome back to the wonderful Loftus Road.

Two weeks away and now we have three home games coming up in quick succession. All matches are very important to us now, so get behind the lads and make sure we collect another 3 points this afternoon.

Make some noise.....
Come on you R'sssssssssssssssssss

love Jude



FACE ACHE:
Paul Furlong and Terrell Forbes

JUNIOR R's

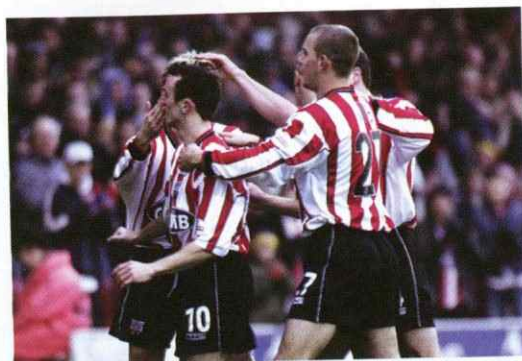
BRENTFORD V QPR

GRAFFIN PARK
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO
SATURDAY APRIL 19TH - KICK OFF 3PM



TICKETS

ALL TICKET: This match is now **SOLD OUT**



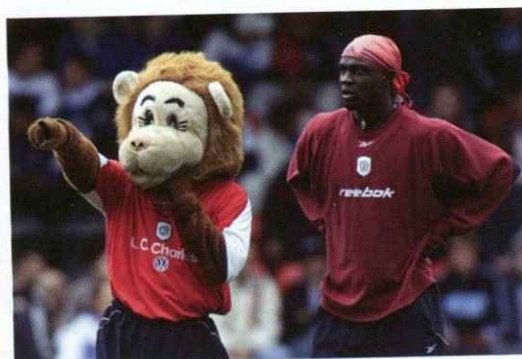
QPR V CREWE ALEXANDRA

LOFTUS ROAD STADIUM
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO
SATURDAY APRIL 26TH - KICK OFF 3PM



TICKETS

Limited availability in Loftus Road Upper, Loftus Road Lower and Paddocks



QPR V NOTTS COUNTY

LOFTUS ROAD STADIUM
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO
MONDAY APRIL 21ST - KICK OFF 3PM



TICKETS

Limited availability in Loftus Road Upper, Loftus Road Lower and Paddocks



COLCHESTER UNITED V QPR

LAYER ROAD
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO
SATURDAY MAY 3RD - KICK OFF 3PM



TICKETS

375 seats priced £14.00 Adult, £8.00 Senior Citizen/Junior. 650 covered terrace priced £12.00 Adult, £6.00 Senior Citizen/Junior and Student. For this game a priority booking system will operate and only postal applications are now being accepted., all applications will be dealt with in strict date order:- Away Season Ticket holders are guaranteed a ticket and will be sent automatically. Season Ticket Holders with three ticket stubs from the previous five away games, at which tickets were issued, will be entitled to one ticket, processed from Monday 14th April. Season Ticket Holders will be entitled to one ticket & processed from Thursday 17th April. Members with three ticket stubs from the previous five away games, at which tickets were issued, will be entitled to one ticket & processed from Tuesday 22nd April. Members will be entitled to one ticket, processed from Thursday 24th April. Any remaining tickets will go on General Sale on Monday 28th April.

TRAVEL

By coach: Coach departs - 10:30am £14.50 Adult, £7.50 Junior, Senior Citizen and Student. Adult season ticket holders receive a £2 discount and Senior Citizen/Junior/Student receive £1 discount.

IT'S ALL GETTING A LITTLE TASTY AS THE BATTLE FOR PROMOTION HOTS UP. AFTER TODAY'S SPICY ENCOUNTER WITH LUTON, LOCAL BRAGGING RIGHTS ARE UP FOR GRABS



**BRENTFORD'S
ROWAN VINE**

The next two games Rangers play may seem like a respite from the clashes with fellow promotion hopefuls, but Ian Holloway and his men know better. Though QPR play Brentford and Notts County, two mid-table sides with long-vanished dreams of promotion, the games are important as ever with every point critical to Rangers' cause.

Also, both teams on the Easter weekend schedule would surely love nothing more than to spoil Rangers' hopes.

First up, in one week's time, is Brentford. As the Rangers travel to Griffin Park, the Bees stand well adrift of the play-off places, but still hopeful to derive some pride from a victory over their London neighbours.

While Brentford's days near the top of the old Division One are nearly 70 years past, the Bees have had reason to be proud of recent history, including a top finish in the

old Division Three in 1991-92 and an impressive recovery to regain Division Two status in 1998-99 after being relegated the year before.

Last season proved to be mostly successful, but heartbreaking at the end. Brentford finished just a point shy of automatic promotion after a late goal gave Reading a draw with the Bees: all the Royals need to win an invitation to

Earlier in the season, Brentford came to Loftus Road and left with a 1-1 draw despite Rangers' spirited second-half effort. Next week, the Bees look to show QPR what they can do and begin a solid run of form to take them through the end of the season.

