thetigers

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

HULL CITY A.F.C.
1904 - 2004 CENTENARY

HULL CITY v LUTON TOWN SATURDAY 23RD OCTOBER KICK OFF 3.00PM £2.50

RYAN FRANCE
Living the Dream

MIKE NEWELL
The opposing view

ROB STEWART, DAILY TELEGRAPH
And our Survey Said

ROB PALMER, SKY SPORTS:
You've Been Strachaned

COLIN YOUNG, DAILY MAIL
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Adam Pearson

Chairman, Hull City AFC

WELCOME TO THE LEAGUE LEADERS LUTON TOWN FOR WHAT WILL I AM SURE BE A TREMENDOUS GAME IN FRONT OF ANOTHER BIG CROWD.

Tuesday night in the end was a great night, with three very valuable points earned in a most exciting manner. I am sure everyone went home overjoyed after witnessing such a finale.

It had looked unlikely three minutes from the end, but to be fair to the team they did not deserve to lose and kept battling to the very end.

Another two goals from Stuart Green means our other Stuart may lose his leading scorer mantle soon!

Including ourselves, four teams won in injury time in this week's League One midweek games. It just shows the importance of good fitness levels and battling to the very end, which this team always does.

There are obviously going to be a lot of ups and downs this season, because it is such an even league throughout, and most games are being won by the odd goal.

However if we can stay in touch I am sure we will get stronger as the season progresses, particularly considering we are also in a position to strengthen the squad when appropriate players of the right quality have been identified.

However this is not something we will rush into until exactly the right opportunity arises.

Over the next couple of weeks the final scheme for extending the East Stand at the KC Stadium will be presented to the Asset Committee members of the Council.

The Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader are right behind the scheme, and clearly recognise the uplifting impact that having two successful sports teams does for the morale of the city of Hull.

The SMC and Hull City AFC take their responsibilities towards this stadium very seriously. We know that this facility needs top class sport and general entertainment within it to pay back the investment and the foresight that the Council showed three years ago.

We are totally committed to bringing first class sport and entertainment to the stadium, and if we keep doing things in the correct manner and working hard, then success on the pitch will ultimately come. That is why the Council upper hierarchy needs our full support behind this extension project.

Some may say that we are not filling the capacity now, but we know that we can and we know that ultimately we will.

Again the Council are looking ahead and we need to support their vision. The capital is available and the planned KC extension and casino will give the Council a significant annual financial return on their investment, so it makes sound financial sense as well.

There will I am sure at some stage be criticism from the opposition within the Council and perhaps central government.

I would urge the 30,000 - 40,000 Hull City supporters over the age of eighteen living near the City Centre to shout down this opposition and get fully behind the extension and ensure the next stage of making Hull City a massive club again takes place as soon as possible.

I will over the next few weeks keep supporters up to date with the progress of the extension scheme.

The momentum is definitely with both of the sports clubs and the city in general, and this extension will further enhance the improving national profile and internal morale of Hull.

Today is obviously going to be a very difficult game, however I am sure with nearly 20,000 supporters inside the KC Stadium that we can keep the positive start going.

Enjoy the game.

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Chairman Adam Pearson
Directors Malachy Brannigan, John Holmes, Richard James
Associate Director Jim Dick
Company Secretary Phil Hough
First team Manager Peter Taylor
Assistant Manager Colin Murphy
Coach Steve Butler

The views expressed in this programme are not necessarily those of Hull City AFC

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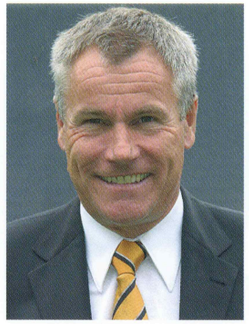
Peter Taylor

Manager, Hull City AFC



GOOD AFTERNOON AND A WARM WELCOME TO EVERYONE FOR THIS AFTERNOON'S COCA COLA LEAGUE ONE FIXTURE WITH LUTON TOWN.

It'll be nice to see Mike Newell and Mick Harford whom have done a tremendous job at Luton this season.

I'm sure they put a lot of the ground work in last year and it's certainly paying off at the moment.

They've had a great start to the campaign and the two defeats they've suffered recently came as a surprise to me on the strength of the reports that I've had about them.

Having said that, with us beating MK Dons here last Wednesday it has set up this afternoon's game nicely.

Regarding the victory over the MK Dons I think everyone who was here at the KC would agree that it was an exciting contest.

To me, it panned out like the rest of our season so far. I was really pleased with our first half performance and I thought MK Dons were lucky to come in level at the break.

But then in the second period we were lucky to win the game.

In that first half we produced some outstanding football which was very encouraging.

Also, in terms of the players' work-rate and belief across the 90 minutes I couldn't have asked for any more.

When you do win a game a like that, having come back from the dead, it makes the team spirit even stronger which can only be a positive thing.

I know everyone has been a touch disappointed that our strikers haven't scored more goals, but thankfully we've been getting them from other areas.

We have scored enough goals and that's partly down to Stuart Green and Stuart Elliott who have both got eight each.

You also look at Michael Keane who hasn't had many starts this season but has scored three goals which is a tremendous return.

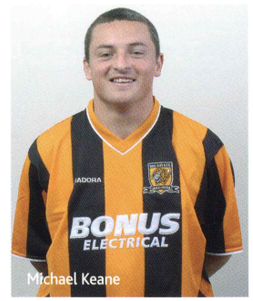
In terms of injuries, the majority of them have now cleared up although we're still without Alton Thelwell and Matt Duke.

Alton is a week or two away while Matt is looking at another five or six weeks.

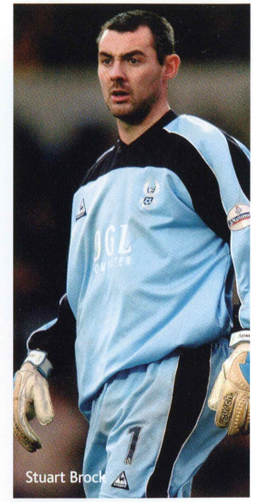
Of course, we do need cover for Bo Myhill and that's why we've brought Stuart Brock to the club on a month-long loan deal from Telford.

Stuart is a very experienced keeper and I'd like to thank both him and Telford for agreeing to help us out.

Another plus was that



Michael Keane


Stuart Brock

Nick Barmby came through last Wednesday night without any problems.

He has missed quite a lot of football in recent weeks but I thought his fitness levels were good and the fact he tired at the end was only to be expected.

On a different note, I've now completed two years here at the club and have to say that I've enjoyed every minute.

There have been highs and lows but my working relationship with the chairman Adam Pearson is an excellent one and he's been very supportive.

The same applies to the players and staff who have worked really hard to get us where we are now.

Of course, your support has played a major part as well and I hope that you can continue to back the team and the club.

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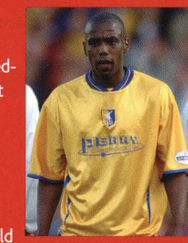
Coca-Cola League 1 NEWS



> HUDDERSFIELD TOWN striker Junior Mendes has been called-up into the Montserrat squad for the CONCACAF Gold Cup tournament involving Antigua, St Kitts and Nevis and St Lucia.

The former Mansfield Town player qualifies to play for the Caribbean island as it is the birthplace of his father.

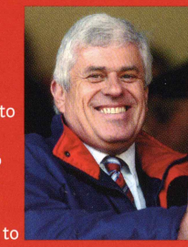
Mendes will fly out to join up with his international colleagues after the Terriers game against Milton Keynes Dons today and will miss the League One fixtures at Blackpool and at home to Brentford.

> WALSALL have strengthened their management team by appointing Frank Barlow as first team coach.

He has coached at several clubs before as well as having spells as manager at Chesterfield and Scunthorpe United.

Barlow was a member of the coaching staff at Bristol City last season but left during the summer following Danny Wilson's departure from Ashton Gate

Saddlers boss Paul Merson said: "I feel Frank is going to make a big contribution in the months ahead and I'm delighted to have him on board."

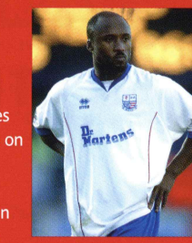


> Peter Ridsdale, chairman of **BARNSLEY**, has revealed his plans to take the club back into the Premiership.

The club has set up the True Red bond scheme whereby supporters are asked to give money to the club which will be given to manager Paul Hart for team strengthening.

If the Tykes reach the top flight within the next decade bond-holders will receive a one-off payment of £300.

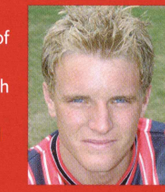
The former Leeds chairman said: "We're all eager to see immediate success, but to take the club forward we need our supporters to back our manager to invest in players that can take us forward."



> OLDHAM ATHLETIC striker Rodney Jack has been hit with the news that his faces up to eight weeks on the sidelines.

Jack damaged medial ligaments in his right whilst on international duty with St Vincent and Latics boss Brian Talbot is unhappy about the time it took for him to be informed of his strikers injury.

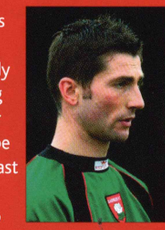
Speaking to the clubs official website, he said: "I found out on Friday, I'm disappointed. I believe we should have been contacted immediately."



> BOURNEMOUTH will have the services of loan defender Eddie Howe for a third month after it was originally thought that he would return to Portsmouth after completing two months at the Fitness First Stadium.

The Premiership club stated that the player would be returning to Fratton Park but Harry Redknapp had a change of heart and allowed him to stay with the Cherries.

Howe joined Pompey from Bournemouth in 2002 but underwent career-saving knee surgery before returning to his old club for a loan spell.



> COLCHESTER boss Phil Parkinson has signed goalkeeper Andy Marriott after learning the first choice keeper Aidan Davison could be out of action for at least five weeks.

Davison has failed to recover from an injury picked up in his sides game against Port Vale three weeks ago and has been sent to see a specialist in a bid to solve the problem.

34-year-old Marriott, who is a free agent, has sign a month loan deal at Layer Road and returns for a second spell with the club after originally spending two months on loan with the U's back in 1990.

league table

up to & inc 22/10/2004

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PT
Luton	14	10	2	2	25	14	+11	32
Brentford	14	8	3	3	20	17	+3	27
Bradford	14	8	1	5	23	18	+5	25
Hull City	14	8	1	5	20	19	+1	25
Bournemouth	14	7	3	4	27	17	+10	24
Tranmere	13	6	5	2	21	14	+7	23
Chesterfield	14	6	3	5	20	15	+5	21
Colchester	14	6	2	6	23	18	+5	20
Huddersfield	14	6	2	6	23	20	+3	20
Swindon	13	6	2	5	19	16	+3	20
Sheff Wed	13	5	5	3	17	15	+2	20
Hartlepool	14	6	2	6	23	24	-1	20
Wrexham	12	5	4	3	13	13	0	19
Port Vale	14	6	1	7	18	22	-4	19
Doncaster	14	5	4	5	18	23	-5	19
Bristol City	13	4	5	4	24	21	+3	17
Walsall	14	3	5	6	21	24	-3	17
Barnsley	14	3	5	6	15	18	-3	14
Peterborough	13	3	4	6	14	15	-1	13
Oldham	14	3	4	7	18	22	-4	13
MK Dons	14	3	4	7	17	23	-5	13
Blackpool	13	2	5	6	15	22	-7	11
Torquay	14	2	5	7	15	24	-9	11
Stockport	14	2	3	9	15	30	-15	9

top scorers

Player	Team	Lg	Cp	T
Izale McLeod	MK Dons	8	2	10
Leroy Lita	Bristol City	7	2	9
James Hayter	Bournemouth	8	1	9
Pawel Abbott	Huddersfield	9	0	9
Stuart Elliott	Hull City	7	1	8
Stuart Green	Hull City	7	1	8
Dean Windass	Bradford	7	1	8
Luke Beckett	Stockport	7	0	7

average attendances

Sheff Wed	22,511
Hull	16,433
Bristol City	11,928
Huddersfield	11,850
Barnsley	10,088
Tranmere	9,138
Bradford	7,993
Luton	7,426
Doncaster	6,599
Bournemouth	6,393
Walsall	6,191
Blackpool	6,010
Oldham	5,827
Port Vale	5,612

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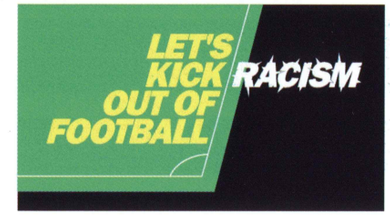
> HULL CITY AFC TO JOIN THE LARGEST ANT-RACISM WEEK OF ACTION



Hull City AFC are supporting football's national anti-racism week of action by joining the largest series of anti-racist activities ever staged in European football, by holding an anti-racism day of action at The KC Stadium.

Today's match against Luton will be the designated anti-racism game and will feature a number of activities across the club.

The week of action is now a firm fixture in the sporting and community calendar and has been co-ordinated by football's anti-racism campaign, Kick It Out, as part of the game's ongoing contribution to tackle racism.

Over 600 events are due to take place, involving all 92 professional clubs and a number of conference and non-league clubs.

Hull City AFC are pleased to support the week as part of the Club's commitment to kicking racism out of football and activities at the anti-racism day will clearly spell out the clubs position on racism.

Adam Pearson, Chairman of Hull City AFC, said. "Hull City is supporting the Kick Racism Out campaign with even greater commitment this year. We have over the last 2 months strictly enforced all legislation relating to anti-racism.

"This has resulted in a number of ground evictions and subsequent prosecutions which when confirmed will be publicised by the club.

"We would urge all supporters to assist us in our drive to eradicate all racist behaviour from the KC Stadium."

Daniel James Hallet, from Perran Close,Bransholme, is a recent example of the clubs continuing campaign against racism.

The 18-year-old was arrested for racist chanting during the Tigers' recent game against Chesterfield and charged under sections 3 and 5 of the Football Offences Act 1991.

Mr Hallet received a three-year domestic banning order which prevents him from entering any football ground and has also received a life ban from entering the KC Stadium.

For further information on the campaign please contact Hull City AFC on 0870 837 0003 or Leon Mann, Kick It Out Media Relations, on 020 7684 4884.

> KC CENTENARY CUP

During the Half-time interval at the Tigers' match against Chesterfield earlier this month, two teams from Kingston Communications took to the pitch to battle it out in the final of the Kingston Communications Centenary Cup, a five-a-side football Tournament to celebrate the Company's 100th birthday.

'Planning to Win' and 'United' took to the field for a eight minute head-to-head with the final result being a 2-1 victory by 'Planning to Win'.

The goal scorers on the day were Paul Stevenson and Jack Clement from Planning to Win, and Andy Taylor from United.

The cup was presented to the winning team by Malcolm Fallen, Chief Executive of Kingston Communications and Tigers' Chairman Adam Pearson.

"We thought the crowd were fantastic and really entered into the spirit of the occasion," says Ivor Clement, team captain for Planning to Win.

"The whole event was a thoroughly enjoyable experience - even for the older players like myself! We really appreciated being able to get the

opportunity to play at such a magnificent stadium and in front of a brilliant crowd."

Over 30 teams took part in the Centenary cup with employees from all over the country taking part in the qualifying rounds at the Vulcan Arena back in July.

in brief...

VEHICULAR ACCESS TO THE KC STADIUM

It has been confirmed by Hull City Council that there is a change in the vehicular access to the KC Stadium from the Walton Street entrance.

To access/egress the stadium directly from Walton Street, all vehicular traffic will need to enter the Walton Street car park and follow the road that enters the Stadium between the rail line and the all weather pitches.

This ruling has been instigated by the owners of the site, Hull City Council, after consultation with the Stadium Management Company under the terms and conditions of the Green Travel Plan.

Concerns have been raised by local residents and the leisure services department, regarding the volume of traffic using this entrance, and the way in which some cars are driving at excessive speed in an area that attracts large volumes of people.

The Vulcan Arena is unaffected by the change, access will be normal, as will the access road to the Carnegie Library building. All other entry routes to the stadium are unaffected.

THE RETURN OF HULLYWOOD

"Hullywood 2" is set to strike back later this year at the Vulcan Arena, after the huge success of the first event, which took place in May earlier this year.

It's due to take place on Sunday 12th December, and special guests appearing on the day will be announced in due course.

For further information, or to book a stall, please contact Nick Andrew on: Tel:01482 351407 or e-mail: nick79@nick79.karoo.co.uk

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A Big Three Points

By Tigers vice-captain Marc Joseph

LUCK WENT OUR WAY COME THE END OF THE GAME AGAINST MK DONS LAST WEDNESDAY NIGHT, BUT WE PLAYED WELL IN THE FIRST HALF AND COULD HAVE BEEN A COUPLE OF GOALS UP.

We went in at 1-1 at the break and the way in which we conceded that second goal was a kick in the teeth as we'd spent a lot of time on the training ground working on defending set-plays.

It was a decent ball in but we know we've got to be stronger in there and can't afford to be a soft touch. If it keeps happening we'll end up being labelled as a side who concede easily from corners.

As a team we're not used to conceding goals and having worked on it a lot in training we have to start doing better.

To be fair though we showed a lot of character when we went 2-1 down.

The gaffer threw another striker on to make it three up front and we've gone all out on the attack.

Sometimes that's our best policy as we have a lot of attack-minded players. If the back four and maybe one of the midfielders stays solid then that allows the rest of the team to go looking for the goals.

All credit to Keano for grabbing the equaliser because he held his position from the corner well.

I don't know if he picked his spot, but he kept his head down, kept the ball low and when it's travelling at that speed through a lot of bodies there's always a chance that it'll go in.

As for Greenie, I think he's scored eight goals this season and a lot of them have been volleys which is quite strange.

The ball was in the air for a long time but he followed it onto his foot and managed to put it in the bottom corner.

It was a strange kind of game because as time was ticking away we knew that we shouldn't have been behind.

We also knew that if we stayed positive we had a chance of getting a goal or two.

Going into the break we should have been a few goals up and having created those opportunities we knew we'd get more.

It was strange playing in a game where you score in the first and last minutes but I'll take that.

We kept believing and when you go to three up front you have to be positive which we were.

It was a big three points for us, and we need to try and build on that against Luton this afternoon.

They're coming here on the back of two defeats and will be up for it as they'd been on a great run before then.

But if we can pin them back a bit, create chances and be positive, we'll have every opportunity of winning the game.

We go into every game we play with a positive outlook and it's the only way to be.

Our home form is obviously important and we need to make the KC a bit of a fortress again.

We've not played particularly well this season, and we know that, but we're still handily placed in the table.

We can't complain but are aware that we need to start playing better.

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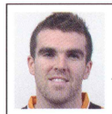

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(strawberry)

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STUART ELLIOTT 7

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STUART GREEN 14

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Reserves Update

Bardford City 0
Hull City 1

Tuesday 12th October 2004

The Tigers' reserves won 1-0 at Bradford City but the victory came at a cost with both Curtis Aspden and Paul Anderson being stretchered off.

Aspden was forced off just before the break with a knee problem following a collision with City's Craig Bentham, and the stretcher was needed again seconds from the end of the contest when Anderson collided with a post in the act of scoring the winner.

They were two major downsides on a day which had generally been bright for the Tigers.

They made the brighter start and Jason Price created the first real chance of the game on the 20 minutes.

His cross from the right was met by Richard Hinds and Bantams keeper Nathan Thackeray had to acrobatically tip the ball over for a corner.

Danny Forrest then set up Tom Penford who fired over for the hosts on the half hour mark and Aaron Wilbraham was narrowly off target soon after.

The Tigers came close to taking the lead in the 33rd minute as Thackeray took an air-swing at a back pass and was fortunate to see the ball roll wide of the open goal behind him.

Play then went back down the other end and with 37 minutes gone, Bentham shot high over the bar when he should have hit the target at the very least.

The Tigers went into the second half with Nathan Hotte in goal following the injury to Aspden and the youngster wasn't troubled in the opening 15 minutes as the home side were penned back.

Roland Edge and Wilbraham both had shots off-target and Danny Allsopp followed suit from a quickly-taken free-kick.

As the second period wore on, the Tigers continued to create chances and came up with a winner just five seconds from the end of stoppage time.

Allsopp put a dangerous cross into the Bantams' box and Anderson slid the ball home.

It was another good three points for the Tigers and Colin Murphy said:

"The injuries to the Curtis and Paul took the shine off things but our second half performance was probably as good as we've produced all season."

TIGERS: Curtis Aspden (Nathan Hotte 46mins), Scott Wiseman, Roland Edge, James Tomlinson, Alton Thelwell (Tom Mathews 46mins), Richard Hinds, Jason Price (Paul Anderson 46mins), Russell Fry, Aaron Wilbraham, Danny Allsopp, Alistair Benson.

HCAFC RESERVES

PONTIN'S HOLIDAYS LEAGUE

FIXTURES 2004/05

Wed 18 Aug	Rotherham United 7pm	P-P
Wed 01 Sep	Hartlepool United	D2-2
Wed 08 Sep	Tranmere Rovers	W2-1
Wed 15 Sep	Wigan Athletic	W3-1
Wed 06 Oct	Stoke City	D1-1
Tue 12 Oct	Bradford City	W1-0
Wed 27 Oct	Sheffield United	A
Mon 08 Nov	Preston North End	A
Wed 17 Nov	Hartlepool United LGE CUP	A
Wed 24 Nov	Barnsley	H
Mon 29 Nov	Walsall	A
Thu 09 Dec	Sheffield Wednesday	H
Wed 15 Dec	Stoke City	H
Wed 12 Jan	Wigan Athletic	A
Wed 19 Jan	Grimsby Town LGE CUP 7pm	H
Wed 26 Jan	Sheffield United 7pm	H
Wed 02 Feb	Bradford City 7pm	H
Wed 09 Feb	Barnsley	A
Wed 16 Feb	Preston North End 7pm	H
Wed 02 Mar	Sheffield Wednesday	A
Wed 09 Mar	Walsall 7pm	H
Wed 30 Mar	Rotherham United 7pm	H
Wed 13 Apr	Hartlepool United	A
Wed 27 Apr	Tranmere Rovers 7pm	H

All kick-off times 2.00pm unless stated otherwise.
Hull City Home matches will be played at North Ferriby Utd.

PONTIN'S HOLIDAY LEAGUE
Premier Division 04/05

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Rotherham	5	4	1	0	16	6	+10	13
Sheff Wed	6	4	0	2	10	6	+4	12
Hull City	5	3	2	0	9	5	+4	11
Walsall	6	3	1	2	20	11	+9	10
Preston	6	3	0	3	10	13	-3	9
Barnsley	6	2	2	2	11	10	+1	8
Hartlepool	5	2	2	1	8	8	0	8
Sheff Utd	6	2	1	3	8	13	-5	7
Tranmere	5	2	0	3	5	6	-1	6
Wigan	6	2	0	4	7	10	-3	6
Stoke	6	1	1	4	4	11	-7	4
Bradford	6	1	0	5	5	14	-9	3

APPEARANCES & SCORERS
2004/05 (Up to & inc 16/10/04)

Player	App	Sub	Gls
ALLSOPP, Danny	2	-	1
ANDERSON, Paul	1	1	1
ASPDEN, Curtis	2	-	-
BENSON, Alistair	4	-	-
BRIGGS, Tom	-	1	-
BYRON, Michael	1	-	-
DONALDSON, Clayton	2	-	1
DUKE, Matt	3	-	-
EDGE, Roland	5	-	-
FACEY, Delroy	3	-	1
FRY, Russell	5	-	-
HINDS, Richard	5	-	-
HOTTE, Nathan	1	1	-
KEANE, Michael	1	-	1
MATHEWS, Tom	2	2	-
McGARRY, James	-	1	-
PRICE, Jason	4	-	3
THELWELL, Alton	2	-	-
TOMLINSON, James	4	1	-
WALTERS, Jon	1	-	1
WILBRAHAM, Aaron	2	-	-
WISEMAN, Scott	5	-	-

Hull City Reserves sponsored by
Hull City Official Supporters Club

HCAFC JUNIORS

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE

FIXTURES 2004/05

Sat 14 Aug	Doncaster Rovers	D3-3
Sat 21 Aug	York City	W2-0
Sat 4 Sep	Lincoln City	W4-2
Sat 11 Sep	Scunthorpe United	L1-2
Sat 18 Sept	Bradford City	D1-1
Sat 25 Sept	Darlington	W2-1
Sat 2 Oct	Lincoln City (YA Cup 1)	W4-2
Sat 9 Oct	Boston United	L3-2
Sat 16 Oct	Grimsby Town	L0-2
Sat 23 Oct	Hartlepool United 12:00 n	A
Sat 30 Oct	Scunthorpe United	A
Sat 06 Nov	Bradford City	H
Sat 13 Nov	Darlington	H
Sat 20 Nov	Boston United	A
Sat 27 Nov	Cup Round 2	
Sat 04 Dec	Grimsby Town	A
Sat 11 Dec	Hartlepool United 12:00 n	H
Sat 18 Dec	Doncaster Rovers	H
Sat 15 Jan	York City	A
Sat 22 Jan	Lincoln City	H
Sat 29 Jan	Cup Round 3	
Sat 12 Feb	Merit Starts	

All matches kick off 11:00am unless indicated.
Home Venue to be confirmed.
* At North Ferriby United Football Club

YOUTH ALLIANCE LEAGUE
North East Conference 04/05

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Darlington	8	6	1	1	16	9	+7	19
Hartlepool	8	5	0	3	29	18	+11	15
Doncaster R.	8	4	2	2	24	18	+6	14
Scunthorpe	8	4	1	3	15	12	+3	13
Grimsby	8	4	0	4	14	17	-3	12
Hull City	8	3	2	3	15	14	+1	11
York City	8	3	1	4	13	10	+3	10
Bradford	8	2	2	4	7	12	-5	8
Lincoln City	8	2	2	4	11	20	-9	8
Boston Utd	8	1	1	6	12	26	-14	4

APPEARANCES & SCORERS
2004/05 (Up to & inc 16/10/04)

Player	App	Sub	Gls
ALLANSON, Ashley	4	1	1
ANDERSON, Paul	7	1	1
ATKINSON, Will	-	1	-
ASPEDEN, Curtis	7	-	-
BEATTIE, Tom	6	-	-
BENNETT, James	-	2	-
BENSON, Alistair	8	-	6
BRIGGS, Tom	7	1	-
BYRON, Michael	2	1	-
CATTERMOLE, Liam	2	-	-
FEATHERSTONE, Nicky	-	3	-
FRIZZELL, Brewster	4	-	-
FRY, Russell	5	-	1
HALL, John	1	-	-
HOTTE, Nathan	8	-	7
KING, Gary	3	5	-
MATHEWS, Tom	8	-	-
McGARRY, James	6	2	1
MUSGROVE, Ollie	-	1	-
PLUMMER, Mathew	5	-	-
RUSSELL, Calum	-	1	-
SEEKINS, Daniel	1	-	-
WISEMAN, Scott	3	-	-

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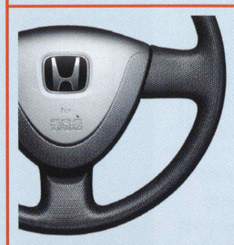

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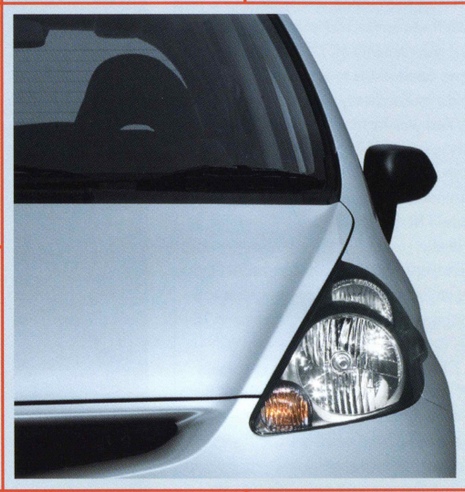

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Luton Town

by Trevor Bugg in association with the PFA Who's Who 2004-05

FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE 1986-87 SEASON, THE LUTON TOWN FORWARD LINE WAS A COMBINATION OF MIKE NEWELL, MICK HARFORD AND BRIAN STEIN. THE HATTERS FINISHED IN THEIR HIGHEST-EVER POSITION WITH ONLY EVERTON, LIVERPOOL, TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR, ARSENAL, NORWICH CITY AND WIMBLEDON ABOVE THEM IN THE TODAY LEAGUE DIVISION ONE TABLE.

18 years later that same trio have found the formula for success again at the same club. Even at this early stage of the campaign, they've steered Town in to clear water at the head of League One.

At the unlucky 13th attempt, they suffered a defeat for the first time this term as Huddersfield Town came away from Kenilworth Road last Saturday with a 2-1 win. It denied the current day Hatters the chance to match the club's record 13-game unbeaten start to a season set in 1969-70 when the inspiration was the legendary ëSupermac' - Malcolm MacDonald.

The 2004 inspiration is supplied by manager Mike Newell who is ably assisted by his old pals Mick Harford (Director of Football and First Team Coach) and Brian Stein (Reserves Coach).

Last season - spent whilst the club was in administration - was their first in charge. Although they were on the fringes of the Play-Offs, there was little indication of this term's outstanding start as they won only two of their last twelve games.

So why the transformation? Born in Liverpool and growing up as disciple of the famous Anfield Bootroom, the 39 year-old boss would probably say that the answer is simple or, more to the point, simplicity.

Talking to the Guardian earlier this month, Mike explained: "I could listen to Shankly and Paisley for ages because they never complicated the game.

"I could listen to Shankly talk about anything, he was just so enthusiastic. Paisley was more dour but I still listened. He was really cute and clever. He kept everything simple.

"He would sit in the directors' box. He just let them play and, if he saw something, he would pop down to the dugout, let them know what he'd seen and then go back up. He never flinched or moved a muscle."

Mike's own detached approach might not have found favour in his previous post at Hartlepool but those critics have been well and truly silenced: "As a player, if you're getting ear-ache from the bench every two minutes you switch off. Pick the side and let them play."

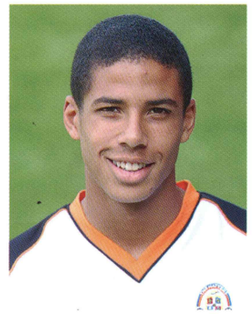
LEON BARNETT - 45
Born: Stevenage,
30 November 1985
Height: 6' 1". Weight: 11.3
Position: Centre Back
Signed from trainee, 27
September 2004

ROB BECKWITH - 47
Born: London,
12 September 1984
Height: 6' 2". Weight: 13.5
Position: Goalkeeper
Signed from trainee,
7 June 2004

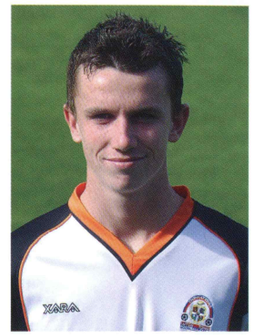
MATT BLINKHORN - 26
Born: Blackpool, 2 March 1985
Height: 5' 11". Weight: 10.10
Position: Forward
Signed from Blackpool,
31 July 2004 (Loan)

AHMET BRKOVIC - 18
Born: Dubrovnik, Croatia, 23
September 1974
Height: 5' 7". Weight: 10.8
Position: Midfielder
Signed from Leyton Orient, 4
October 2001 (Free)
Other clubs: HNK Dubrovnik

CURTIS DAVIES - 20
Born: London, 15 March 1985
Height: 6' 1". Weight: 11.13
Position: Centre Back
Signed from trainee,
7 June 2004



SOL DAVIS - 24
Born: Cheltenham,
4 September 1979
Height: 5' 8". Weight: 11.0
Position: Left Back
Signed from Swindon Town, 16
August 2002 (£600,000)

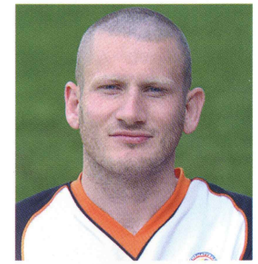


KEVIN FOLEY - 2
Born: Luton, 1 November 1984
Height: 5' 9". Weight: 11.2
Position: Defender / Midfielder
Signed from trainee,
8 March 2004

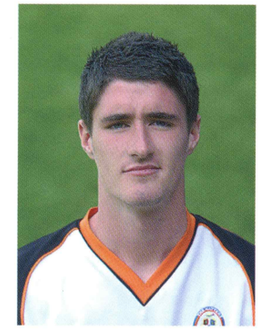
MICHAEL LEARY - 14
Born: Ealing, 17 April 1983
Height: 5' 11". Weight: 12.3
Position: Midfielder
Signed from trainee,
3 August 2001

GARY MCSHEFFREY - 10
Born: Coventry, 13 August 1982
Height: 5' 8". Weight: 10.10
Position: Forward
Signed from Coventry City, 17
September 2004 (Loan)
Other clubs: Stockport County

KEVIN NICHOLLS - 8
Born: Newham, 2 January 1979
Height: 6' 0". Weight: 11.0
Position: Midfielder
Signed from Wigan Athletic, 3
August 2001 (£25,000)
Other clubs: Charlton Athletic,
Brighton & Hove Albion

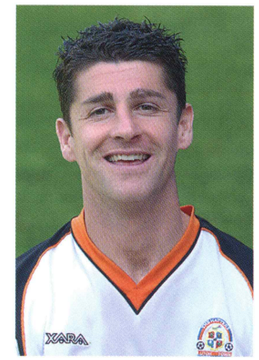


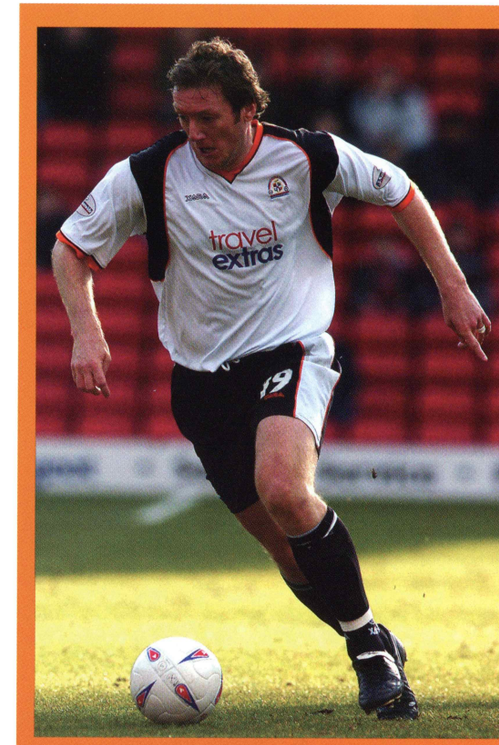
CHRIS COYNE - 12
Born: Brisbane, Australia,
20 December 1978
Height: 6' 1". Weight: 13.10
Position: Centre Back
Signed from Dundee, 18
September 2001 (£50,000)
Other clubs: Perth SC,
West Ham United, Brentford,
Southend United



STEPHEN O'LEARY - 15
Born: Barnet, 12 February 1985
Height: 5' 10". Weight: 11.8
Position: Midfielder
Signed from trainee,
7 June 2004

RUSSELL PERRETT - 5
Born: Barton on Sea,
18 June 1973
Height: 6' 3". Weight: 13.2
Position: Centre Back
Signed from Cardiff City, 10
August 2001 (Free)
Other clubs: AFC Lymington,
Portsmouth

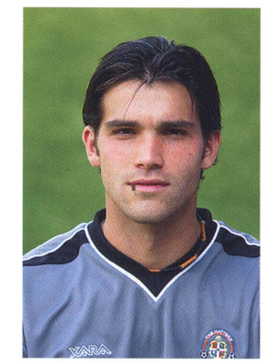




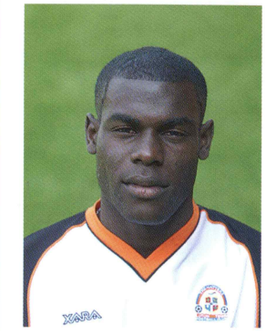
STEVE HOWARD - 19
Born: Durham, 10 May 1976
Height: 6' 2". Weight: 14.6
Position: Forward
Signed from Northampton Town, 22 March 2001 (£50,000)
Other clubs: Tow Law Town, Hartlepool United

STEVE ROBINSON - 11
Born: Lisburn, 10 December
1974
Height: 5' 9". Weight: 11.3
Position: Midfielder
Signed from Preston North End,
20 June 2002 (£50,000)

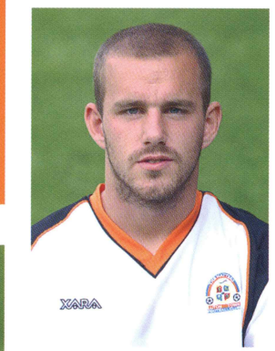
DINO SEREMET - 25
Born: Slovenia, 16 August 1980
Height: 6' 4". Weight: 14.5
Position: Goalkeeper
Signed from NK Maribor, 23 July
2004 (Free)
Other clubs: NK Aluminij, Jezica



ENOCH SHOWUNMI - 16
Born: London, 21 April 1982
Height: 6' 3". Weight: 14.10
Position: Forward
Signed from Willesden
Constantine, 5 September
2003 (Free)



PAUL UNDERWOOD - 6
Born: Wimbledon, 16 August
1973
Height: 5' 11". Weight: 12.8
Position: Defender
Signed from Rushden &
Diamonds, 25 March 2004
(Free)
Other clubs: Kingstonian,
Molesey, Sutton United,
Carshalton Athletic, Enfield



ROWAN VINE - 9
Born: Basingstoke, 21
September 1982
Height: 6' 1". Weight: 12.2
Position: Forward
Signed from Portsmouth, 6
August 2004 (Loan)
Other clubs: Brentford,
Colchester United

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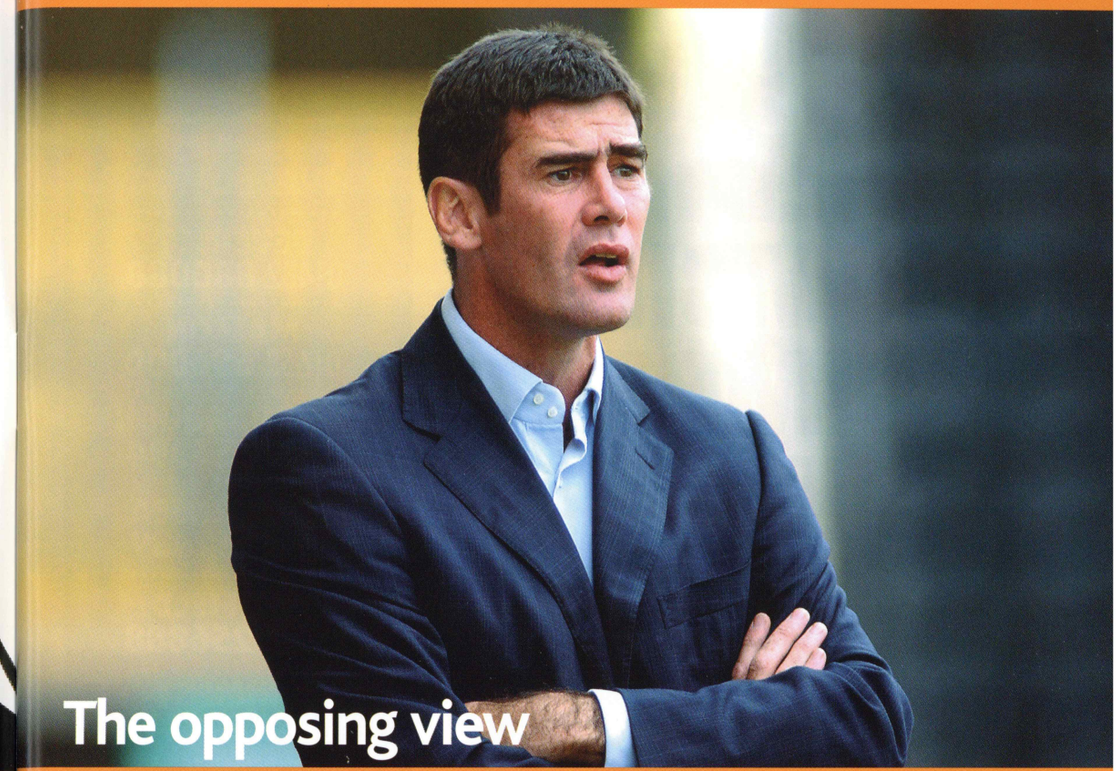

The opposing view

With Luton Town boss Mike Newell

LUTON TOWN MADE A CRACKING START TO THEIR LEAGUE CAMPAIGN GOING ON AN 11-MATCH UNBEATEN RUN WHICH DID AN AWFUL LOT IN RAISING THE REPUTATION OF MANAGER MIKE NEWELL.