Two days after the short trip to Brentford, Notts County come to Loftus Road looking for a double over Rangers.

In December, Rangers paid the Magpies a visit and brought a gift for their hosts, as they did themselves in with a poof opening 15 minutes that led to a 3-0 defeat. Given Rangers' recent form, a repeat is unlikely. Still, the Loftus Road faithful could be in for a well-played match, considering Notts County's form of six wins and a draw in nine games, with a 5-0 defeat to Swindon being an aberration from the Magpies' solid football.

Throughout their long history, the Magpies have made stops at every level. They were founding members of the Football League and have spent 28 years in the top flight on four different occasions. They narrowly missed being founding members of the Premiership by finishing in the bottom three the year before.

A slide to Division Two was followed shortly by a quick visit to the bottom of the Football League, but now Notts County have returned to the middle of Division Two. Billy Dearden's men are young but improving, and in the near future may be ready to make another push towards Division One.



**NOTTS COUNTY'S
DARREN CASKEY**

Division One. A loss to Stoke in the play-off final meant the Bees would be back in Division Two this year.

The heartbreak came earlier for Wally Downes' men this season: Brentford started out with good form and entered the new year just shy of a play-off spot, but then fell victim to injuries and lost their scoring touch. Winless runs of six and seven games erased any play-off aspirations they had.

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Community news

MAIN STORY: MATCH DAY PACKAGES

IN ASSOCIATION WITH:



MATCH DAY PACKAGES

A big Loftus Road welcome to the children from Robertwood Rangers FC in Buckinghamshire who are here today on a match day package.

After a tour of the stadium, the boys and girls spent the morning being coached by some of our top Community coaches.

Maybe some of the skills they learnt and tips they picked up will be useful when they get back to playing themselves.

EASTER SOCCER SCHOOLS

Our ever popular Soccer Schools will be back for Easter:

**Monday 14th - Thursday 17th April &
Tuesday 22nd - Friday 25th April**

We will be holding our ever popular soccer schools during the forthcoming Easter break, at four venues around West London - Westway Sports Centre, Willesden Sports Centre, Evelyns Community School and Regents Park..

We suggest you book early and in advance for the soccer schools as bookings received so far suggest that some courses could sell out.

For more information or a booking form please call the Community Department on 020 8740 2509.

FOOTBALL CLUBS AND THE NSPCC'S FAIR PLAY INITIATIVE

How would you like to have a top footballer like Trevor Sinclair to come along to pep up your PE lesson? Football in the Community and many football clubs are working in partnership with the NSPCC, to spread the word and encourage schools to take part and play football on a Fair Play Day during the week 30th June - 4th July. Children across the Country will take part in sports activities where the emphasis is on teamwork, participation and the fun of sport. Teachers who register will receive a resources pack containing ideas for sports lessons, assemblies and PSHE lessons.

It is hoped the event will encourage more sport in schools. Children who are confident tend to be better able to shrug off problems at school and at home.

- Playing the right kind of sport can give you confidence.

The event is a sponsored day, whereby children can take sponsor forms home to their families to get sponsored to take part in their school Fair Play Day.

Schools that raise funds for the NSPCC through Fair Play Day will have the opportunity to win fantastic prizes such as a Fair Play trophy or a visit from a top sports star.

Order your FREE Fair Play pack today by calling 0800 389 9258 or by emailing your details to fairplayday@nspcc.org.uk



There are over 100 children in the team and they are trained by volunteer parents, many of whom are R's supporters. All of the players are from Robertwood School in Chalfont St Peter.



HERE WITH US TODAY: ROBERTSWOOD RANGERS FC

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57

CHAMPAGNE MOMENTS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



SPONSORS MAN OF THE MATCH: WIGAN ATHLETIC
Richard Suswain of CS Consultancy presents Gino Padula with the match sponsors bubbly after the Wigan game



PATRONS MAN OF THE MATCH: WIGAN ATHLETIC
Justin Ciernis presents the Patrons man of the match champagne to Marc Bircham after the Wigan game



PATRONS MAN OF THE MATCH: CHELTENHAM TOWN
Martin Clench from Lasgo Entertainment, a guest of match sponsors 3MV, presents Lee Cook with the Match sponsors bubbly



PATRONS MAN OF THE MATCH: CHELTENHAM TOWN
Lee Cook receives the Patrons Man of the Match champagne from Sharon Dyer after the Cheltenham game



PATRONS MAN OF THE MATCH: MANSFIELD TOWN
Mark Stroud hands over the Patrons man of the match champagne to Kevin Gallen after the Mansfield game



PATRONS MAN OF THE MATCH: BRISTOL CITY
Paul Furlong receives the Patrons man of the match bubbly after the Bristol City game from Martyn Fletcher

COMMERCIAL & MARKETING DIRECTOR SAMANTHA TAYLOR ROUNDS UP THE LATEST ACTIVITIES AT LOFTUS ROAD

Welcome and thank you to our sponsors today, Match Sponsors Mike Clancy of Track Lube and Steve Little of Scorpio Electrical, we are grateful for your support and hope you have a fantastic day with us.

FANS FORUM

Thursday 24th April Slough Town FC starting at 7pm

The date has been set for the next Fans Forum. Doors open at 7pm for a 7:30pm start, the evening is being held in conjunction with BBC London and will be hosted by Tom Watt.

There are a limited number of tickets available and priority will be given to Season Ticket Holders and Members who can apply for two tickets each.

The Panel will consist of a member of the Board, Ian Holloway, Terrell Forbes and Marc Bircham. The evening will be split

into two halves with the first half consisting of pre-submitted questions and the second half taking questions from the floor.

To submit your questions to any of the panel, please email qpr@loftusroadplc.co.uk. Please mark the subject box: Fans Forum. We will endeavour to get through as many questions as possible!

To apply for tickets please email: yvonneg@loftusroadplc.co.uk. Again, please mark the subject box: Fans Forum. In the email, please state clearly your name, address, number of tickets required and your client reference number.

Tickets will go quickly so please apply soon!

SEASON TICKETS 2003/2004

It seems amazing that this time has come round so quickly, the season has just got

going and here we are turning our attention to August 2003!

All Season Ticket Holders and Members should have received their renewal information in the post by now, should you not have received your brochure or wish to request an additional one, please contact the Box Office after 14th April when we will have a stock of brochures available. Season Ticket prices for 2003/4 are detailed on page 26 in today's programme.

In addition, Season Ticket Holders have the option of becoming a member of the Official Supporters Club for FREE. This addition will enable the Club to work closely with the supporters and organise social and fund-raising events throughout the year.

This will make it possible for supporters to meet the players and management team on a social footing and we look forward to these events next season.



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TOP OFF THE WORLD

Richard Langley has just rammed home Rangers' winner at Cardiff to silence a previously boistrous home crowd and send a small pocket of travelling fans crazy. It was a wonderful moment for the Superhoops that were there and quite possibly season-defining. Rangers sent out a clear message - we are in it to the bitter end and promotion is now a real possibility.

Sponsor a player and get your name in print for the whole season!

Only £250 for the home shirt, £175 for the away shirt and £50 for the shin pads or £450 for the whole player.
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**STORT
SCAFFOLDING**

BRETT ANGELL

- Colin and Nik Speller
- Neil Truckle
- Ray Cutler - South Devon LSA

BRIAN FITZGERALD

- Ray, Lorna and Joe
- Eclipse Imaging Ltd
- Jill & Bradley Pearson

KEVIN GALLAN

- Andy Keywood
- Rhys & Bethan Johnson
- Darren Cook & Emma Punter

MARCUS BEAN

ECLIPSE
DESIGNED TO PROTECT
THE CHAMPION

CLARKE CARLISLE

- Orbit-Internet.com
- Keith Porter
- Randall Ceramics Ltd

WESLEY DALY

- "The Finborough"
- Kev & Em No. 1 fans
- Olivia (Hula Hoop) Thompkins

DOUDOU

We are QPR

TERRELL FORBES

scotts
PROPERTY & BUILDING

PATRICK GRADLEY

- Adrienne Pain
- Enterprise rent-a-car
- In memory of Tom Flynn

MARC BIRCHAM

**Rochester
Electronics**
Ron Bannister

KARL CONNOLLY

- Jo Fidgen
- Bob Dobson and Med Team
- Terry Dormer

CHRIS DAY

- Alan & John Purse
- In Memory of Joe Young
- Noam Friedlander

LYNDON DUNCAN

- Carefree Amusements
- Don Samioni
- Northern R's

PAUL FURLONG

QPR 1st

LEROY GRIFFITHS

**STORT
SCAFFOLDING**

RICHARD LANGLEY

- Jonno and Clive
- Carefree Amusements
- Emma & Sarah Stent

RICHARD PACQUETTE

- Enterprise rent-a-car
- Kris De Wej
- Lord and Lady Darby

CHRIS PLUMMER

- M&S Supplies
- Bob Mulroy
- Sylvie & Ian Dallibar

ANDY THOMSON

- UK IT Recruitment Ltd.
- Crash
- Lesley Wright

IAN HOLLOWAY

ELMS

QPR responsibility: Manager

GARY WADDOCK

- RTID
- Nuala and John Armstrong
- In Memory of Barrie Clayton

QPR responsibility: Director of Youth Academy

DANNY MURPHY

- QPR LSA
- Ayala Daisley
- Alternative Heroes

GINO PADULA

- Trish and Ryan Phillips
- James, Katrina, Neil & Rebecca
- Andrew Ferguson & Clare Seaward