The 29-year-old was linked with the vacant job at Premiership side Blackburn Rovers before the appointment of Mark Hughes and Championship outfit Leicester City are believed to be looking at their former player Newell as one of the candidates to succeed Mickey Adams following his resignation.

However, the Hatters boss has once again stressed he is happy at Luton Town after the latest speculation linking him with another club.

Talking to the Luton News, Newell said: "When a job becomes available, people look for the next person and the fact that, just like at Blackburn.

"I was an ex-player at Leicester and the fact that things are going so well here, people put two and two together and get five or six.

"I'm happy in my job here and will continue to do it."

Newell is currently considering an offer from Luton to extend his existing contract which runs out next summer.

"The situation hasn't changed. I've been offered a new contract and I don't see there being a problem with it," he added.

"I've just given it to my solicitor to look over and it's not that I don't trust anyone here, but I've had bad experiences with contracts in the past and I want to make sure that doesn't happen again.

"I trust everybody here, but it's just a legal thing where I want to know where I stand should the people in charge ever change."

Elaborating on his point, Newell added: "I think you all know what I'm talking about and it was when I was at Hartlepool.

"It was my first contract and I wasn't too interested in that to be honest, all I wanted was to get a manager's job.

"If I did it again I'd be much more careful and look into it before I took it on. But that was a completely different situation to here.

"I wasn't being employed by a football club, I was being employed by an oil company and they expected you to operate on the same terms as the rest of its employees."

Speaking of contracts, Newell also stressed that he wanted bring Gary McSheffrey's to Kenilworth Road a permanent basis from Coventry City.

The 22-year-old has played his last game for Hatters and returned to Highfield Road following the expiry of his loan spell at Kenilworth Road.

"I'd like to sign him on a permanent deal and I've made no secret of that," Newell said.

"But it depends on what Coventry are looking at, what they require and whether they want to let him go.

"I think there's a possibility we could sign him for another month, but that depends on Gary.

"I know he wants to play games and start games. He's only started once for us since he's been here, but he knows that we're happy with him and that we want him here, which hasn't been the case at Coventry.

"I'm sure it's frustrating, but I'm sure he understands the situation here. I did explain to him when he came that I can't guarantee anybody a game."

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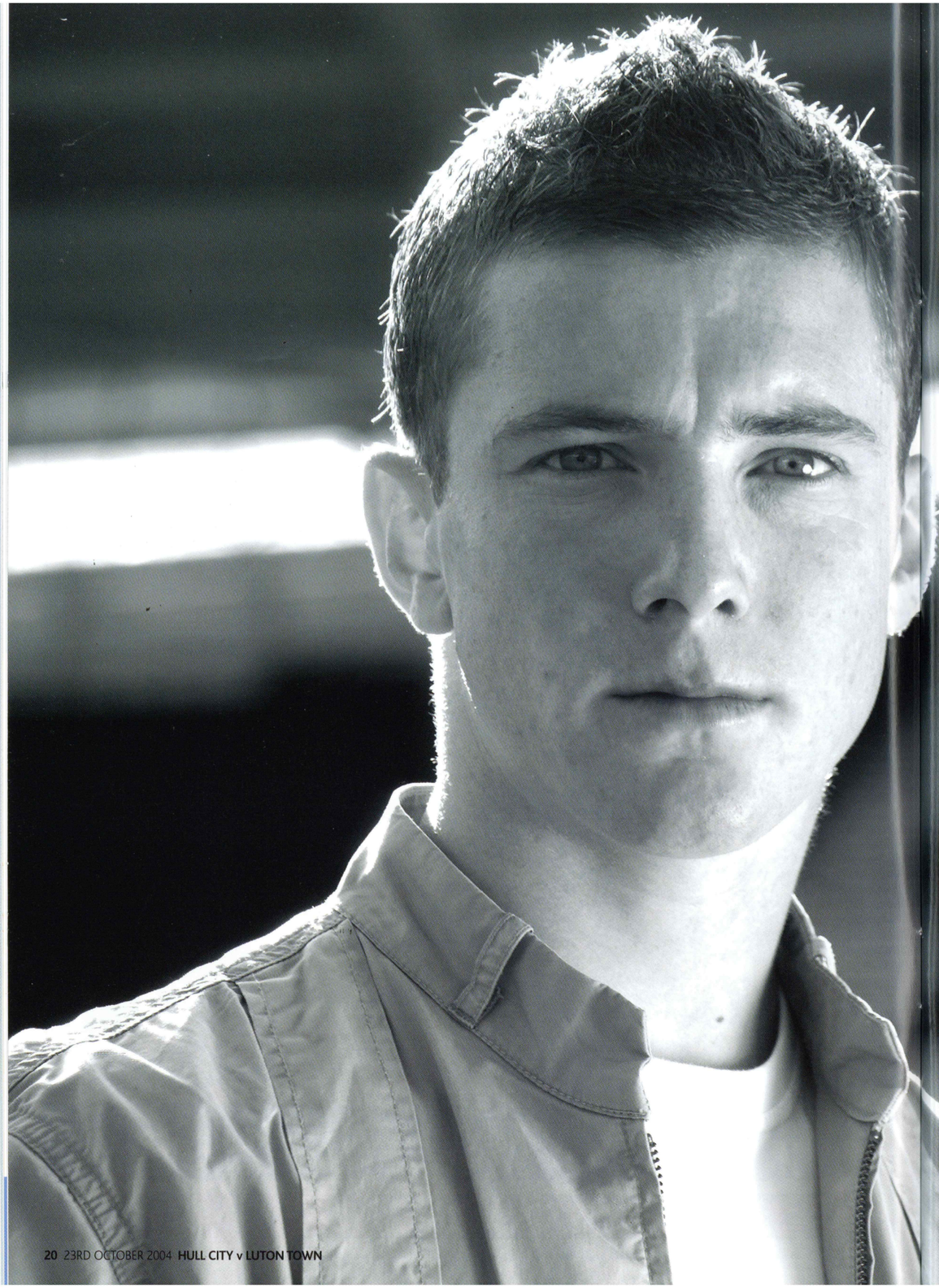


Living the Dream

Ryan France talks about his life in football with the Tigers' Official Matchday Programme

JUST OVER 12 MONTHS AGO RYAN FRANCE WAS COMPLETING A DEGREE AND PLAYING NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL WITH ALFRETON TOWN.

He could have barely imagined that a year down the line he'd have become a professional footballer, scored on his debut in front of over 13,500 Hull City supporters and been part of the first promotion-winning Tigers' team in nearly two decades.

It sounds too much like a fairytale and there have probably been times during the past year when the 23-year-old has pinched himself just to make sure it was all real.

But real it is, and he's come a long way since his formative days in Sheffield.

"Growing up as a young lad I'd always wanted to be a footballer and started playing at an early age," he said.

"I went to the School of Excellence at Sheffield Wednesday and although it was okay, I didn't really enjoy it as much as I'd have liked.

"I was released at the age of 16 and tried a few more clubs from there but had more or less settled for playing football with my friends.

"It was then that I decided I'd get my education behind me and during that time, when I was about 18, I was picked up by Alfreton Town and spent four years with them.

"It was perfect while I was at university because it was fairly local to Nottingham and I could play football and study as well."

A large percentage of professional footballers tend to scramble around at the end of their career doing university courses in a bid to find life after the 'greatest game.'

But France already has a degree under his belt having decided to do things the other way around.

"I did a degree in sports exercise science and maths," he continued. "They were the only two things I was ever good at during my school days so I thought I'd carry them on.

"I went off to college and then straight to university. I came away with a 2:1 which is a pretty good degree and really enjoyed my time at university.

"Some players don't get the chance to further their education until the end of their football career and I was lucky really.

"Having been released at 16 it seemed like the right path to take. I thought that if I could get the studying part out of the way then I could concentrate more on the football.

"So I decided to do that and things couldn't have worked out better for me."

It was while plying his trade for Alfreton that France was spotted by the Tigers and he admits that non-league football is a tough environment.

"You certainly play a lot more games than professional teams do," he added.

"We seemed to be playing twice a week every week. Obviously I was part-time and we were playing Tuesday, training Thursday and playing Saturday.

"It was like working three nights a week, although it paid fairly good money for a non-league club.

"The lads down at Alfreton were very good and there were a lot of changes during the time I was with the club, both in terms of management and players.

"But there was always a good spirit in the dressing room and a few decent nights out as well!

"I still keep in touch with one or two of the lads and we get on really well.

"We had a good side and were promoted twice on the bounce while I was there.

"We also won four trophies in one season so we had plenty of good times, and some bad ones.

"In my first couple of years we struggled along and finished more or less between mid-table and the top.

"But then things clicked together, we got promoted and rolled on from there.

"We were still doing well when I left to come here and it's nice to see them carrying that on at the present time.

"It's a great non-league club and I'm sure they can continue to keep moving forward."

Few Tigers' supporters will know that France could have actually ended up at Coventry City had things worked out differently.

"I went on trial with them and they wanted to take me on," he said. "But then they realised they'd have to pay a fee because I still had a year on my contract.

"It all fell through and obviously I was very disappointed.

"But at the beginning of last season, Colin Murphy (the Tigers' assistant manager) came down to watch me a few times and asked if I'd like to come to the club and train.

"The gaffer was happy with what I produced and decided to offer me the opportunity to play professional football.

"I'm very grateful to him because he gave me the chance to do something that I'd always wanted to do from being a kid.

"I'm here at Hull City, have just signed a two-year extension to my contract and am really happy at the moment."

France freely admits that he was quite nervous when he first walked into the Tigers' training ground.

Having only played non-league football, he wasn't sure what he was about to let himself in for.

"I didn't really know what to expect," he said. "I'd seen league football on the TV, but that's completely different to playing it.

"I knew that if I was confident on the ball I'd soon settle in and that's what happened.

"I've not rushed anything during my time here and have enjoyed every minute."

Of course, there are marked differences between the semi-professional and professional game and France sees fitness levels being the main one.

"Personally, I have never felt as fit as I do now," he continued. "Training every day helps and once you get out on the pitch you know that everyone else around you will be just as fit.

"You do get a bit more time on the ball, but by the same token you know that any mistakes are liable to be punished.

"Similarly you get a lot more chances in non-league, but in the professional game you have to be more clinical as there are fewer goal scoring opportunities."

Speaking of goals, France managed to grab one on his debut. It was on September 27 2003 that the 23-year-old pulled on the black and amber shirt for the first time as the Tigers thumped Kidderminster 6-1 at the KC Stadium.

It was real 'Roy of the Rovers' stuff and a day that France won't forget in a hurry.

"I was on cloud nine after that day," he said with a broad smile. "Everything just went to plan.

"I can't remember how long was left when the gaffer gave me the nod to go on.

"When I did get out there I was worried that I might panic on the ball, but I didn't and playing in front of so many supporters was great.

"It was the first time I'd seen the stadium like that and obviously when I scored, I lost myself for a minute. I didn't know where I was.

"After the game I had everyone ringing me, asking how things had gone and what it had been like.

"I told them all just how fantastic it was and I'd never had that feeling before.

"Basically, it was the perfect way to come into league football."

Little did France know at that time that several months later he would be part of one of the biggest days in the Tigers' history.

The 2-1 victory at Yeovil Town's Huish Park confirmed promotion for the first time in 19 years and France considers himself fortunate to have been there.

"It was the perfect end to a perfect season and we fully deserved to go up," he continued.

"To achieve promotion in my first season was tremendous and has set the standard for me.

"If we don't get promoted this season it'll probably feel like a bit of a come down, but I'm sure we can do it.

"We need to be up there pushing and if it does happen I don't think I could wish for much more in football!"

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:

Ryan celebrates scoring on his Tigers debut in the 6-1 thrashing of Kidderminster last season.

In action for Alfreton Town.

"I'm here at Hull City, have just signed a two-year extension to my contract and am really happy at the moment."

"To achieve promotion in my first season was tremendous and has set the standard for me..."

ABOVE:

France with his Tigers team-mates after securing prmotion at Yeovil last season.

A Century of City

In this, the Tigers' centenary season, Mike Peterson selects some of the Hull City headline stories from this month down the years.

1931
WAINSCOAT'S TIGER DEBUT

Ex-England international Russell Wainscoat made his Hull City debut on 31st October 1931, away to York City. Although the Tigers lost and Wainscoat didn't score, it wouldn't be long before his goals, in partnership with Bill McNaughton, would have a big impact on the fortunes of Hull City. Born in Nottinghamshire on 28th July 1897, Wainscoat was an experienced inside forward whose talent for playmaking and goalscoring meant he always attracted a big fee whenever he moved on. Seen at his best for the Tigers during the 1932-33 season, his 21 goals, coupled with McNaughton's 41 during that season were largely responsible for the Tigers winning the Division Three (N) championship.

> Stockport County beat the Tigers 2-0 at Edgeley Park on 3rd October 1931.

> Two goals from Fred Speed earn the Tigers a 2-2 draw away to Tranmere Rovers on 24th October 1931.

1967
WAGGY'S LIGHTNING STRIKE

What is believed to be the fastest goal ever scored at Boothferry Park - and possibly the quickest Hull City goal in their history - happened on the evening of Friday 27th October 1967. The following Hull City team were playing Cardiff City in a Division Two fixture: Swan, Davidson, Butler D, Greenwood, Banks, Simpkin, Young, Wagstaff, Chilton, Houghton, Butler I. Just 13 seconds after the game had started the Tigers had the ball in the Cardiff net courtesy of Ken Wagstaff. That lightning start did not have a happy ending however as goals by Brown and Bird gave the Welsh outfit a 2-1 victory.

> Goals from the two Kens: Houghton and Wagstaff, give the Tigers the points in a 2-0 home win over QPR on 14th October 1967.

> The Tigers beat Plymouth Argyle 5-2 in Devon on 21st October 1967. Their goals are scored by Houghton, Chilton, Wagstaff, Simpkin and Young.

1973
PORSTMOUTH PULLED UP

In front of a crowd of 6,874, the Tigers put an end to Pompey's run of three consecutive victories when they defeated Portsmouth 4-1 at Boothferry Park on 20th October 1973. The Tigers' team that day was: Wealands, Banks, deVries, Blampey, Deere, Galvin (O'Riley), Hawley, Lord, Pearson, Wagstaff, Greenwood. City's scorers on the day were Wagstaff (2), Greenwood and Hawley. It was John Hawley's first ever League goal for the Tigers.

> Goals from Ken Wagstaff and Roy Greenwood gave the Tigers a 2-1 home victory over Bristol City on 2nd October 1973.

> The Tigers draw 0-0 away to Nottingham Forest on 23rd October 1973.

1994
TIGERS HONOUR HORATIO

In the first home game since the death of Raich Carter, the following Tigers team paid their own tribute to the former Hull City legend by beating Crewe Alexandra 7-1 on 29th October 1994: Wilson, Lowthorpe, Graham, Hobson, Dewhurst, Mann, Peacock, Lee (Abbott), Brown (Hargreaves), Windass, Lawford. Leading the goal rush was Linton Brown who scored a hat-trick in seven minutes; the Tigers' other goals came from Dewhurst, Peacock and Windass (2). It was the first time the Tigers had scored seven at home in the League since they'd beaten Stockport County 7-0 in 1983.

> An own goal by Blackpool's Andy Gouck gave the Tigers a 1-0 home victory over 'The Seasiders' on 8th October 1994.

> The Tigers win 3-2 at Shrewsbury, thanks to goals from Dewhurst, Peacock and Lawford on 22nd October 1994.

1990
HULL HAMMERED

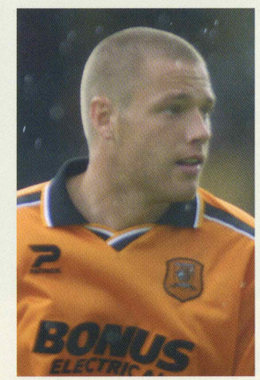
The following Hull City team played against leading promotion contenders, West Ham, on 6th October 1990: Hesford, Hockaday (Ngata), Doyle, Mail (McParland), Buckley, Wilcox, Thomas, Payton, Swan, Palin Finnigan. At half time the Tigers trailed 2-1 but still looked in with a chance of snatching a point. By full time that optimism had been obliterated as the Hammers ran out comfortable 7-1 winners. Scorers for West Ham were: Quinn (2), Potts, Dicks (2), Parris, Morley. The Tigers' solitary scorer was Steve Hockaday.