MATTHEW ROSE

- Kevin, Georgina and Jack McCooke
- Baby Sophie
- Ken & Janet McKay

BEN WALSH

- "Shorts"
- Sue and "Sis"
- Nick, Alan & Jon Inns

KENNY JACKETT

**Ann and Mike
Singleton Solicitors
020 8363 6671**

QPR responsibility: Assistant Manager

SCOTT RUSHTON

FitnessFirst

QPR responsibility: Fitness Coach

DENNIS OLI

**Into the Brave
New World**

STEVE PALMER

- Terry and Phyll Taylor
- Sean Penistone
- www.text-express.com

DAN SHITTU

We are QPR

TOMMY WILLIAMS

MADDLTD.COM
NEW MEDIA & WEB
DESIGN AGENCY

TIM BREACKER

- Peter Richbell
- Ron Hill
- Enterprise rent-a-car

QPR responsibility: Reserve Team Manager

JUDE THE CAT

**Florence &
Year 3
John Betts School**

QPR responsibility: Mascot

THE KEY

WG: WORTHINGTON CUP LVT: LDV VANS TROPHY FAC: FA CUP



DATE OPPONENTS

RES ATT AWAY POS

SAT AUG 10	CHESTERFIELD	H	3-1	12,603	494	-	CULKIN	FORBES	MURPHY (1)	SHITTU	PALMER	DALY (2)	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	THOMSON (3)
TUE AUG 13	STOCKPORT COUNTY	A	1-1	5,811	950	3	CULKIN	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT AUG 17	BARNLEY	A	0-1	9,626	904	11	CULKIN	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT AUG 24	PETERBOROUGH UNITED	H	2-0	11,510	640	6	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
MON AUG 26	WYCOMBE WANDERERS (3PM)	A	1-4	8,383	2,000	11	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT AUG 31	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	H	2-2	14,001	2,545	13	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	DOUDOU (2)	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT SEP 7	MANSFIELD TOWN (1PM)	A	4-0	4,581	1,231	7	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
TUE SEP 10	LEYTON ORIENT (WC 1)	A	2-3	4,981	836	-	DIGBY	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT SEP 14	SWINDON TOWN	H	2-0	11,619	645	6	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
TUE SEP 17	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	H	3-0	11,010	357	5	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT SEP 21	BRISTOL CITY	A	3-1	12,221	1,632	1	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT SEP 28	COLCHESTER UNITED	H	2-0	12,906	363	2	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT OCT 5	CREWE ALEXANDRA	A	0-2	7,683	1,359	4	DIGBY	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
MON OCT 14	BLACKPOOL	H	2-1	11,335	462	4	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT OCT 19	CHELTENHAM TOWN	A	1-1	6,382	1,878	5	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
TUES OCT 22	BRISTOL CITY (LDV 1)	H	0-0*	4,772	339	-	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	BURGESS (2)	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT OCT 26	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	H	1-2	15,491	793	5	ROYCE (1)	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU (4)	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
TUE OCT 29	WIGAN ATHLETIC	A	1-1	6,241	727	5	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT NOV 2	PORT VALE	A	0-0	4,396	804	5	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT NOV 9	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	H	0-1	11,947	872	6	ROYCE	FORBES (1)	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER (2)	DOUDOU (3)	ROSE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT NOV 16	VAUXHALL MOTORS (FA C1)	A	0-0	3,507	-	-	DIGBY	ROSE (1)	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	BURGESS	BIRCHAM	CARLISLE	CONNOLLY	THOMSON	THOMAS
SAT NOV 23	LUTON TOWN	A	0-0	9,477	1,900	6	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	WILLOCK	BURGESS	CARLISLE	CONNOLLY	THOMSON	THOMAS
TUE NOV 26	VAUXHALL MOTORS (FA C1R)	H	1-1**	5,366	-	-	DIGBY	FORBES	WILLIAMS	PADULA	PALMER	LANGLEY	BURGESS	CARLISLE	BIRCHAM	CONNOLLY	THOMSON
FRI NOV 29	CARDIFF CITY	H	0-4	14,345	2,101	6	ROYCE	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	CARLISLE	CONNOLLY	THOMSON	THOMAS
SAT DEC 14	NOTTS COUNTY	A	0-3	5,343	1,065	7	CULKIN	FORBES	MURPHY	ROSE (1)	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	CARLISLE	CONNOLLY	THOMSON	THOMAS