> The Tigers beat Watford 1-0 at home on 2nd October 1990. City's goal is scored by Peter Swan.

> Dave Bamber scores the Tigers' goal in their 3-1 defeat at Brighton and Hove Albion on 24th October 1990.

2001
RUSHDEN GOAL RUSH

A wonder goal from Gary Alexander gave the Tigers an early lead in their first ever League visit to Rushden and Diamonds on 20th October 2001. However by half time the Tigers were trailing 3-1. In an exciting second-half fightback, an own goal by Rushden's Barry Hunter, plus a clinical finish from one of City's substitutes, Rodney Rowe meant the game finished all-square at 3-3.



> The Tigers beat Torquay Utd 1-0 at home on 13th October 2001, with the only goal of the game coming from Michael Reddy.

> A goal from Gary Alexander gives the Tigers a 1-1 draw at home to Leyton Orient on 23rd October 2001.

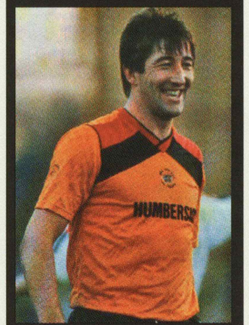
1905
TWICE IN ONE DAY

Saturday 28th October 1905 was a strange date in the history of Hull City: they played twice on the same day. A league fixture at the Boulevard against Manchester United clashed with an FA Cup qualifying game against Denaby United. Refused permission by Football's authorities to rearrange either match, the Tigers decided to field their First XI against Manchester United and their Reserves against Denaby, in the hope that the Reserves would manage a draw and let the First team finish the job in the replay. So it was that Martin Spendiff, Ambrose Langley, Tom Jones, George Browell, Bill Robinson, Davy Gordon, Henry Simmon, George Spence, Joe Smith , Peter Howe and Andy Raisbeck lost narrowly, 1-0, to Manchester United at the Boulevard in front of a crowd of approximately 12,000, whilst less than 100 miles away George Cook, Harold Davies, George Brooks, Bill Martin, Matthew Carney, Ben Frost, Patrick Lavery, Bill Thornton, George Rushton, Jack Smith and John Manning took on Denaby United. The Reserves did not adhere to the plan because they beat Denaby 2-0 in front of some 3,000 spectators with both City's goals coming from Joe Smith. For Cook, Brooks and Carney, it was their only Tiger outing in either League or Cup.

> Goals from Smith, Howe and Raisbeck give the Tigers a 3-0 home win over Chesterfield on 11th October 1905.

> The Tigers lose 2-1 away to Bristol City on 21st October 1905. Joe Smith scores City's goal.

1980
KING BILLY ARRIVES IN HULL



At the end of October 1980, The Tigers paid Mexborough Town £2,500 for the services of a bricklaying, part-time playing footballer by the name of Billy Whitehurst. The foundations of a Tiger legend were laid. At first, Billy Whitehurst was not one of the fans' favourites. Initially somewhat ungainly and not so sharp in front of goal, over the next five years, under the guidance of ex-Tiger scoring legend, Chris Chilton, Billy developed into a powerful striker becoming not just a legend but also a cult hero. Such was his talent that his value rose by almost 100 times - it cost Newcastle £232,000 to prise him away from Boothferry Park - and wherever Billy went on his football travels he was adored by fans and feared by defenders.

> Keith Edwards scores a consolation goal for the Tigers in their 4-1 defeat at Chester City on 3rd October 1980.

> The Tigers lose 1-0 at home to Carlisle United on 21st October 1980.

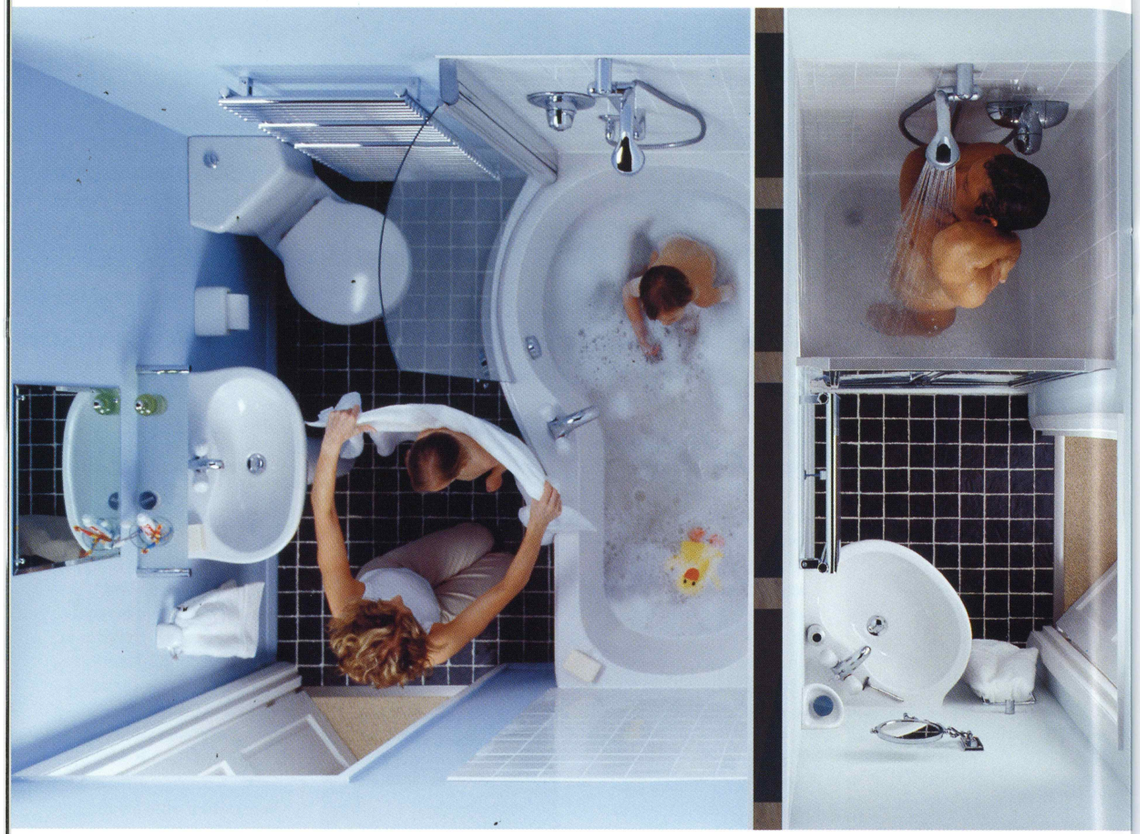
1948
GREAT DANE TURNS TIGER

Perhaps the greatest foreign import ever to wear the colours of Hull City was Viggo Jensen, who signed for the Tigers on 26th October 1948. Already a Danish international who'd represented his country at the Olympics, Jensen soon settled into English football and became a regular in the first team. Such was his versatility that he was capable of impressive performances on the right and the left, in attack, midfield or defence and wherever he played his contribution on the goalscoring front was not to be dismissed lightly. Jensen made a total of 335 League and Cup appearances (54 goals) during his eight year stay and his name still brings a warm smile to the faces of those City fans privileged to watch him play.

> The Tigers draw 1-1 at Rochdale on 23rd October 1948; Ken Harrison scores for City.

> New Brighton are beaten 4-1 at Boothferry Park on 30th October 1948. The Tigers' goals come from Moore, Carter, Burbanks and Jensen.

two in the space of one



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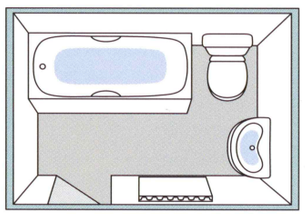
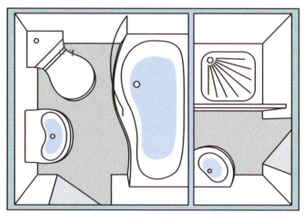


BEFORE: TYPICAL BATHROOM



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tigers news

> REMAINING AUCTION TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE

Only a handful of tickets are still available for the Hull City AFC Centenary Auction and Forum which takes place in the Kingston Suite at the KC Stadium on Wednesday 27th October 2004.

The event, which is being organised in conjunction with the Official Hull City Supporters Club, will be hosted by Dave Burns and Alex Burgess and broadcast live on BBC Radio Humberside between 7.30pm-10.00pm.

Guest auctioneers and panelists will include ex Tigers Gary Brabin, Billy Whitehurst, Ken Wagstaff, Chris Chilton, Ken Houghton and Garreth Roberts and there will also be a host of other former Tigers present for what promises to be a great evening of nostalgia to help celebrate the club's centenary.

Chief auctioneer and ex Tiger John Hawley is busy collating memorabilia for the auction and remember, this is your chance to cash in on any unwanted items of Tigers nostalgia. Viewing of auction items will take place in the Kingston Suite between 5pm-7pm and further details are available by calling John on 01430 470654.

Entry will be by ticket only - £1.00 (free to OSC members) and tickets are available on a first come first served basis from the Hull City AFC Reception on the Ideal Standard East Stand and Tiger Leisure.

> SENIOR TIGERS

The Senior Tigers Club's October meeting was held in the Sport bar with a very good attendance.

Neil Thompson gave a very interesting talk on his career, from being an apprentice at Nottingham Forest all the way to his current role at Leeds United.

The next meeting will again be in the Sports Bar on Thursday 4th November at 1.45pm, when John Rose will speak on his role of the KC Stadium Safety Officer.

Final bookings for the Christmas lunch will also be taken at this meeting.

> TICKET OFFICE CLOSURE

Please note that the KC Stadium Ticket Office will be closed on Saturday 30th & Sunday 31st October due to the upgrading of systems.

> QUESTIONNAIRE

The data collected from September's Questionnaire has now been analysed by the University of Hull Department of Sport and Exercise Science.

Indeed the Club received a fantastic response to the Questionnaire and we were aiming to reveal the results in today's programme.

However, due to print deadlines, this information will now be included in the Walsall programme along with the winners of the VIP day out and Tiger Leisure vouchers.

Our thanks go to Alex Cannell and Paul Smith from the University of Hull for their assistance in this project and everyone who took the time to respond to the Questionnaire.

> THE LANDAUS

Hull quartet The Landaus will be providing the half time entertainment this afternoon.

The band have been making waves on the local music scene for the last 18 months building up a solid reputation on Hull's club circuit.

Supporters may recall their first appearance at the KC Stadium last April when they marked their debut release 'Sweet But True' with a rousing half time performance during the Northampton match.

The Landaus, who are made up of Danny Abbott, Gaz Allbones, Lawrence Needham and Stefan Nyman, release their new single called 'What Ya Cryin For?' on 1st November and are due to embark on a 6 week tour to Australia in the New Year.

If you enjoy today's performance and would like to catch up with the lads in person, why not join them for their after show party at The Waterfront Nightclub this evening between 8pm-11pm.

> FA CUP FIRST ROUND DRAW

The Tigers will find out who they will face in the first round of this years FA Cup on Saturday 30th October.

The draw will be live on BBC1 at approx 5.05pm during final score on Grandstand and will also shown on Sky Sports 1 and broadcast on BBC Five Live.

All first round ties will be played over the weekend of the 12,13,14th November 2004.

KC Stadium News

THE SECOND COMING

After the critically acclaimed debut show, International Wrestling Promotions returns to the Vulcan Arena, Hull on Saturday 6th November for 'The Second Coming'.

Wrestling experts called their first show 'the best debut show of all time for a British show of all time' and a sell out crowd of 1,029 seemed to agree with the critics.

Now IWP are bringing top class wrestling back to Hull with a card jam-packed full of the best wrestlers in Europe today.

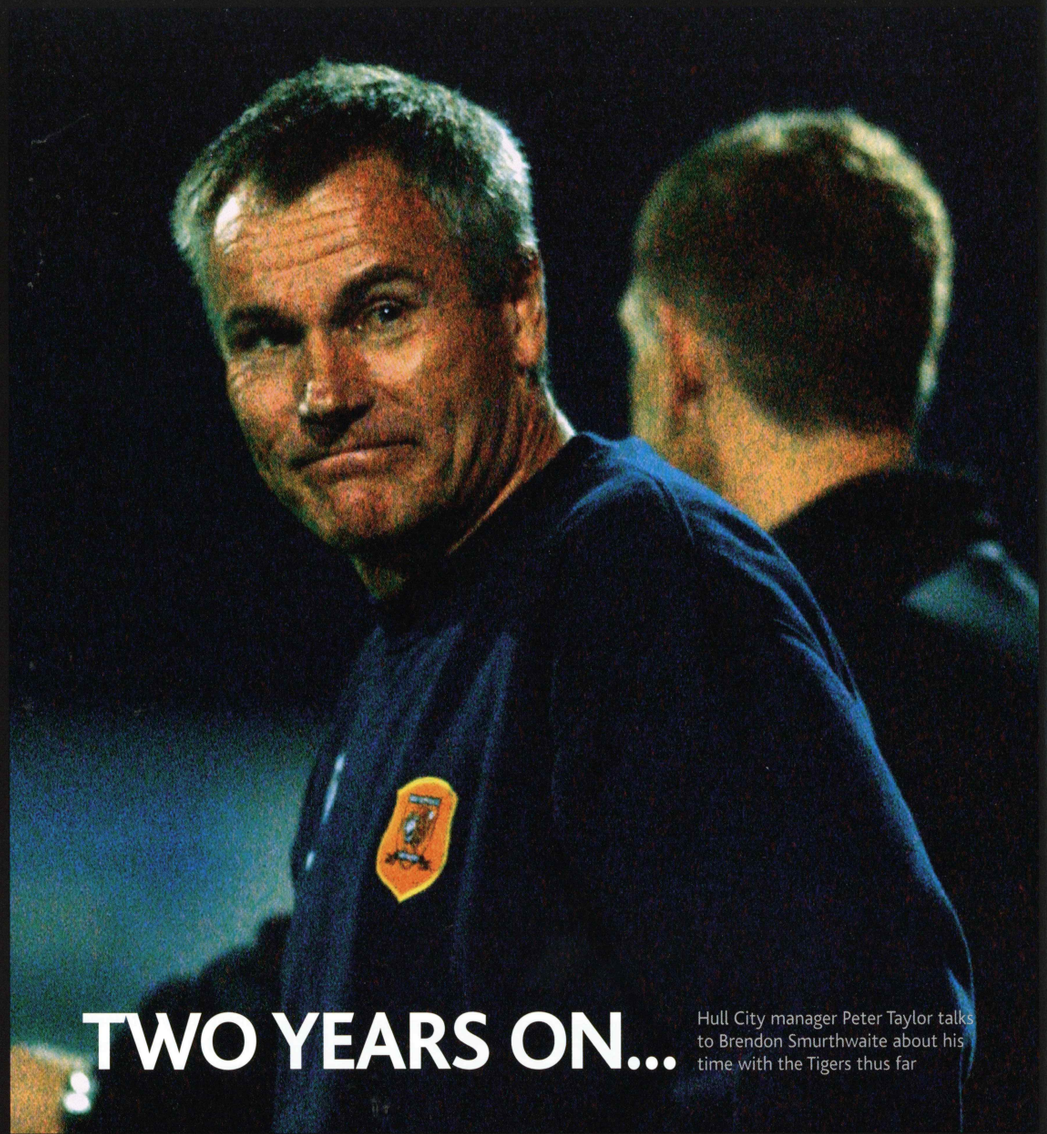
The main event of the night will see two of the stars of the first show - crowd favourite Zebra Kid and Burchill, current world rookie of the year, square off once again in a 'no holds barred' Tables, Ladders and Chairs match for the IWP Heavyweight Championship.

This is set to be one of the most highly anticipated matches ever; Zebra Kid challenges Burchill for the IWP championship in a career threatening TLC match.

Tickets priced £20 Golden Ringside, £15 Silver Ringside, £10 Adults and £6 Children for tiered and balcony seating, are on sale now from the KC Stadium ticket office, in person or by calling 0870 837 0004.

The last event was a sell-out so book early to avoid disappointment!

For further information visit www.iwpromotions.com



TWO YEARS ON...

Hull City manager Peter Taylor talks to Brendon Smurthwaite about his time with the Tigers thus far

IT'S BEEN TWO YEARS AND ELEVEN DAYS SINCE PETER TAYLOR STEPPED OUT ONTO THE BOOTHFERRY PARK TURF TO BE FORMALLY INTRODUCED TO THE TIGERS' SUPPORTERS AS THE CLUB'S NEW MANAGER.

Football management being as it is, there have been plenty of highs and lows during that time for Peter Taylor.

He was the first manager in 19 years to lead the club to promotion, but there was a lot of blood, sweat and tears in the months leading up to that historic achievement.

It all started when Rochdale were the visitors to Boothferry Park on Saturday 12 October and Peter remembers the occasion well.

"I remember receiving a great welcome and there was a tremendous atmosphere at Boothferry Park that day," he said.

"I think the team were trying to impress and for me, the players obviously loved the club and wanted to be a part of it.

"It was a good start that day, but in the end we finished where we deserved to in the league.

"Maybe the players weren't consistent enough. They were good enough but didn't produce it regularly enough to be successful.

"In the first four or five games that I was in charge, I thought we could go and get promotion through the play-off route.

"But then there were times when we weren't good enough, both attacking-wise and defensively.

"We finished 13th that season and there's no doubt in my mind that we were 13th at everything - team spirit, fitness levels, consistency, offensively and defensively.

"To me that was a fair reflection, although it wasn't really what I'd expected.

"Having seen the names on the team sheet when I first arrived, I thought the side could go on and do well.

"Of course, you want those names to be playing well, but for me that period was still worthwhile.

"It allowed me to look at the club, look at the division we were in and look at the things that were needed for the players to be successful at the club.

"I think there's more pressure on the players at this club, than at most others in the division.

"You need strong characters because everyone is going to have a bad period during the season and you need to have people who can bounce back from that."

Having seen out the 2002/03 season, the preparations for 2003/04 began in earnest.

Taylor earmarked the personnel he felt he needed to take the Tigers forward and worked with Chairman Adam Pearson to bring them into the club.

"To be fair, Adam and myself have always had an excellent working relationship," he continued.

"We're always open and honest with each other and have the same frustrations and targets.

"I think in the end we agreed that there was no possible way we were going to achieve things in that first season.

"However, we always had in mind the number and type of players that we wanted.

"Alongside that we also knew who we wanted to move on.

"We needed strikers who were going to be at the top of the goal scoring charts in the division and I think we got that in players such as Ben Burgess and Danny Allsopp.

"We also knew that we already had Stuart Elliott in the building and everyone knows he will score goals.

"Then we added to that on the other flank by bringing in Jason Price who can also score goals.

"During that pre-season, I also made my mind up that we were going to be playing with one attack-minded midfield player which would be Stuart Green who had come back from Carlisle.

"So we were confident there would be enough goals in the team to get us promoted.

"At this level, if you have goal scorers in the side you have a chance. If you're not playing particularly well on a given day, all of a sudden one of your strikers can go and get a goal which changes the game.

"We certainly had that last season because we had goal scorers in a lot of different positions."

During the two years that Taylor has been in charge, the club's squad has evolved with plenty of players going through the exit door and a fair number coming the other way as well.

"There has been a hell of a turnover in players since I've been at the club," Taylor said.

"Don't get me wrong, I signed people like Alan Fettis and Danny Webb and also let them go.

"I would imagine I've let well over 20 players leave since I've been here, and probably signed 15 or 16.

"Overall, I was always happy with the signings as regards the age of the player and if we spent any money we thought that we could either get that back or that the player would be with the club for a long while.

"People ask me about our success last season and the main reasons behind it.

"I would say that one big factor was that we had so many goal scorers, but another major one was that we had players who could run all day.

"We were as fit as any team I've ever worked with and in the last 20

Where we were then

Nationwide League Division Three | October 14th 2002

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Hartlepool	12	7	3	2	20	11	+9	24
Torquay Utd	13	7	3	3	21	19	+2	24
Rushden & D	13	6	5	2	23	15	+8	23
Rochdale	13	6	4	3	20	16	+4	22
Southend	13	7	1	5	16	16	0	22
Wrexham	13	5	6	2	22	15	+7	21
Oxford Utd	13	6	3	4	13	10	+3	21
Cambridge	13	6	2	5	26	20	+6	20
Bournemouth	12	5	5	2	19	14	+5	20
York City	13	6	2	5	15	15	0	20
Kidderminster	13	4	7	2	13	12	+1	19
Lincoln City	13	5	3	5	14	13	+1	19
Bury	13	4	5	4	21	22	-1	17
Scunthorpe	13	4	5	4	16	17	-1	17
Bristol Rovers	13	4	4	5	20	17	+3	16
Macclesfield	13	5	1	7	17	18	-1	16
Hull City	**13**	**3**	**6**	**4**	**17**	**16**	**+1**	**15**
Shrewsbury	13	4	3	6	19	23	-4	15
Darlington	13	3	5	5	15	18	-3	14
Leyton Orient	13	3	4	6	12	15	-3	13
Exeter City	13	3	3	7	14	20	-6	12
Carlisle	13	3	1	9	11	25	-14	10
Boston Utd	13	3	4	6	13	21	-8	9
Swansea City	13	1	5	7	14	23	-9	8

Where we are now

Coca-Cola League One | October 24th 2004

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Luton	14	10	2	2	25	14	+11	32
Brentford	14	8	3	3	20	17	+3	27
Bradford	14	8	1	5	23	18	+5	25
Hull City	**14**	**8**	**1**	**5**	**20**	**19**	**+1**	**25**
Bournemouth	14	7	3	4	27	17	+10	24
Tranmere	13	6	5	2	21	14	+7	23
Chesterfield	14	6	3	5	20	15	+5	21
Colchester	14	6	2	6	23	18	+5	20
Huddersfield	14	6	2	6	23	20	+3	20
Swindon	13	6	2	5	19	16	+3	20
Sheff Wed	13	5	5	3	17	15	+2	20
Hartlepool	14	6	2	6	23	24	-1	20
Wrexham	12	5	4	3	13	13	0	19
Port Vale	14	6	1	7	18	22	-4	19
Doncaster	14	5	4	5	18	23	-5	19
Bristol City	13	4	5	4	24	21	+3	17
Walsall	14	3	5	6	21	24	-3	17
Barnsley	14	3	5	6	15	18	-3	14
Peterborough	13	3	4	6	14	15	-1	13
Oldham	14	3	4	7	18	22	-4	13
MK Dons	14	3	4	7	17	23	-5	13
Blackpool	13	2	5	6	15	22	-7	11
Torquay	14	2	5	7	15	24	-9	11
Stockport	14	2	3	9	15	30	-15	9

"The nicest memory for me was that we scored enough goals and put enough points on the board. It was the most memorable season I've had as a manager."

minutes in games we were getting stronger. I have no doubt that played a big part in our success."

The 4-1 opening day victory over Darlington in the sunshine at the KC Stadium set the tone for the season and Taylor admits the first few weeks of the campaign were character forming for his side.

"It was a great start for us," he added. "But we then went to Wigan in the Carling Cup, which was a tough game, and lost at Oxford the following Saturday despite having played really well.

"To be honest, we thought the criticism we received in the press after those results was extremely harsh but at the end of the day it probably did us some good.

"The players became very close as a unit after that because they knew they'd played well.

"Sometimes things like that can get a team going and it certainly did with us.

"I've always said that you've got to sign a certain kind of player here because the criticism you can sometimes get after a loss, draw or bad performance can often be harsher than at other clubs.

"Some players may not have experienced that before but they have to here."

Of course, expectations at the club have always been high and that was something Peter Taylor and his squad had to deal with all season.

"When you're doing well that tends to add numbers to your gate and there were probably some new supporters here who didn't know the history of the club," Taylor added.

"They maybe didn't realise that just three years ago it went out of business before Adam Pearson came in and took it out of administration.

"In that respect, some new supporters come along, see the team win and think that's going to happen every week.

"But it just doesn't work like that. Of course, we'd all love it to be like that for our own club but there are only going to be three or four clubs who get promoted, and three or four who go down.

"So there are a lot of teams who won't really do anything in the season. It's not just about your own club being successful."

ABOVE:
Taylor celebrates winning prmotion with his backroom staff after the Bristol Rovers game on the final day of last season.

Winning at home is important for any side with promotion aspirations but picking up points on the road is also vital.

The Tigers did both last season, and a lot of that was down to a terrific team spirit within the camp.

"The home form was very, very important," Taylor continued. "The nice thing for me as well was seeing us being solid and together away from the KC.

"The team spirit was fantastic and we are lucky in that we take lots of supporters away from home.

"Nine times out of ten they outnumber the home fans and it becomes like a home game.

"So we're very lucky in that respect. The team spirit came from winning matches, gaining confidence and feeling good.

"Everyone was working hard for each other and trying to improve all the time.

"I think most clubs have a tremendous team spirit, but I have to say that ours was first-class."

Picking out one or two key moments in such an eventful season is a tough ask, but Taylor looks back on a couple of games in particular.

"Swansea away and Boston away were two massive games for us," he added without too much hesitation.

"The Swansea one in particular was tough because we'd lost at home to Northampton on the Saturday.

"We were at Swansea on the Easter Monday, it was Kenny Jackett's first game in charge and they had Lee Trundle in the side who can obviously score goals.

"So it was always going to be a difficult fixture but I thought that day the nature of the victory was good.

"We scored, they equalised, we scored again, they equalised and then we go and get a winner right at the death. That to me proved that we could handle it.

"When we went to Boston they were playing well, Steve Evans had returned to the club and they were tough to play against at their place.

"But I though that night we really deserved to win the game."

Fast-forward a bit further and you come to Saturday May 1 and a crucial encounter at Yeovil Town.

It turned out to be one of the most memorable days in the club's history as Ian Ashbee's brilliant strike secured a 2-1 victory and promotion for the first time in 19 years.

"I think that just showed how hard you have to work to get promotion because we had a terrific season but come the penultimate game we still hadn't got there," Taylor said.

"We knew that if we didn't get a result that day and Torquay did, then all of a sudden we'd be looking at playing Bristol Rovers at home needing a win to guarantee promotion.

"With the season we had it should have been secured much earlier than that and it shows you how tough it is to get promoted.

"But that day at Yeovil, we were all confident, it was a tremendous occasion and Ian Ashbee's wonder-goal was a great way to cap it all.

"We all felt very proud and knew that the game was being beamed back to the Vulcan Arena. It really was a special feeling for us all."

"Overall though, I still maintain that the squad we've got is a very, very good one and once they're all playing with confidence we'll be very strong.

ABOVE:
The Tigers boss with his 2003 summer signings.

With a ticket to League One assured, the Tigers completed the season with the home game against Bristol Rovers on what was an emotional occasion for everyone associated with the club.

"It was a party atmosphere and thankfully the players played well in the second half to make sure we finished in style," Taylor continued.

"The nicest memory for me was that we scored enough goals and put enough points on the board. It was the most memorable season I've had as a manager."

Those memories will stay with a lot of people for a long time and the Tigers have now moved on to life in Coca Cola League One.

It's a whole new challenge and Taylor spent the summer preparing for it.

"We knew the areas we needed to improve on going into a new division," he said.

"I don't think we needed to improve that much as a team, but as a squad we needed to be strong as well.

"If we could have played the side that played in the majority of games last season this season, I'm sure it would still be doing very well.

"But we lost Ben Burgess to injury, which was a big blow to us, so we've had to improve the striking options.

"Overall though, I still maintain that the squad we've got is a very, very good one and once they're all playing with confidence we'll be very strong.

"Hopefully we're at least fourth in the table by the time people read this interview.

"I'm just very pleased with the job. I think the staff have been excellent, I have a tremendous working relationship with Adam Pearson and I believe the place is in a much healthier state now than it was two years ago.

"I think there are a lot of players here who other clubs would gladly grab if given the opportunity.

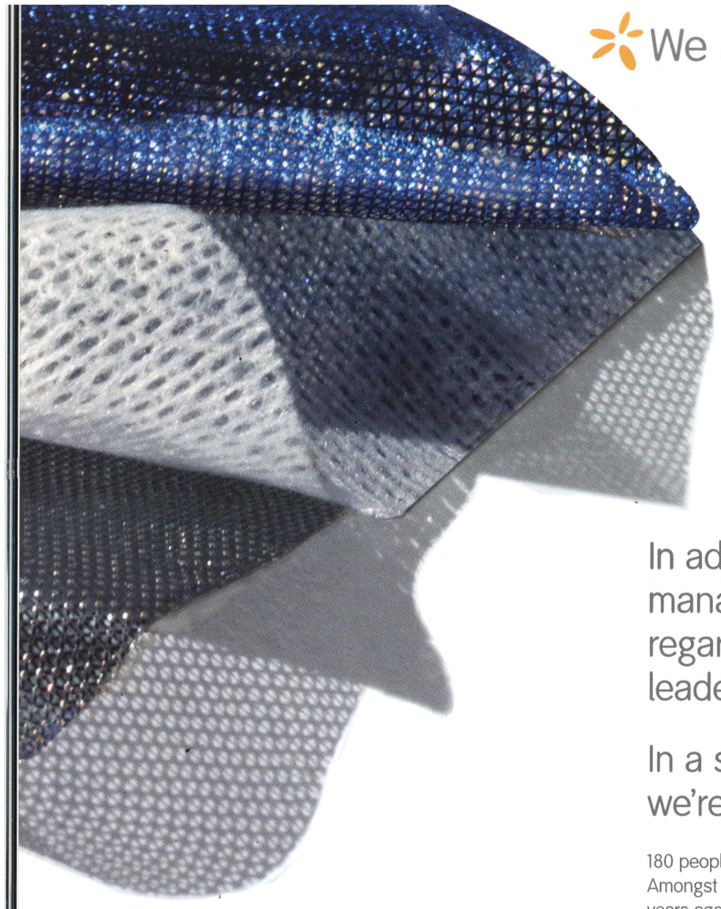
"Before, I maybe wasn't so sure that we had the players to take the club on but I do believe that now.

"We have a very good squad even though we're not in top form and at the minute we have good players who are maybe lacking a bit of confidence but I'm sure they'll bounce back.

"We're in Coca Cola League One but would like to be in the Championship and we have as much chance of achieving that as any other club in this division.

"Of course, you need your players to be playing well nine times out of ten and at the moment that hasn't happened for us this season. Having said that, we're still in a good position."

Junior Lewis goes up for an aerial challenge with Chesterfield's Steve Blatherwick in the Tigers' 1-0 victory at the KC Stadium two weeks ago.



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In advanced wound management, we're regarded as the world leader.

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180 people were killed and many others injured. Amongst the survivors was a young mother. A few years ago, her 85% burns would have meant very little chance of survival. But she was immediately treated with ACTICOAT* silver dressing, protecting the burn area and reducing the risk of infection (the prime cause of serious complications).

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Smith & Nephew is not just about business. As the world's leading supplier of advanced wound management products, we take the care of people in our communities very seriously, particularly in Hull, which is the global headquarters of our advance wound management business and one of our biggest manufacturing operations. Our support of community development programmes has benefited thousands of local people, from young children to the elderly.

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Show Racism the Red Card

SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1995 WITH AN AIM TO INCREASE AWARENESS ACROSS THE COUNTRY THAT RACISM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN FOOTBALL AND IN SOCIETY AS A WHOLE.

Nine years on and the project is continuing to grow having already achieved outstanding success with numerous organisations and individuals signing up to the campaign.

This year has seen the project take part in more events than ever before with Euro 2004 having a major influence in helping to raise awareness across a variety of different counties.

December 2003 saw the first ever event in Hull held at the KC Stadium. Hull City players Ben Burgess and Jason Price were in attendance to help field questions from 100 children who attended from a local secondary school.

The day comprised of a tour of the stadium before watching the Educational Video and finally having the opportunity to ask questions. There was time at the end for pupils to obtain autographs and photos with the players.

Show Racism the Red Card wants to continue to harness the position of professional footballers as role models to combat racism.

This week saw the launch of the Hull City team poster which shows the city players supporting the notion that any form of racist behaviour is unacceptable. The poster will be distributed through Football in the Community and the Playing for Success project to schools within Hull.

STAFF AT THE STADIUM HELP SCHOOLS WITH EXTRA GCSE PE REVISION SESSIONS

How the Project started?

2004 has been designated European Year of Education through Sport (EYES) with an opportunity to bid to the European Commission for funding to support activities that use sport to motivate and enhance learning.

The council has been successful in securing a grant to facilitate revision sessions for pupils studying for GCSE PE. The bid was based on the successful development of 'Playing for Success' and provides secondary schools with an opportunity to select pupils in key stage 4 to access a 10-week additional guided study programme at the stadium at the end of the school day.

The classroom, cyber cafÈ and library facilities in the Learning Zone provide a relaxing environment for pupils to study. In addition, students are able to access a range of additional learning environments including the spectator areas, the players' areas, the operational centres for security, the facilities for pitch management and the retail and media areas.

Students who attended sessions leading up to last summer examinations said they enjoyed coming to revise at the Learning Zone, they said they probably would not have stayed on at the end of the school day in school to revise, it was interesting to meet and learn with staff at the stadium and they particularly enjoyed accessing the player areas.

For more information contact Pam Dunwell (Stadium Education Projects Manager) on (01482) 318059.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:

Tigers players Ben Burgess and Jason Price signing autogrpahs.

Students from Southcoates Primary School hold copies of the new Hull City team photo which promotes the 'Show Racism the Red Card' campaign

Lisa Dawson (Programme Facilitator) with tutor and students from Endeavour High School

Playing for Success

WHAT IS PLAYING FOR SUCCESS?

Playing For Success is a partnership between the Department For Education and Skills (DfES), Local Education Authorities (LEAs), Football Foundation and a broad range of sports.

The Playing For Success Programme (PfS) runs in out of school hours targeting pupils aged between 9 - 14 years. The aim is to further develop pupils' literacy, numeracy and ICT skills and motivation to learn.

A range of study support centres have been established within clubs across the country to act as a base for the delivery of the PfS programme. Centres are managed by experienced teachers, supported by tutor-mentors and other support staff and are equipped with the latest technology.

department for education and skills · FootballFoundation · Hull City A.F.C. · Hull F.C. · Hull City Council

You've Been Strachaned!

Sky Sports' Rob Palmer recalls a memorable interview with Gordon Strachan and gives an insight into popular football show Soccer Saturday

IF YOU GLANCE UP TO THE GANTRY AND SEE ME STARING INTO THE TV CAMERA WITH MY BACK TO THE GAME FOR MOST OF THE 90 MINUTES THIS AFTERNOON, PLEASE DON'T THINK I AM BEING IGNORANT!

It's taking time to get used to this aspect of my new Soccer Saturday job of reporting matches using the eyes in the back of one's head. For this is one of my new tasks at Sky Sports, joining the likes of our great-enthusiast Chris Kamara and the granite-jawed Alan McInally on the Soccer Saturday 'live at the game' team.

The font-of-all knowledge Jeff Stelling orchestrates the fastest moving sports show on television. He is backed by a very talented young team behind the scenes and a slightly older set of sidekicks, led by Rodney Marsh in the studio.

The wizened ex-pro's watch the top four games of the afternoon from the comfort of the studio via a satellite link.

Jeff is prompted by a genius called Dave Todd who has his own gold mine of statistical nuggets. The producer Rob Dakin has a bank of screens of information from virtually every game in the country.

My job is to sit on the gantry and relay what is going on behind my back to the Sky Sports viewers.

Like everything in life the break came by accident.

For some reason 'Kammy' couldn't make it to a non-descript FA Cup tie between Crewe and Bournemouth one winter's night. To cut a very long and dull match report short, I stepped in for a game that went to extra time and penalties. (Cheers Chris!)

The show was extended. "Could you commentate live on the shoot-out?" was the request from the producer.

And so with my back to the game I described the action to the expectant nation. Thirteen penalties it took! Even their own mothers wouldn't have recognised some of the takers and I had to pick them out at 150 yards with my back to the game!

(The secret is a small television screen placed just below the camera lens so that you can view the game behind whilst talking to the camera.)

The following season I was willingly transferred from duties on the excellent Sports News to the award-winning Soccer Saturday.

It is a job to kill for. The brief is to produce two to three features for pre-game every week, report on a match and then ask those searching questions at the game's end.

The features are the fun bit. The post-game interviews can be the big challenge. I am not sure whether I am proud of making the top ten Sky Sports interviews of all time recently.

A conversation with the fizz-pop Gordon Strachan after his team's first defeat of last season had Jeff Stelling and the studio boys howling (not exactly in sympathy).

I gingerly (pun) asked Gordon: "Is

the first defeat of the season hard to take in?"

You learn to throw in a gentle underarm question to prompt a response from managers. What I got was a Gary Sobers-like hit for six all over the St. Mary's Stadium.

"Hard to take in, hard to take in..." choked Strachan. "I'm going to lock myself in a darkened room with a bottle of whisky and a bottle of pills and top myself!"

One of the less clichéd answers I thought.

"Excuse my demeanour, I've been Strachaned," was all I could say when a bemused (yet victorious) Steve McClaren took his turn to be interviewed.

The following week Soccer AM ran a montage of 'Strachanisms' and finished with my clash. Tim Lovejoy finished by pointing out that Gordon and I would meet again at Newcastle that very afternoon.

I didn't see Soccer AM and I was unaware that Gordon watched the show. So when the again-defeated Southampton manager came into the interview room I was unprepared for his vitriol.

"I'm no talking to you." He snarled in that menacing Scottish accent.

"Fine!" Was my reply (in a thinly disguised Hull accent).

After the previous week's encounter I wasn't exactly pushing for more of the same.

"I saw Soccer AM... here for a rematch are you?" he continued to growl.