SAT DEC 21	BRENTFORD	H	1-1	15,558	3,169	-	CULKIN	FORBES	MURPHY	CARLISLE	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	ROSE	COOK (1)	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
THU DEC 26	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	H	2-1	14,874	1,377	-	CULKIN	FORBES	SHITTU	CARLISLE	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	ROSE	COOK (2)	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT DEC 28	TRANMERE ROVERS	A	0-3	8,434	522	10	CULKIN	FORBES	CARLISLE	SHITTU (1)	PALMER	LANGLEY	DALY (2)	ROSE	COOK (2)	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
WED JAN 1	PETERBOROUGH UNITED	A	2-0	6,210	1,435	7	CULKIN	FORBES	CARLISLE (1)	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	ROSE	COOK	GALLEN	ANGELL
SAT JAN 4	STOCKPORT COUNTY	H	1-0	10,387	248	6	CULKIN	FORBES	CARLISLE	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	ROSE	COOK (2)	GALLEN	ANGELL (3)
SAT JAN 11	BARNLEY	H	1-0	11,217	439	6	CULKIN	FORBES	PADULA	ROSE (1)	PALMER	LANGLEY	DALY (2)	OLU	CARLISLE (3)	COOK	GALLEN
SAT JAN 18	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	A	1-0	10,249	1,343	6	CULKIN	FORBES	PADULA (2)	SHITTU	PALMER	BIRCHAM	PACQUETTE (1)	CARLISLE	COOK	GALLEN	ANGELL
SAT JAN 25	TRANMERE ROVERS	H	1-2	12,249	496	6	CULKIN	FORBES	MURPHY	SHITTU	PALMER	BIRCHAM	PACQUETTE	BURGESS (1)	WALSHE	GALLEN	ANGELL (3)
SUN FEB 2	CHESTERFIELD	A	4-2	4,395	967	6	CULKIN	FORBES	PADULA	SHITTU	PALMER	BIRCHAM	DALY (1)	GRIFFITHS (2)	THOMSON	GALLEN	FURLONG
SAT FEB 8	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	A	1-1	5,859	1,450	6	CULKIN	FORBES	PADULA	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	GRIFFITHS	BEAN (2)	GALLEN	FURLONG
SAT FEB 15	PORT VALE	H	4-0	13,703	362	6	CULKIN	FORBES	PADULA	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	GRIFFITHS	BEAN (2)	GALLEN	FURLONG
SAT FEB 22	MANSFIELD TOWN	H	2-2	11,942	780	6	CULKIN	FORBES	PADULA (1)	SHITTU (2)	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	COOK (2)	BEAN	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT MAR 1	SWINDON TOWN	A	1-3	7,716	2,579	6	CULKIN	CARLISLE	PADULA (1)	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	COOK (1)	CARLISLE	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
TUE MAR 4	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	A	3-0	8,695	639	6	DAY	FORBES	PADULA	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	COOK (1)	CARLISLE	GALLEN	FURLONG (2)
SAT MAR 8	BRISTOL CITY	H	1-0	14,681	2,497	6	DAY	FORBES	WILLIAMS	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	COOK (1)	CARLISLE	GALLEN	FURLONG
SAT MAR 15	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	A	0-0	7,212	1,119	6	DAY	FORBES	WILLIAMS (1)	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	COOK (2)	CARLISLE	GALLEN	FURLONG
TUE MAR 18	CHELTENHAM TOWN	H	4-1	11,370	351	6	DAY	FORBES	CARLISLE	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	COOK	WILLIAMS	GALLEN	FURLONG (3)
SAT MAR 22	WIGAN ATHLETIC	H	0-1	14,703	1,055	6	DAY	FORBES	PADULA	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY (1)	BIRCHAM	MCLEOD	CARLISLE	GALLEN	FURLONG
SAT MAR 29	BLACKPOOL	A	3-1	8,162	1,998	6	DAY	KELLY	PADULA	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY (3)	BIRCHAM	MCLEOD (1)	CARLISLE	GALLEN	FURLONG
SAT APR 5	CARDIFF CITY	A	2-1	15,245	966	6	DAY	KELLY	PADULA	SHITTU	PALMER	LANGLEY	BIRCHAM	MCLEOD	CARLISLE	GALLEN	FURLONG (1)
SAT APR 12	LUTON TOWN	H	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SAT APR 19	BRENTFORD	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MON APR 21	NOTTS COUNTY	H	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SAT APR 26	CREWE ALEXANDRA	H	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SAT MAY 3	COLCHESTER UNITED	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUN MAY 11	PLAY-OFF SEMI-FINAL (1ST LEG)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WED MAY 14	PLAY-OFF SEMI-FINAL (2ND LEG)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUN MAY 25	PLAY-OFF FINAL	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