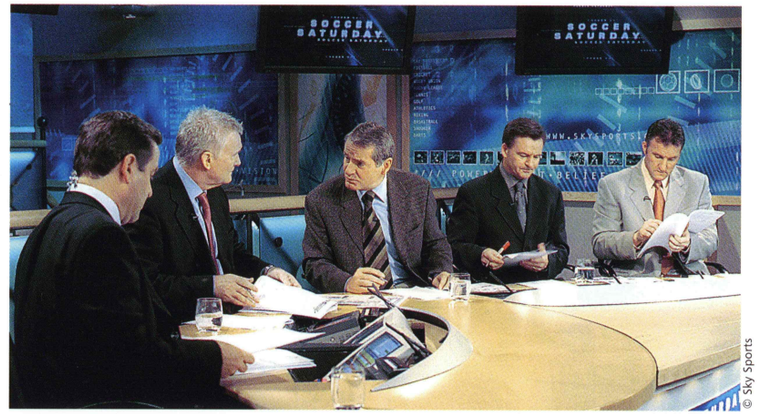
I was genuinely puzzled and asked for a quiet word outside, away from the cameras.

He was convinced that I had come back for more and went on the offensive. Calmly, I pointed out that I was the one who had faced national ridicule after our previous encounter and showed him the various sympathetic text messages I had received all week.

There was also a message on my phone from my mum, without going into great detail let's say he wouldn't be welcome for Sunday lunch the next time he was in East Hull!

Now here's what I believe to be a mark of a true man.

"Hard to take in, hard to take in..." choked Strachan. "I'm going to lock myself in a darkened room with a bottle of whisky and a bottle of pills and top myself!"



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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:

Soccer Saturday host Jeff Stelling with expert analysists Rodney Marsh, Frank McClintock, Charlie Nicolas and Alan McInally.

Gordon Strachan in an after match press conference during his time as Southampton manager.

Behind the scenes at Soccer Saturday.

"Are you really telling me that was your mum's message?" he quizzed.

He drew breath. "Sorry." I was unprepared for this. "Sorry, I went too far." I was welling up now. Football's Mr. Grumpy was apologising. "Right let's go get this interview done," he continued.

I genuinely didn't want to do another interview and by this time Alan Shearer and Sir Bobby Robson were waiting bemused in the TV room awaiting the outcome of our chat.

"Gordon, your apology is accepted. Thanks for the offer of the interview but I must talk to Bobby and Alan," I reasoned.

"I'll wait," said Strachan and he did for about fifteen minutes. My first question was a very slow underarm.

"Gordon your thoughts?" He smiled and replied: "Very hard to take."

I don't think that it would be breaking confidences to reveal he also offered his apologies to my mum and family for any embarrassment caused.

So after hearing suggestions, following the Tigers' recent victory against Chesterfield, that I might want to be on guard because Colin Murphy could be a little unpredictable in his after match interviews, I smiled. They really didn't know the true meaning of an unpredictable manager.

I will be ready for anything that Peter Taylor or Mike Newell can throw at me after the game. Being a City fan since I was a young cub I wish my hometown team well. But there is a strong affinity with Mike Newell.

He must be classed as a young manager because we share the same birth date (27th January 1965). Happy 40th Mike for January and I hope life is entertainingly uncomfortable today.

The Trip of a Lifetime

Daily Mail football writer Colin Young recalls his trip to Isreal for Newcastle's recent UEFA Cup game against Hapoel Bnei Sakhnin

CRAIG BELLAMY HAS VISITED A FEW COUNTRIES IN HIS TIME. AND WHEN NEWCASTLE UNITED WERE DRAWN WITH ISRAELI TEAM HAPOEL BNEI SAKHNIN IN THE UEFA CUP, WITH A SECOND LEG PENDING IN TEL AVIV, HE PERHAPS HAD EVERY RIGHT, LIKE ALL OF US BOUND TO MAKE THE TRIP, TO BE FULL OF TREPIDATION.

The Welshman has been to the likes of Latvia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine and Eindhoven, so he is well versed in the life of the travelling footballer who is forced to visit nations and cities less salubrious than his hometown of Cardiff. Tel Aviv however was very much to his liking.

As a group of us headed out to the plane at Ben Gurion Airport, after Newcastle's 5-1 win the night before, Bellamy told us: "It's been a fantastic trip," he said.

"In terms of the hotel, facilities, stadium, it was probably the best I've ever been on considering what we were all fearing."

He had no idea how close he came to having a very different perspective on the place.

The players, club staff, journalists who cover Newcastle United in Europe and their loyal fans (125 made the trip) had to go but then it was not that long ago that Graeme Le Saux and Emmanuel Petit led the Chelsea rebellion and refused to travel to the country.

UEFA has only recently lifted its ban on Europe competition and internationals, insisting they all remain in Tel Aviv.

Newcastle at least knew they would be avoiding a trip to Sakhnin, a small town in the north of the country from where the majority of the club's Arab players originate.

When the email with Foreign Office advice landed in the in-box, we all started to have our own concerns. This was no ordinary trip into the unknown.

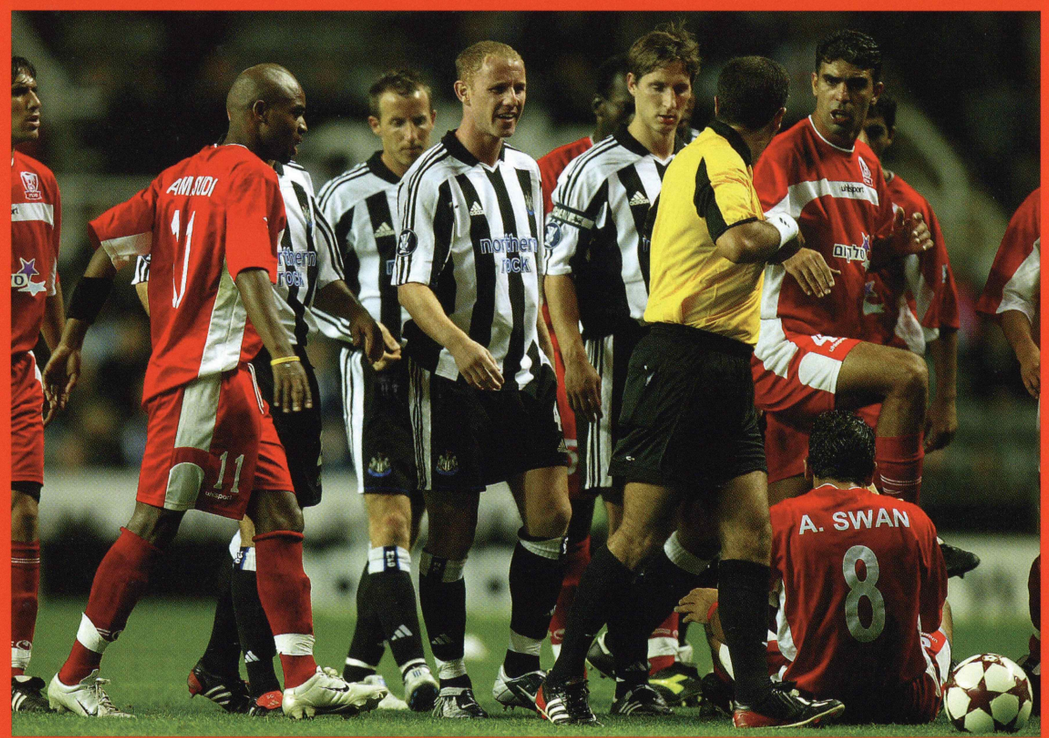
I'd been left with no choice but to disregard Middlesbrough's first ever foray into Europe in the Czech Republic, even if the beer is cheaper.

Last season's Carling Cup success was of course their first ever domestic success and an historic event which was celebrated to its full potential.

But the real riches are just starting to bear fruit. European football brings with it recognition and that is why names such as Mark Viduka, Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink and Ray Parlour have been attracted to the club. The two prolific strikers in particular have also given Boro a new edge.

BELOW:

The incident which led to Newcastle's Nicky Butt and Hapoel Bnei Shkhins Abas Swan red carded during the first leg.



Another significant landmark for the Teesside club was the opportunity to experience UEFA Cup football for the first time, but the prospect of the second leg against Banik Ostrava could not compare with the opportunity to see Graeme Souness' first European away trip since taking over Sir Bobby Robson.

From the moment we arrived at Newcastle airport and were subjected to more scrutiny than usual - "I'm sorry sir it's just we believe someone may have tried to put a bomb in your luggage" - it became clear the trip would not be routine. Only the surliness of the players remained unstinting.

Normally players just pretend to be talking on their mobiles as we waited pathetically for a word or two on knee strains or the opposition but Lee Bowyer invented a whole new degree of the word `snub' when he proclaimed "I'm sorry I have a cold".

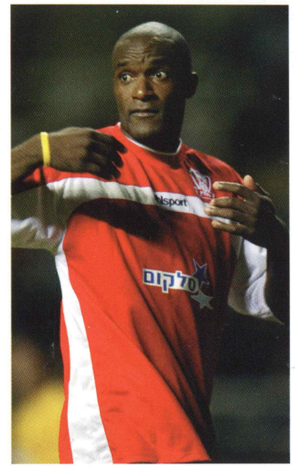
The Israeli authorities had also taken the trouble of producing a full list of passengers for the travelling party, and therefore we were able to amuse ourselves with a few journalists' middle names during the five-hour flight.

Hunter was my personal favourite.

I walked behind Bellamy, Stephen Carr and Shay Given when we eventually got through customs and passport control but the real commotion was behind me.

Alan Shearer was mobbed by dozens of Israelis, most wearing the distinctive black and white shirt of Newcastle, as he tried to make the short walk to the waiting team coach. Shearer kept walking, signing shirts and smiling, then someone handed us all a carnation and an `I love Israel' sticker.

"If you don't believe in miracles you are not a realist" said our guide who, throughout the three days in his country, whenever he opened his mouth insisted on delivering a political, religious, geographical and moral speech which started to grate the moment we left Ben Gurion airport and headed for our luxury hotel on the coast.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:

Colin Young pictured at Hapoel Bnei Sakhnin's stadium.

Hapoel Bnei Sakhnin's Ernest Etchi.

What was unquestionable was the man's knowledge of his country, but that is the birthright of the Israeli people and the Jews in particular. They are very proud of their history and very keen to ensure that it is passed on to the next generation.

And it was a wonderful base for the three days in Israel, but like my colleagues Tim Rich (The Independent) and Gary Oliver (South Shield Gazette) I knew there was more to this visit than a beach and a swimming pool.

Thanks to Ofer Ronen-Abels from the Jerusalem Post we did make it to Sakhnin. And thanks to him my eyes were opened to one of the greatest football stories of modern times and to a friendly town more than willing to open its gates to visitors.

Ofer had insisted he would take us there - a brave decision for all of us given our destination and the reputation of Israeli drivers. I am glad w went.

Hapoel Bnei Sakhnin play under the Israel flag, field Jewish players and employs a Jewish coach. They were promoted to the first division two years ago and beat Hapoel Haifa 4-1 in the national cup final to qualify for the UEFA Cup.

More than 25,000 Arab citizens were at the game in the national stadium in Tel Aviv where they have been forced to play Newcastle in the second leg.

Many made the same journey for the Newcastle game and the town was almost deserted. Following suicide bombings in Be'er Seva a fortnight earlier Newcastle tried unsuccessfully to move the game. Thankfully UEFA refused.

After the cup final Israel's prime minister Ariel Sharon took a short break from masterminding the assault on Gaza to phone and congratulate the team and promise them a stadium.

Yasser Arafat and Prince Hassan of Jordan briefly jumped on the Sakhnin bandwagon to revel in their success. They are still waiting for the stadium and are currently playing their `home' matches 40 miles away in Haifa. It is a sore point within the club. They are desperate to return home for their home matches.

The two-hour journey from Tel Aviv to Sakhnin in the heart of the hills of Galilee was not without incident. At least two road accidents, a Peugeot 305 which overtook us, misread the gap, bounced around and ploughed into a ditch on the opposite side of the road. We drove on.

And we drove to Sakhnin. A small, dusty town with an abundance of colourful wedding shops and stores specialising in power tools.

And everywhere we looked on flags, posters, walls, carpets, and the club's distinctive red emblem, a symbol of hope in a troubled world.

And we drove on and on through the town, once in land so controversially reclaimed by the military, we came to a small farm, headed down a dirt track, past the

sewerage works, the discarded television sets and the olive groves until suddenly we arrived at a sight a million miles away from Craig Bellamy and Newcastle's other stars. It was no oasis but it was a football ground.

"When I first came here I thought I had been kidnapped," Sakhnin's big friendly African centre-half Ernest Etchi memorably told us.

"I had no idea where I was going and to be honest I was a little disappointed but I fell in love with the people and the place. They are wonderful.

"We were mobbed when we came back to the town after the final. We had to get off the bus and walk and it must have taken us about four hours to walk the last mile or so.

"It was a wonderful, wonderful time."

Ofer pulled the car into the car park. I couldn't see any BMWs or Porsches, but then I hadn't expected to.

I could see a small stand where a handful of spectators sat picking at sunflower seeds and watching us with bemused fascination. We were led into the dressing room - two large containers from the back of a wagon where the players changed and had massages. There was a small television room, a shower room and, in another container, coach Eyal Lachman's office.

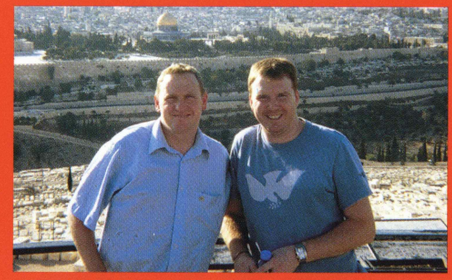
The hills of Galillee sat imposingly in front of us as we took in the humble surroundings of the Sakhnin training ground where Lachman was about to take the final training session with his players before the UEFA Cup second leg.

Ofer explained our genuine interest in their club and we were invited into his and the club's inner sanctum. I did get ticked off for running on to the pitch to neatly sidefoot a loose ball into the net but it was just too tempting and I think they understood.

Anyway they were more upset that Newcastle's directors had turned down the opportunity to visit their town, to see the training facilities, to view the new ground as it is re-built from scratch and to have a banquet in a local restaurant. These people know how to be the hosts and they were hurt by the snub. May be someone had a cold.

Lachman was late.

In Newcastle, where he had held court with journalists and lovingly told the story of `The Miracle of Sakhnin' he had looked like The Fonz in Happy Days.



"We were mobbed when we came back to the town after the final. We had to get off the bus and walk and it must have taken us about four hours to walk the last mile or so.

ABOVE: Colin pictured with fellow journalist Gary Oliver in Isreal.

His team kicked Newcastle about in St James - Souness and Nicky Butt didn't like it - his captain Abas Swan was sent off for squabbling with Butt and was out of the second leg. He was distraught.

Swan was, like all the Sakhnin players, more than happy to talk to us. He is from the town and still lives there. He is not mobbed like Cameroon international Etchi is when he walks the streets but he has the superstar status in town. People like him.

He was there when chairman Mazen Gnaiem set up the club just over ten years ago and he led the club to the Israeli first division, the Israeli Cup Final and then to Tyneside.

Swan, the only Israel international in the squad, said: `We have been living a dream.

"It was a dream to win the cup final and a dream to play in England. It is a long dream and it is still going on.

"I feel I am the proudest and luckiest man to have led the team to a cup final, become the first Arab captain to get his hands on the State cup, been the first player to walk on to the pitch in Newcastle, in a stadium we thought we would only see on television, and then to be the first player to score for the club in Europe.

"It has been incredible but you never know what the future will bring. There is always a higher step."

The next step for Sakhnin is their stadium. After the coach had briefly talked to us - he was extremely reluctant because he didn't like press near his team before a game and more than a little suspicious but eventually he could see we were genuine and offered us four minutes more than we deserved.

Club director Abu-Nached Raioh then took us under his wing and offered the tour of the town he had been so desperate to give Freddy Shepherd and his board.

We saw the ground, walked on the `pitch' - a level gravel square - and watched the solitary workman manfully try to move debris in an area where one day they hope to house thousands of supporters. It is two years since they played football in this ground and at least another two before they do so again.

Shepherd did make a cash donation to the club before his players ended their European dream with a Kluivert double and Shearer hat-trick.

It was a warm humid night - the pitch was so wet from the evening dew that it looked like it had been raining - and Newcastle were as ruthless as we anticipated.

Sakhnin meanwhile recovered from that defeat with a major league win over Beitar Jerusalem. Beitar have a hardcore of right-wing supporters who enjoy such chants as `death to the Arabs'.

As Swan said `We ignore them. They hate Arabs, they hate other Jewish teams, sometimes I think they even hate themselves.' Sakhnin beat them 4-1. Another victory.

We are in Athens now, preparing for the first group game against Panionios.

Bellamy has warmed up for the occasion with a foul-mouthed rant at Souness when he was substituted at Charlton a couple of days earlier. There followed another charming confrontation with his new manager on the training ground before we came to Greece.

Sakhnin meanwhile are continuing to fight more authentic battles against relegation and adversity.

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A Mixed Start

Stuart Elliott talks to the Tigers' Official Matchday Programme

STUART ELLIOTT IS A MAN IN FORM AND IS ALREADY CLOSE TO BREAKING THE DOUBLE-FIGURES BARRIER IN TERMS OF GOALS THIS SEASON.

His contribution to last year's promotion campaign was sizeable and thus far he has made a big impression on Coca Cola League One, netting eight times.

The Northern Ireland international is happy with that but admits there is more to come, both from himself and the Tigers.

"It's been a mixed start really," he said. "We'd ideally like to be consistent but at the minute we're not.

"There is room for improvement but the good thing is that we haven't lost too much ground on the leaders.

"I don't think it's been any tougher than we'd anticipated because we always knew that it was going to be hard in this league.

"Obviously, with the good start we had some supporters believed that we'd be doing that week in week out but this isn't like League Two.

"We're up a league now and there are better players, better football teams and every game we're involved in this season is going to be a hard one.

"With regards to last Saturday, Bristol City have been chasing promotion in this league for as many years as I can remember. It was never going to be an easy trip but we're still staying positive.

"We were second best in that game and we know we can play a lot better but all I can say is that that's football for you.

"Some weeks you're going to be fantastic, as we've shown already this season, and then there's some weeks were you have an absolute shocker but I think our fans realise that the boys are totally committed and always give 100 per cent for the club.

"Hopefully in the upcoming games we can get maximum points and redress the balance a bit.

"Having said that, there are no trophies given out in October or November. We know it's a long season, we'll take it each game as it comes and then focus on the next one."

Today sees the Tigers take on Luton who are currently sitting pretty at the top-of-the-table with a five-point advantage over the chasing pack.

An 11-game unbeaten run at the start of the season is largely responsible for that but the Hatters come into this afternoon on the back of two straight defeats.

"It's going to be an electric game and hopefully the couple of defeats they've had has dented their confidence a little bit," Elliott added.

"To be honest with you we're at home, we expect to beat anybody at our place, make no bones about it.

"They're a good team and we'll give them the respect they're due but we'll not be fearing them.

"As far as we're concerned we're one of the big teams in this league as well.

"If we're going to do well this season, we're are going to need to win our home games and pick up results when we go away from home."

Elliott has just returned to the club following international duty where he scored a stoppage-time goal to salvage a point for Northern Ireland in their 3-3 draw with Austria.