* AFTER EXTRA TIME - BRISTOL CITY WON 5-4 ON PENALTIES
** AFTER EXTRA TIME - VAUXHALL MOTORS WON 4-3 ON PENALTIES

TOP SCORERS

GALLEN	14
FURLONG	11
LANGLEY	8
SHITTU	6

TOP GATES

BRENTFORD	15,599
OLDHAM	15,491
WYCOMBE	14,874
WIGAN ATH	14,703

LAST FOUR GAMES

CARDIFF	A	2-1
BLACKPOOL	A	3-1
WIGAN	H	0-1
CHELTENHAM	H	4-1

PHOTOGRAPHY ACTION IMAGES, EMPICS

PLAYER IN RED
DENOTES SCORER

NUMBER IN BRACKETS
DENOTES PLAYER REPLACED()

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO 2002/2003

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
WIGAN	41	11	7	2	31	15	89
CREWE	40	11	3	6	27	16	77
CARDIFF	40	12	5	4	33	17	76
OLDHAM	41	9	6	6	31	18	74
BRISTOL C	40	12	5	3	34	13	72
QPR	41	12	3	5	34	19	70
TRANMERE	41	11	5	4	30	22	65
LUTON	41	8	6	7	29	25	60
PLYMOUTH	41	9	6	6	35	24	58
BLACKPOOL	41	10	6	4	31	20	56
COLCHESTER	41	8	6	6	23	17	53
SWINDON	41	8	5	7	30	25	51
NOTTS CO	41	9	7	5	36	31	51
BRENTFORD	41	8	7	6	26	18	50
WYCOMBE	41	8	5	8	38	37	49
BARNLEY	41	6	8	6	24	27	46
PORT VALE	41	7	4	9	25	27	46
CHESTERFIELD	41	10	4	6	27	23	46
STOCKPORT	41	6	8	6	33	33	45
PETERBOROUGH	40	5	7	8	21	20	44
CHELTENHAM	41	5	7	8	21	29	42
HUDDERSFIELD	41	7	7	7	26	23	40
MANSFIELD	41	8	2	11	36	43	40
NORTHAMPTON	41	7	3	11	21	26	38

FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES & GOALS 2002/2003

	LEAGUE	FA CUP	WORTH. CUP	LDV TROPHY	TOTAL	TOTAL
	APPS GOALS	APPS GOALS	APPS GOALS	APPS GOALS	APPS	GOALS
BRETT ANGELL	9(5)	-	-	-	9(5)	-
MARCUS BEAN	4(3)	-	-	(1)	4(3)	-
MARC BIRCHAM	29(2)	2	-	-	31(2)	1
OLIVER BURGESS	(14)	2	-	1	4(4)	-
CLARKE CARLISLE	31(2) 2	2	1	-	34(2)	2
KARL CONNOLLY	12(4) 4	(1)	1	1	14 (5)	4
LEE COOK	14 1	-	-	-	14	1
NICK CULKIN	18	-	-	-	18	-
WES DALY	3(2)	-	-	1	4(2)	-
CHRIS DAY	7	-	-	-	7	-
FRASER DIGBY	(12)	2	1	-	4(2)	-
DOUDOU	3(7)	-	(1)	(1)	3(9)	-
TERRELL FORBES	38	1(1)	1	1	41(1)	-
PAUL FURLONG	22(6) 11	1	-	-	20(6)	11
KEVIN GALLEN	37(1) 13	(1)	(1) 1	-	36(3)	14
LEROY GRIFFITHS	3(2)	-	-	-	3(2)	-
STEPHEN KELLY	2	-	-	-	2	-
RICHARD LANGLEY	36(1) 8	1	1	1	36(1)	8
KEVIN MCLEOD	3	-	-	-	3	-
DANNY MURPHY	3(8)	(1)	-	-	3(9)	-
DENNIS OLI	6(10)	1(1)	(1)	1	8(12)	-
RICHARD PACQUETTE	4(5) 4	-	1	-	5(6)	4
GINO PADULA	12(3) 1	(2)	-	(1)	12(5)	1
STEVE PALMER	42 1	2	1	1	46	1
CHRIS PLUMMER	0(1)	-	-	-	0(1)	-
MATTHEW ROSE	24(2) 2	1	1	1	27(2)	2
SIMON ROYCE	16	-	-	1	17	-
DAN SHITTO	39 6	1	1	-	41	6
JEROME THOMAS	5(1) 2	-	-	-	5(1)	2
ANDY THOMSON	7(12) 3	2 1	1 1	1	9(12)	5
BEN WALSH	1	-	-	-	1	-
TOMMY WILLIAMS	22(3) 1	2	1	1	26(3)	1
CALUM WILLOCK	3	-	-	-	-	-

SP DIVISION 2 STATS SP

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

Most Scoring chances per game

	On Target	Off T		On Target	Off T
Plymouth	6.17	7.12	Luton	5.22	5.15
Wigan	6.39	6.78	Swindon	5.32	4.90
Cardiff	6.15	6.35	Wycombe	5.17	4.95
Crewe	6.73	5.33	Huddersfield	5.12	4.95
Barnsley	5.76	6.12	Cheltenham	5.29	4.56
QPR	5.80	5.90	Port Vale	4.51	4.85
Mansfield	6.05	5.10	Stockport	4.90	4.46
Oldham	5.17	5.73	Notts County	5.05	4.24
Tranmere	5.41	5.17	Northampton	4.39	4.24
Blackpool	5.29	5.22	Chesterfield	4.37	4.12
Peterborough	5.63	4.83	Colchester	4.54	3.88
Bristol City	5.25	5.20	Brentford	3.46	4.20

TOP GOALSCORERS

Player	Club	Tot	Player	Club	Tot
Kitson	Cambridge	6	Earnshaw	Cardiff	7
Johnson	Forest	4	Howard	Luton	7
Liddell	Wigan	4	Boyd	Kilmarnock	7
Sutton	Celtic	4	Counago	Ipswich	6
Kanu	Arsenal	3	Clarke A	Peterborough	6
Wallace	Gillingham	3	Bramble	Southend	6
Kabba	Grimsby	3	Harris	Millwall	5
Scowcroft	Leicester	3	Miller	Wolves	5
Claridge	Millwall	3	Taylor	Blackpool	5
McVeigh	Norwich	3	Stallard	Notts County	5
Dyer	Barnsley	3	Gallen	QPR	5
Ashton	Crewe	3	Hall	Rushden	5
Flack	Exeter	3			
Green	Hull	3			
Scott	Oxford	3			
Graham	Torquay	3			

Margins of Victory

Games WON by	1gl	2gl	3gl	4gl	5+gl
Wigan	11	14	1	0	0
Crewe	8	10	2	2	1
Cardiff	13	4	1	4	0
Bristol City	8	8	4	1	0
Oldham	12	5	0	2	1
QPR	7	8	3	2	0
Tranmere	13	2	2	1	0
Luton	11	2	2	0	1
Plymouth	8	4	2	0	0
Blackpool	7	5	3	1	1
Wycombe	5	4	2	1	1
Brentford	9	2	1	0	1
Swindon	6	4	2	0	1
Chesterfield	10	1	0	2	0
Colchester	8	3	1	1	0
Stockport	6	3	2	1	0
Notts County	6	3	3	0	0
Port Vale	7	1	1	0	0
Mansfield	10	2	0	1	1
Barnsley	9	2	0	0	0
Peterborough	5	2	1	2	0
Huddersfield	6	2	1	1	0
Northampton	5	2	3	0	0
Cheltenham	4	4	1	0	0

Goals in last 15 Mins of match

FOR	76-90	Tot	%	AGAINST	76-90	Tot	%
Peterborough	16	43	37	Cardiff	12	35	34
Notts County	20	60	33	Mansfield	26	84	31
Luton	18	58	31	Wycombe	19	62	31
Bristol City	19	67	28	Tranmere	16	54	30
Cardiff	18	64	28	Northampton	19	65	29
Wycombe	16	57	28	Huddersfield	14	53	26
Oldham	15	57	26	Chesterfield	16	63	25
Tranmere	14	54	26	Stockport	16	64	25
Brentford	11	43	26	Crewe	9	36	25
Blackpool	13	52	25	Oldham	8	33	24
QPR	15	62	24	Brentford	12	50	24
Stockport	13	55	24	Peterborough	12	51	24

ordered by late goals as % of all goals

Goals from Set Pieces for and against

SCORED	Co	FK	CONCEDED	Co	FK
Plymouth	14	9	Mansfield	11	11
Crewe	5	13	Blackpool	9	10
Wigan	9	8	Cheltenham	11	7
Brentford	9	7	Northampton	4	14
Oldham	9	7	Port Vale	14	4
Bristol City	7	8	Huddersfield	8	8
Swindon	8	7	Stockport	12	3
QPR	7	7	Swindon	6	9
Cardiff	10	3	Barnsley	5	9
Tranmere	7	6	Notts County	7	6
Wycombe	8	5	Peterborough	9	4
Blackpool	10	2	Cardiff	3	9

Co = Corners FK = Free Kick Routines

Scorers' Points Gained & Scoring Run

Club	Cl	GI/gm	Pts	Run	1stG
Robert Earnshaw	30	0.75	23	3	9
Luke Beckett	27	0.66	18	4	10
Sam Parkin	23	0.61	18	6	6
Mark Stallard	23	0.58	17	3	6
Bruce Dyer	16	0.42	15	4	6
Rob Hulse	21	0.66	14	4	7
John Murphy	15	0.44	14	2	7
Martin Smith	16	0.48	12	2	6
Simon Haworth	16	0.44	12	8	5
Steven Howard	16	0.44	11	4	8
Ilyseden Christie	18	0.51	10	5	2
Julian Alsop	10	0.29	10	1	4

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

COMEBACKS

Won from	-3	-2	-1	Tot
Luton	0	0	6	6
Notts County	0	1	3	4
Blackpool	0	0	4	4
Mansfield	0	0	4	4
QPR	0	0	4	4
Stockport	0	0	4	4
Swindon	0	0	4	4
Tranmere	0	0	4	4

THROWAWAYS

Lost from	+3	+2	+1	Tot
Cheltenham	0	0	7	7
Barnsley	0	0	5	5
Chesterfield	0	0	5	5
Stockport	0	1	3	4
Notts County	0	0	4	4

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

Fouls and Offsides per game

	avg. fouls per game		avg. offsides per game
Luton	14.95	Luton	5.56
Tranmere	14.37	Barnsley	4.24
Notts County	13.98	Peterborough	4.13
QPR	13.80	Tranmere	4.10
Oldham	13.71	Crewe	3.83
Wycombe	13.39	Cheltenham	3.78
Brentford	13.34	Wycombe	3.68
Barnsley	13.22	Brentford	3.51
Swindon	13.00	Oldham	3.49
Bristol City	12.93	Stockport	3.44
Mansfield	12.90	Blackpool	3.24
Chesterfield	12.80	Swindon	3.24
Plymouth	12.34	Bristol City	3.10

YOUR STADIUM

The following information is for the benefit of spectators and to ensure all who attend games at Loftus Road do so in comfort and safety.