After being selected in all of Lawrie Sanchez's squads so far this season, Elliott has clocked up a fair few air miles with games in far-flung countries such as Azerbaijan.

"I do enjoy it but I'd have to say the travelling is the worst thing. Being away from my family has hit me hard," Elliott said.

"Also, sometimes when you're travelling it takes a couple of days to get your body back into shape.

"Coming back on Thursday or Friday last week and then going straight in to the Bristol game after the euphoria of the Northern Ireland fixture was really hard for me.

"But when I'm here I'm focused and near family, that's when I'm at my best."

Despite scoring twelve goals in the Tigers' promotion campaign last year, Elliott wasn't fully fit throughout season as he struggled to shake off a viral infection.

However a return to full fitness has played a major part in his early season goalscoring form according to the man himself.

"I think it's been shown by the goals I've scored that my fitness has been first class and I put that down to having a good pre-season," he said.

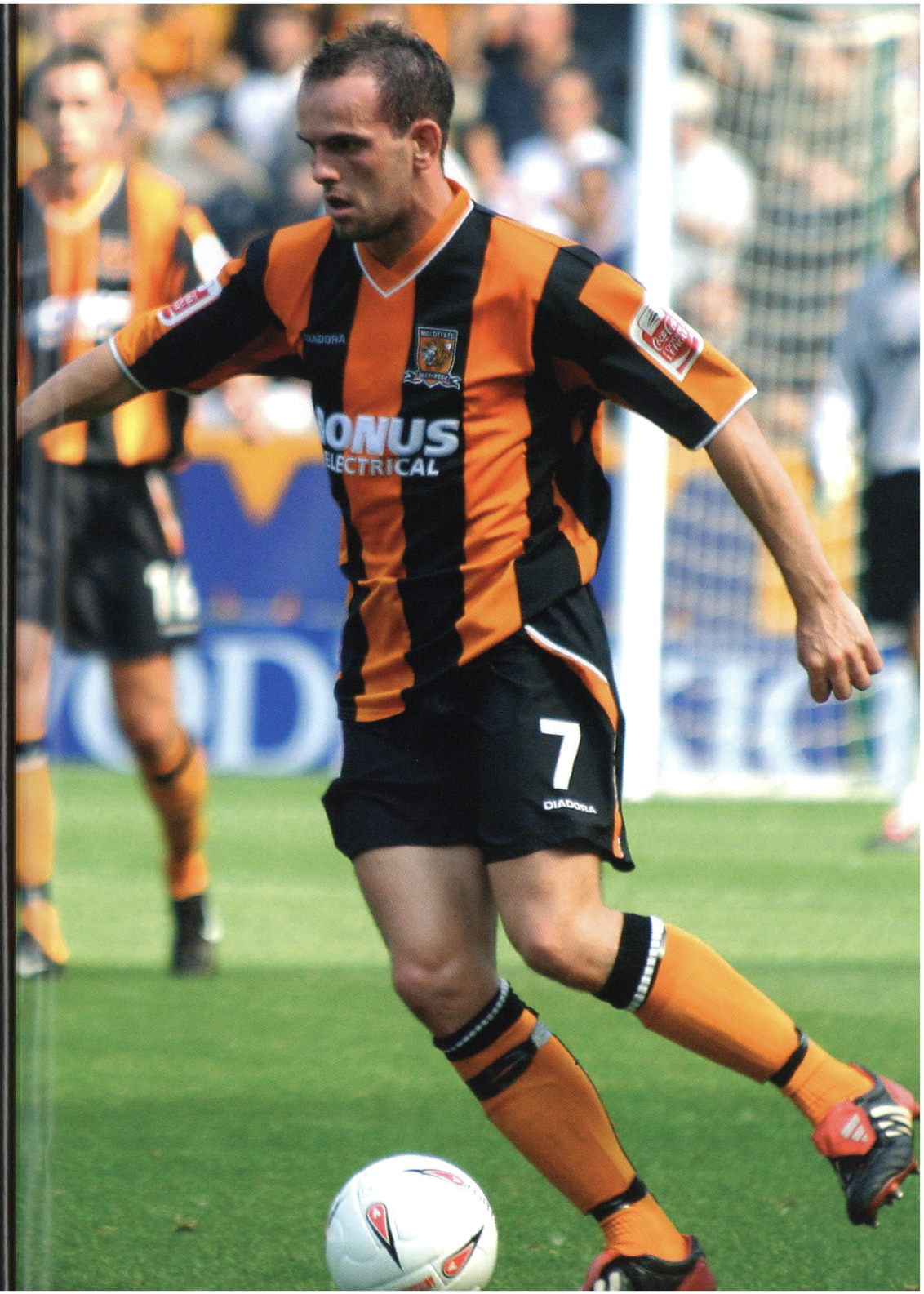
"Last year, we'd just had a new baby and everything else that comes along with that, as well as the illness and that was really difficult for me.

"But as I say, I've come back this year, I'm 100 per cent and you're hopefully going to see some good stuff from me.

"I've got eight goals in eleven or twelve games so far this season and I'm absolutely delighted with that.

"As I said at the beginning of the season, I've got my own targets and like I said then, I never tell anyone what they are but I'm definitely on course at the moment.

"Hopefully I can keep the goals coming, I know that at some stage in the season there'll be a lean spell but I've been scoring goals since I was a little boy so I'll not change anything now."



Left Foot Takes Flight

John Maffin talks to ex-Tiger Neil Williams

AS TIGERS FANS AT THE KC STADIUM SIT IN RELATIVE LUXURY, IN THE PRESS BOX REPORTERS SQUINT, IN A DESPERATE BID TO CAPTURE THE KEY MOMENTS OF THE GAME WITH A PASSAGE OF INSPIRED PROSE.

The Press Association presence at matches often takes the form of an ex-professional footballer who relays to headquarters a running commentary of the passes, saves, tackles and goals.

Ex-Tiger Neil Williams is no stranger to football action having graced the Boothferry Park turf in the mid 1980's - before transferring to Preston North End. Now a PA reporter at the KC, he remembers his playing days with affection.

A pupil of the grand-sounding King Harold School in Waltham Abbey, Neil distinguished himself in school football teams and eventually in junior Sunday League football.

Aged 14 he was recommended by the team manger to Tom Whalley who was the youth team boss at Watford.

"Seven or eight of us went for summer trials at Watford. In the end, five of us were accepted and signed schoolboy forms.

"As soon as I left school, I accepted an offer of an apprenticeship."

As a young player at Watford, Neil found himself in the ranks of a highly successful youth side that went on to win the FA Youth Cup. The final was played over two legs.

The London club triumphed 7-6 on aggregate against Manchester United with Neil scoring in the first game at Old Trafford. He also gained England Youth honours in that period.

"In my second year at Watford, Steve Harrison became coach under manager Graham Taylor. Steve was a bit of a character.

"I can remember practice games when he would come into the tackle with earthworms hanging out of his ears and nostrils.

"At one of our Christmas parties, the theme was 'What were you doing when the ship went down?' Steve came along with half a moustache and a toilet seat round his neck!"

Unfortunately, in his second season at the club, Neil sustained a fractured leg in training following a tackle from fellow player.

It was a freak incident when he moved in to challenge John Barnes who had just knocked the ball past him. As he stretched into the tackle, Neil's laces became snagged in the player's studs.

The incident took him out of the game for eleven months. The club was on a rising tide of success that lifted them into the old First Division.

With little opportunity to impress, Neil saw an influx of players at a more senior level and understood that when Hull City boss Brian Horton made an offer, it gave him a better chance of a first team place.

"Brian knew Eric Steele, the reserve keeper at Watford, from their time together at Brighton. Brian was on the lookout for someone and Eric recommended me to him.

"I received a call and accepted the move basically because I was offered a one-year deal as opposed to the 3 months I had been offered at Lincoln.

"I remember coming up to Hull on the train with Mike Ring. We arrived at Paragon Station and asked the taxi driver to take us to Boothferry Park.

"After a few minutes we arrived at this supermarket and the bloke started asking for money.

"We told him that we actually wanted to be at Boothferry Park Football ground and didn't want to be at a supermarket.

"The bloke then explained that it was built on the north side of the ground! On reflection, some of the fans would probably say we'd have been better-off stacking shelves but that's football!"

It was a good time for players to be involved in a Hull City a side going through a period of relative success.

Under Colin Appleton, the team had narrowly missed out on promotion the previous season on goal average. Appleton resigned and in came Brian Horton who won promotion in his first year at the club.

"Big Billy Whitehurst was in the side terrorising defences. You could see the fear in the eyes of centre-halves lining up against him.

"In fact some of us were also scared of getting too close! You had more chance of getting wiped out by Billy in a practice game, than by the opposition the following Saturday!"

Neil's ankle injury came to the fore again after an away match at Bristol City. He received a whack on the site of the break and it seemed one of the screws holding the bone in place had become dislodged.

"It was towards the end of the promotion season. Although I rested for about three weeks, the minute I put the leg under strain again, it flared up. I was out for the final few games of that great season."

With the Tigers promoted to the Second Division, they began pushing for a back-to-back success, finishing in sixth place.

Unfortunately, in the subsequent two years, the side was scrapping to stay up. Neil found himself in and out of the team. Eventually Horton was sacked on the back of some indifferent results.

"Personally I think the Chairman, Don Robinson, over-reacted. You only need a few fans screaming for the board to be sacked and suddenly the manager becomes the scapegoat.

"Nobby was a good manager. I was grateful to him for giving me a chance and he certainly could get the best from players at his disposal."

Neil was released at the end of the season. Dennis Booth and Tom Wilson had by then temporarily taken the management reigns. Preston North End manager John McGrath came in with an offer after he had taken the advice of ex-Tiger Gary Swann who was also at the Lancashire club.

Having arrived at North End, Neil understood the club's historic place in English Football. At the time, football icon Tom Finney was still to be seen in and around the ground.

What Neil couldn't have known at that time, was that team-mate Warren Joyce would later become a historic name at Hull City as a key figure in the club's Great Escape from relegation to the Conference.

"Warren became team captain at Preston playing in central midfield. With two midfielders playing wide, for most of the time he was up against two opposition players.

"Yet, he was in their faces all the time getting in the tackles. His work-rate was phenomenal.

"The late John McGrath was manager of Preston at the time. He was a good manager and I learnt a lot from him.

"His team talks were legendary because we sometimes didn't have a clue what he was on about.

"One day he called me in and told me that if a bird had a broken wing it wouldn't be able to fly out of his office.

"He then told me I was like that bird - because I didn't use my left foot enough! I was told to go away and practice with my left foot."

Some weeks later Neil curled a left foot shot into the top corner of the net during a 1-1 draw at Bury.

At a team meeting the following week, in his best Brian Clough voice, McGrath waxed lyrical about the left-foot strike and told Neil that he was no longer like the bird with a broken wing!

McGrath travelled the well-worn path of having a great first season, struggling in the second season and the board over-reacting shortly afterwards by administering the grand order of the boot.

"His team talks were legendary because we sometimes didn't have a clue what he was on about.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Williams with former team-mate Alex Dyer.

Celebrating his equalising goal in the Tigers' 2-2 draw with Leicester in October 1987.

Prankster Les Chapman, the club's player/coach, followed in his boss's footsteps.

"Les was another character in the game. When John was in charge giving one of his undecipherable team talks, he'd stand behind pulling funny faces.

"The boss would twig something was going on and would swivel round to find a serious looking Les doing some stretching exercises.

"The classic prank was when Les took the lads for some special training close to some hills and caves.

"Suddenly he ran off and disappeared. As we got up to the caves, he ran out stark naked and screaming with a lump of wood in his hand.

"What he hadn't bargained-on was two members of the public passing by at that very moment!"

After leaving Preston, Neil spent a year at Carlisle United under manager Aiden McCaffrey.

On this occasion, the boss succeeded in short-circuiting the well-trodden path of failure by getting sacked by Chairman Michael Knighton within weeks of Neil's arrival.

Despite the arrival of David McCreery United struggled in the old 4th Division.

"We struggled at Carlisle and it wasn't a really happy time for anyone with Knighton actually pulling the strings.

"Towards the end of my time there, for the first time in my career I was played as a sweeper and got the man-of-the match from the local paper. I was dropped for the next game and then released!"

Having escaped from Cumbria, Neil returned to the Hull area where Beverley-born wife Claire was settled.

They now have two children - Charles [4 years] and Francesca [7 years]. After a couple of games for North Ferriby United, he left the game, still plagued with calf problems that had bedevilled him since his Preston North End days.

Now a self-employed driving instructor, Neil also works for the Press Association, covering games at the KC Stadium.

During his time at Hull City, he played 75 League games, scoring on 9 occasions. City fans will particularly remember his pace and work-rate in the right side of midfield. They may also recall his birthday - the 40th anniversary of which is today.

Happy Birthday Neil!

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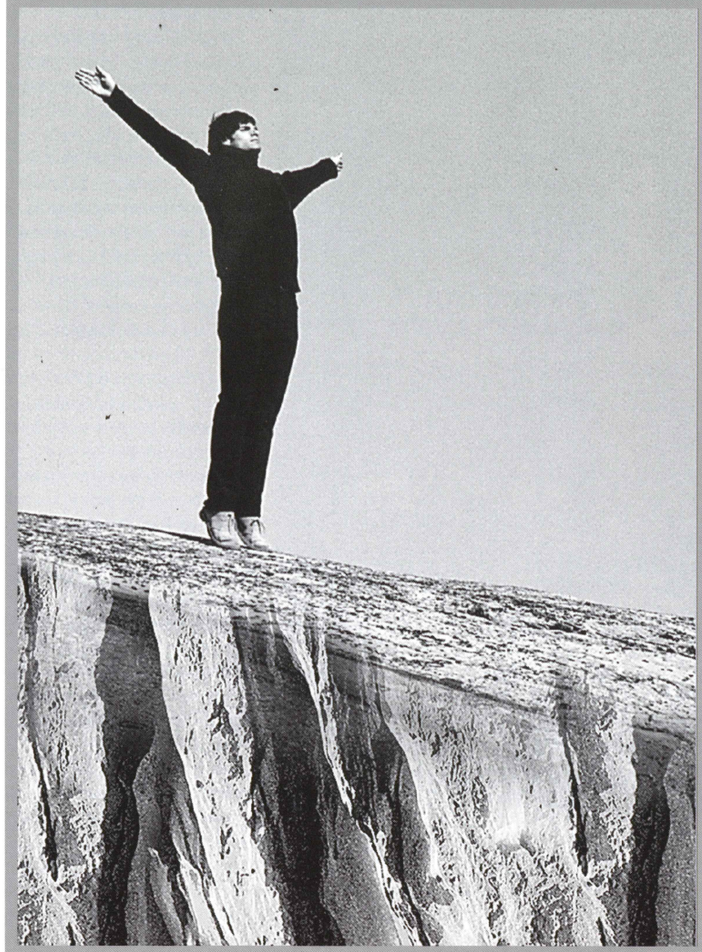

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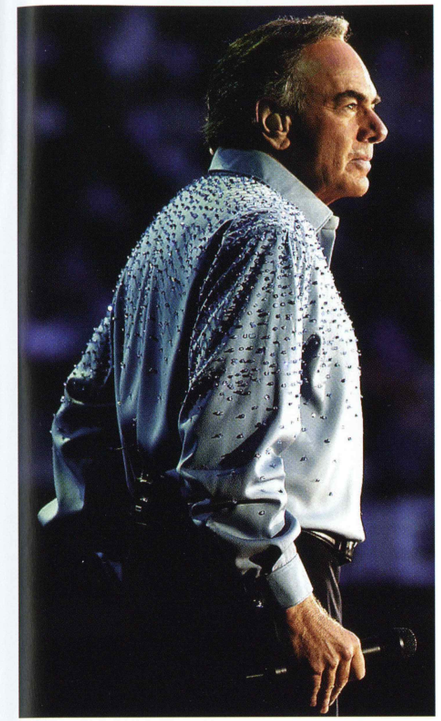

NEIL DIAMOND TO PLAY THE KC STADIUM

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Neil Diamond will bring his brand new breath-taking concert experience to the KC Stadium on Sunday 22nd May 2005, as part of his first world tour in 3 years.

Diamond's track record is outstanding - almost 60 hits in the US, more than 30 chart albums and status as one of the Top 20 most successful artists ever in the US. His success in the UK is comparable, with 26 chart albums and a vast and loyal fanbase.

And his reputation as the model singer-songwriter remains to this day. In August, Diamond broke box-office records when his tour of Australia went on sale, selling out two Melbourne shows within 20 minutes!

His appearance at the KC Stadium next summer is one of only four exclusive live outdoor UK dates which will also include Woburn Abbey, Ashton Gate Bristol and Portman Road Ipswich.

TICKET DETAILS

Tickets are now on sale via the dedicated ticket order lines priced from £35.

Call 08700 117 900 national lo-call number (10p per minute max.) or buy online: **www.ticketzone.co.uk** (Further details and alternative numbers available at www.kcstadium.co.uk/nd)

PLEASE NOTE, tickets WILL NOT be available in person from the KC Stadium until 9am on Monday 25th October 2004.

Fans wishing to purchase tickets in disabled areas will need to call the KC Stadium Ticket office on **0870 837 0004** from Mon 25th October (lines open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm).

Please note the KC Stadium Ticket Office will be closed on Saturday 30th & Sunday 31st October due to upgrading of systems.

For Hospitality Packages call the KC Stadium on **0870 837 0006** (lines open Mon-Fri 9.30am-5pm).

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For further information and seat plan visit www.kcstadium.co.uk/nd

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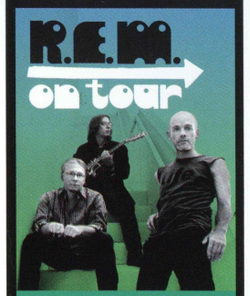

Tickets on sale by calling 08700 117 900 (national lo-call umber, 10p per minute max.), **online from www.ticketzone.co.uk and in person from the KC Stadium Ticket Office 0870 837 0004 priced from £35.**

All tickets subject to booking fee and promoters terms and conditions.

Fans wishing to purchase tickets in disabled areas should call the KC Ticket Office on 0870 837 0004 (lines open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm).

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US Supergroup REM are set to play the KC Stadium on Tuesday 5th July and you can now book a superb hospitality package with full event management and reserved Premium Plus seating in the deVries Honda West Stand. Call Concert Hospitality on 0870 837 0006 for further details (Mon-Fri 9,30am - 5pm)

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and our Survey Said...

Daily Telegraph writer Rob Stewart picks the bones out of a recent survey carried out on the grounds in the Football League.

THE SUNDAY NEWSPAPERS HAVE MADE FOR VERY PLEASANT READING FOR LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS THIS SEASON.

The team's advantage at the summit of League One seems to have widened on a weekly basis since the start of the new campaign with performances that will have had Hatters supporters gleefully pouring over the results and tables that become compulsory reading when your team's doing well.

A fortnight ago, however, Luton found itself second-top of a mini-table compiled by the Observer newspaper - which aimed to name and shame what it regarded as the worst football grounds in England.