Evacuation message

In the event of an emergency evacuation, the following message will be played over the stadium public address system. Please listen carefully and follow all instructions given to you by the stewards.

"Ladies and gentlemen, due to unforeseen circumstances, it is not possible to continue this event. Please leave the stadium as quickly and as quietly as possible using exits indicated to you by the stewards."

Please note that should an evacuation be carried out, refunds will not be considered at the time. However — retain your ticket and await further information from the club.



Should you require medical first aid during your visit, contact the nearest steward who will arrange for qualified first aiders to assist you. First Aid teams are located at all four corners of the playing area.

The medical First Aid centre is situated under Block T at the rear of the Ellerslie Road Stand.

Behavioural policy

In the interests of public safety we would ask all supporters to co-operate with the following policy.

- Under no circumstances are people allowed on to the pitch. This is an offence under the Football (offences) Act 1991.
- Supporters must not use racial chants or indecent and abusive language whilst in the stadium. This is an arrestable offence under the Football (offences) Act 1991.
- The throwing of any items on to or towards the pitch or in to an area for spectators is strictly forbidden. This is an arrestable offence under the Football (offences) Act 1991.
- Possession of alcohol in view of the pitch is contrary to licensing regulations and will lead to ejection. This is an offence under the Sporting Events (control of alcohol) act 1985.
- You are asked to observe ground regulations by not bringing in to the stadium any objects that might cause injury to others.
- This is an all-seater stadium and persistent standing in the seated areas will lead to you being asked to leave or ejected.
- In the interest of public safety you are requested to refrain from standing in, blocking or sitting in any gangways, exits or stairwells.
- You are reminded that flash photography is not allowed in the stadium



WHAT ABOUT THIS FOR A STAT..
OVER 40 PAGES OF SPORT



TODAY'S SQUADS

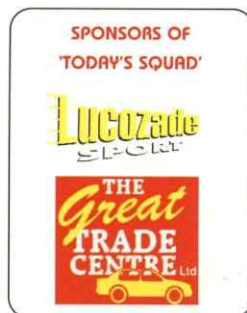
QUEENS PARK RANGERS

LUTON TOWN

- 01 CHRIS DAY
- 02 TERRELL FORBES
- 03 GINO PADULA
- 04 STEVE PALMER
- 05 CLARKE CARLISLE
- 06 DAN SHITTU
- 07 MATTHEW ROSE
- 08 MARC BIRCHAM
- 09 RICHARD LANGLEY
- 10 KEVIN GALLAN
- 11 KARL CONNOLLY
- 12 ~~DOUBO~~
- 13 NICK CULKIN
- 14 CHRIS PLUMMER
- 15 KEVIN MCLEOD
- 16 DANNY MURPHY
- 17 LYNDON DUNCAN
- 18 OLIVER BURGESS
- 19 BRIAN FITZGERALD
- 20 DENNIS OLI
- 21 WESLEY DALY
- 22 MARCUS BEAN
- 23 LEROY GRIFFITHS
- 24 RICHARD PACQUETTE
- 25 PATRICK GRADLEY
- 26 BEN WALSH
- 27 ANDY THOMSON
- 28 DAVID WATTLEY
- 29 PAUL FURLONG
- 31 BRETT ANGELL
- 32 STEPHEN KELLY
- 33 TOMMY WILLIAMS

QUEENS PARK RANGERS

LUTON TOWN



- 01 MARK OVENDALE
- 02 AARON SKELTON
- 03 ALAN NEILSON
- 04 MATTHEW SPRING
- 05 RUSSELL PERRETT
- 06 MARVIN JOHNSON
- 07 ADRIAN FORBES
- 08 KEVIN NICHOLLS
- 09 TONY THORPE
- 10 CARL GRIFFITHS
- 11 STEVE ROBINSON
- 12 CHRIS COYNE
- 14 SAMMY IGOE
- 15 DEAN CROWE

- 16 CARL EMBERSON
- 17 EMMERSON BOYCE
- 18 AHMET BRKOVIC
- 19 STEVE HOWARD
- 20 PETER HOLMES
- 21 PAUL HUGHES
- 22 DAVE BAYLISS
- 23 IAN HILLIER
- 24 SOL DAVIS
- 25 DUNCAN JUPP

- 27 LARS HIRSCHFELD
- 31 ALAN KIMBLE
- 33 DEAN BRILL
- 36 ROBERT GILLMAN
- 37 CHRIS WILLMOTT
- 38 MICHAEL LEARY
- 49 STEVEN O'LEARY
- 40 JAMES OSBORN
- 41 KEVIN FOLEY
- 42 JOE DEENEY
- 43 MATTHEW JUDGE
- 44 PARK OKAI
- 45 LEON BARNETT
- 47 ROBERT BECKWITH

club partner



OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MUSIC SUPPLIER



REFEREE
J J ROSS

ASSISTANT REFEREES
J N CORDY
(YELLOW FLAG)
I J GOSLING
(RED & YELLOW FLAG)

4TH OFFICIAL
J SINGH