Luton's 100-year-old, 9,975-capacity Kenilworth Road stadium was only kept off the top of the table by Gillingham's Priestfield ground and was just ahead of Rotherham's Millmoor ground.

There was, admittedly, little that was scientific about the poll with the opinions of fans, journalists canvassed as well as, the paper says, "lots of people on Internet chat rooms and down the pub who have been consulted".

I've never visited Kenilworth Road but one of the people who put the ground forward conjured up the most bizarre images.

"To enter the away end you have to walk up through a house - you go through the front door, up some stairs and from the top you can see all the other terrace houses along the road and it's not a pretty sight," said the dissatisfied customer.

"The seats are falling apart and packed so tightly you can barely breathe. Too many large pillars, executive boxes that look more like flats, horrible food, too many police."

The powers-that-be at Luton are obviously aware of the ground's limitations and, I understand, plans are well advanced to develop a new "state-of-the-art" stadium near Luton Airport in the next few years.

For many football supporters, unpleasant surroundings are regarded being badly undervalued commodities and certainly old grounds, creaking stands etc are woven into the fabric of our sporting heritage and individual memory banks.

Once the bulldozers move in at Kenilworth Road plenty of raw emotions will be pricked across Bedfordshire when a business park or new homes take over an area that was once graced by the likes of Ricky Hill, John Hartson, Mike Newell, Mick Harford and Mal Donaghy with David Pleat probably the club's best known manager.

"Now I live in Malvern, I rarely get to a home game but I took my father and son (a Wolves supporter) to see the Town play Wrexham last season," said one John Denton, as he responded to the Observer survey.

"We sat in the main stand on grubby plastic seats, peering around the stanchions to see the goal at the Oak Road end. I loved every minute of it: the smell of liniment and mown grass, the swell of noise as the chant of 'Loo'un' echoed around the ground and the ghosts of past memories.

"I've always been wary of succumbing to nostalgia, and yes, it's a crap ground - always has been. But, god, I'll miss it when it's gone."

"I've always been wary of succumbing to nostalgia, and yes, it's a crap ground - always has been. But, god, I'll miss it when it's gone."

Mr Denton, who first visited Kenilworth Road in 1957 as a seven-year-old, was able also to recall a series of extraordinary events such as keeper Ron Baynham running from the pitch as floodlight bulbs exploded over his head during a rainstorm while "during the 1950s and 1960s the floodlights seemed to be fitted with 60-watt bulbs, such was the gloom".

"OK, it's a hole, but 'the Kenny', as it's affectionately known, has some endearingly idiosyncratic appeal," season ticket-holder Tim Kingston added. "Yes, the away fans have to enter through turnstiles in the middle of Oak Road's terraced houses, but how many other grounds are so embedded within the local community?

"It's a dump, we know it, and tickets for the away end should come with an apology for the leg room. Evil old chairman David Evans banned away fans: subsequent incumbents have decided it's enough just to cripple them.

"We've been looking to move out for at least 45 years, but when we do - 2007 is the

proposed date - I hope the new ground isn't another sterile, out-of-town Meccano stadium."

Had the survey been carried out a few years ago, a betting man would have put good money on Boothferry Park occupying one of the top places in the simply-the-worst table.

Certainly, many visiting journalists would have been forgiven for placing City's old ground at the top of their list, especially ones suffering with vertigo because the rickety old steps that snaked high up the back of the old stand were not for the feint-hearted, especially on a windy day.

In the final few years, the sight of huge chunks of terracing being closed completely did little to inspire those off the field as well as those on the field.

The ground did, though, have redeeming features, most notably the playing surface which was always second-to-none and was better than many Premiership fields.

Another massive plus-point had little to do with the surroundings. It was all down to the people who paid good money to roar the Tigers on.

Public support was never more evident than a few years back when the club was in danger of going under. Rodney Rowe's goal against Leyton Orient in front of 8,782 fans back in October 2001 prompted such an outpouring of joy that I'm convinced the Humber Bridge trembled. It certainly moved the administrators who were then trying to save the club.

I went to watch the Tigers several times during my immensely happy four-year stint at the newsroom at the Hull Daily Mail and always left feeling as though I'd had value for money because it was always entertaining on the terraces.

Now I would say that I look back through rose-tinted spectacles.

My most memorable experience of watching the Tigers, though, came up at St James' Park when 5,000 people trekked up the A1 to Newcastle in the League Cup seven years ago.

It was the first time I'd seen Hull perform in a modern stadium in quite a few years and it dramatically changed my perspective.

That evening on Tyneside made me realise how much better it was to watch football in a more comfortable and safer environment with better facilities and better views for the paying public.

I was, therefore, delighted when the plans for the new KC Stadium finally gathered some momentum and I felt privileged to be sent to the official opening of the ground against Sunderland.

Peter Taylor duly guided his team to promotion and the new surroundings clearly played their part in the club's escape from the basement.

Architecturally, it is an awesome sight but socially it's also having a profound influence with many more women and children in attendance to voice their support. It's no longer a male bastion and that means the atmosphere is much friendlier.

And the more bums on seats, the more money chairman Adam Pearson will have to finance the club's continuing ascent up the ladder of English football.

I truly believe that the foundations have been provided that will eventually see City break with tradition by breaking into the top flight. I just hope that my beloved Huddersfield Town are able to keep pace with their Yorkshire rivals.

One thing is for certain, however, and that is that Philip Larkin's poetry is badly outdated. "I wish I could think of just one nice thing to say about Hull, oh yes.....it's very flat and nice for cycling," wrote Larkin.

No one can ever say that again.

For the record, other clubs that made it into the top 10 were: 4 the Withdean Stadium, Brighton; 5 Fratton Park, Portsmouth; 6 Selhurst Park, Crystal Palace; 7 Blundell Park, Grimsby; 8 Ninian Park, Cardiff; 9 National Hockey Stadium, Milton Keynes Dons; 10 Stamford Bridge, Chelsea.

Stadia that were bubbling under included the Madejski Stadium (Reading), Abbey Stadium (Cambridge), Kassam Stadium (Oxford), Layer Road (Colchester), Britannia Stadium (Stoke), Belle Vue/Earth Stadium (Doncaster), Pride Park (Derby) and White Hart Lane (Tottenham).

"It was the first time I'd seen Hull perform in a modern stadium in quite a few years and it dramatically changed my perspective."

ABOVE: Number One ground in the survey - Gillinham's Priestfield Stadium.

Former Tiger Rodney Rowe

Tigers fans cheering on their side in the 1997 FA Cup tie against Newcastle at St James Park.

Backing The Tigers

Steve Sands chats with former Tiger and Wales international Dave Roberts

AFTER LOSING TO ENGLAND AND AT HOME TO POLAND IN THE SPACE OF JUST 5 DAYS, MARK HUGHES LEFT THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE WITH WALES' WORLD CUP DREAMS SEEMINGLY IN TATTERS

However, ex-Tiger Dave Roberts is still able to look back with admiration on Mark Hughes' time in charge of the Welsh national team as he explains to Steve Sands.

"When Mark took over it was at the absolute pits really. The crowds were small and there was no enthusiasm for the National team at all.

"It had become a little bit of a 'joke' for the people in Wales.

"When Mark first took charge, I appeared on a couple of local television programmes down here and said 'if I was him I'd be looking to strengthen everything up at the back.'

"He needed to get back to the old days where teams didn't want to come and play in Wales because they knew that not only was the team going to be on their backs but the supporters were as well.

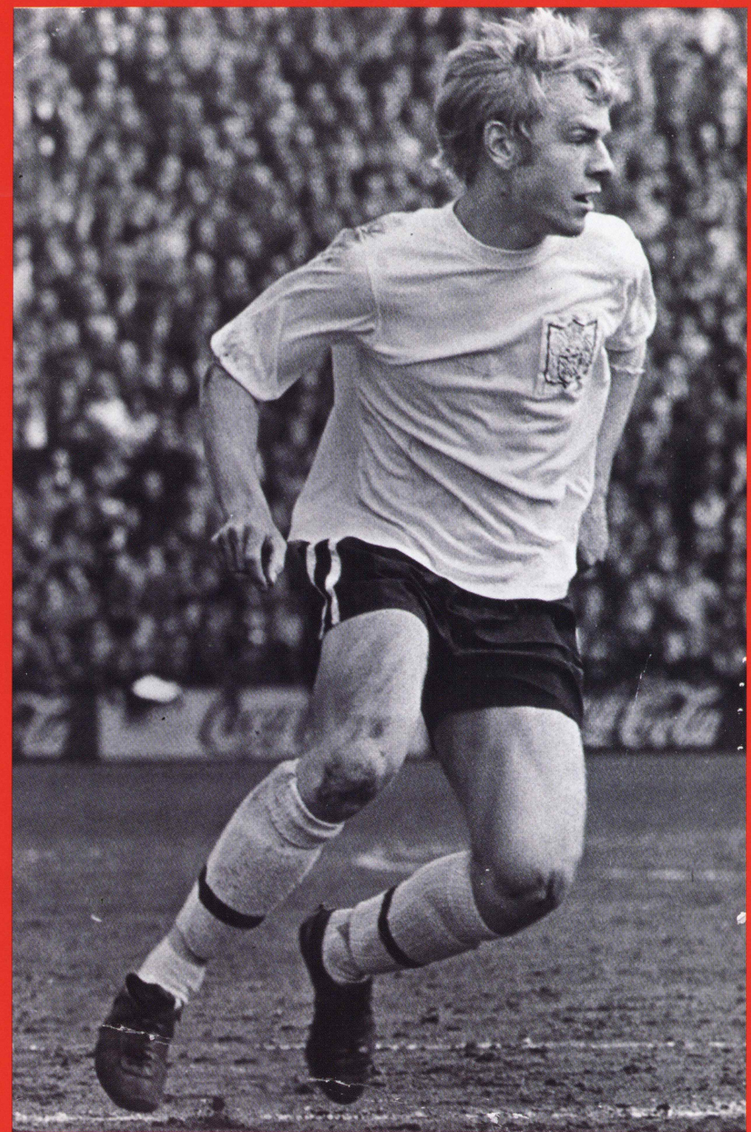
"But that had all fallen through with previous managers. But Mark, fair play to him, strengthened everything at the back and got them organised.

"The one thing that he has done is raise the profile of soccer in Wales back to and beyond what it was six or seven years ago."

Looking back to earlier glory days, Dave was able to recall that England don't always beat Wales.

"I was actually a Hull City player at the time" explained Dave remembering the occasion back in May 1977.

"I'd been out for nearly a year after a back operation and I was supposed to go over to America to help sort out the problem and get a bit of sun on my back.



"The one thing that he has done is raise the profile of soccer in Wales back to and beyond what it was six or seven years ago."

"But City had a few injuries and I had to play earlier than anticipated. It worked out well for me though, as I ended up getting back in the Welsh squad and playing at Wembley when we beat England 1-0.

"But City had a few injuries and I had to play earlier than anticipated. It worked out well for me though, as I ended up getting back in the Welsh squad and playing at Wembley when we beat England 1-0. It was extremely memorable, something I'd always dreamed of.

"It's in black and white mind you, but I've still got the game on video and watch it occasionally.

"I'm in a job 9-5, five days a week and sometimes I need to remind myself that I did actually play football and I did actually play for big clubs like Hull City and I did actually play at Wembley."

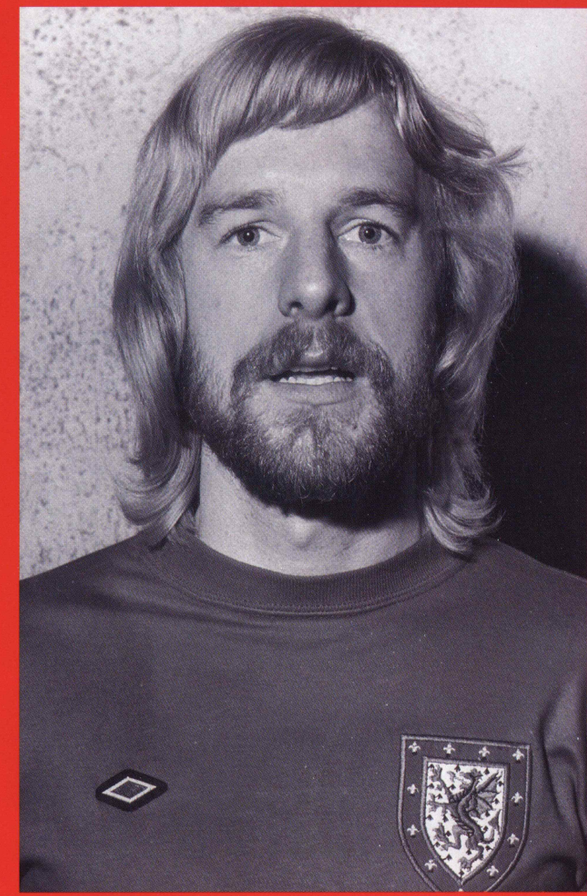
Looking back at the line-ups that day, there are plenty of Hull City connections. Ex-City favourite Stuart Pearson, played for England, alongside the likes of Kevin Keegan, Peter Shilton and another ex-Tiger Emlyn Hughes.

In the Welsh side, managed by another former Tigers' boss Mike Smith, were players like Terry Yorath, Brian Flynn and another former Tiger, Nick Deacy.

"It was one of the last games of Don Revie's tenure. He shot off and took the money in the desert after we beat them!" added Dave wryly.

Anyone who listened to BBC Radio Humberside last Saturday will have heard Dave Roberts providing the expert analysis alongside Alex Burgess during the live commentary from Ashton Gate. For those too young to remember Dave was, in the words of Mike Peterson ('Tiger Tales') 'one of the most consummate defenders ever to wear the Tigers colours', so he knows a little bit about football.

Having had time to reflect on last Saturday's game, I asked Dave for his considered opinion.



RIGHT: Roberts made 14 appearances for Wales during his career.

With a slight hesitation, suggesting that he didn't want to be too critical, Dave confessed:

"That's a difficult one. It's the first time I've seen City this season and I was disappointed after the first 10 or 15 minutes and I think that might have come across in comments I made immediately after the match.

"It might be that City were upset by a series of injuries but they did look rather disjointed at times. Bristol City were worthy 3-1 winners."

Dave, who clearly still has a soft spot for the Tigers, was happy though to concentrate on the positive aspects of the afternoon.

"As a former defender, I always look at the centre backs first. I thought there was maybe a little bit of work to be done with them but I thought essentially they looked as if they could be two strong guys who could do a good job in this Division.

"I've always thought that Stuart Green has got a lot of ability as a player.

"At Bristol he was maybe caught between a lot of positions, I think that frustrated him on the day. I see him as an out-and-out playmaker.

"The goal by Facey was a tremendous effort. He took it very well and then he tracks back. There was a breakaway late on in the game and he was on the edge of his

own box charging down a shot and clearing things up.

"Overall there were a few more minus points than plus points in the performance. But I did say that I've been there before myself and wondered why it hasn't quite happened in a particular game."

However, looking at the bigger picture, Dave is sure the Club is finally on the up. He remembers his own time at the club in the mid 70's and the obvious potential for football in Hull, as exemplified by his favourite memory involving Hull City.

"The game that helped fashion my career was against Hull City. I played for Oxford United against City, when 'Waggy', Chris Chilton, Ken Houghton and all those guys were playing.

"Terry Neil was the manager and there were nearly 30,000 in the ground, with City pushing for promotion.

"Little old Oxford came up and we beat City 1-0. It was one of my first games for Oxford and I suppose, if anybody from Hull can remember, it was a typical Roberts performance of heading, kicking and charging shots down - plenty of endeavour.

"It gave me the confidence to think I can make a career out of football after all because I was going through a bit of a confidence downer at the time.

"Signing for Hull City came completely out of the blue. But I remember that occasion, playing in front of nearly 30,000 at Boothferry Park.

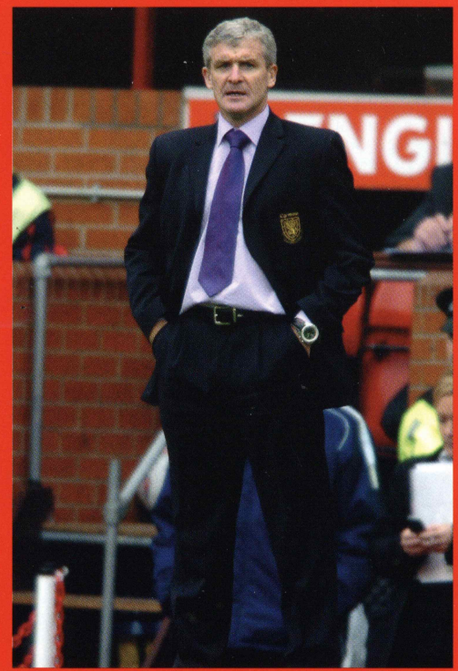
"I thought this can't be bad if a club of Hull's stature is interested in me.

"Unfortunately it didn't really work out and we didn't get to where the club deserved to be.

"They still deserve it now. The supporters and the infrastructure of the club are right and the Manager's right.

"I know one or two of the people in the backroom staff and they are right too. It is such a big club that it is big enough to move on to the next division this season.

"I just imagine that Bristol was a hiccup and that's how I'm going to view it.



CLOCKWIDE FROM TOP:

Departed Weslh manager Mark Hughes.

A possible successor to Hughes - John Toshack.

"I don't think it's time for a season of consolidation. If I was Hull, and I know Peter Taylor would probably think the same way as well, I'd say let's get out of this league as quickly as possible.

"I just want to be thought of as somebody who played football and knows that you have bad days like that.

"But these guys have got to take on board that they've had a bad day and say 'OK we're going to get criticised for it, so let's try and put it right.'

"In football at the moment if players get any criticism they seem to take it personally and think it's a disgrace.

"They say we're trying our hardest and we're kissing the badge and all that sort of thing but it's a little bit more than that.

"Players have got to understand that at least they can go out and put it right the next game. The likes of myself have got to go to work on a Monday morning these days.

"So I can see both sides of it now and know what it means to supporters. I saw the 1,000 or so supporters behind the goal at Bristol when Facey's goal went in.

"Everybody was thinking, 'well we've got a good week to look forward to now.'

"Then they lose and everybody's trailing home, a long journey back to Hull and dreading going to work on Monday.

"When I was a player I know I didn't appreciate how much a bad performance or a bad defeat hurts the supporters.

"But I know they'll get it right and I'll still be having a couple of quid on them to get up this season, because of the club, the infrastructure, the Hull City Management team and all of the quality players you have there"

Finally, Dave gave his his thoughts on the Managerial vacancy in his neck of the woods.

"Funnily enough, I helped put an article together with one of the journalists in Cardiff recently.

"There were 3 in the running - Ian Rush, John Toshack and Brian Flynn. We put criteria for each manager and marked them out of 10 on things like coaching ability, baggage etc.

"I've got to be honest 'Tosh' came out better than anyone else by a mile.

"The only thing that might stop him getting the job is that the authorities might be a bit wary of him because he's a big impressive bloke who's got a mind of his own.

"That might just put the Welsh FA off a bit and might put the players off a little bit as well."

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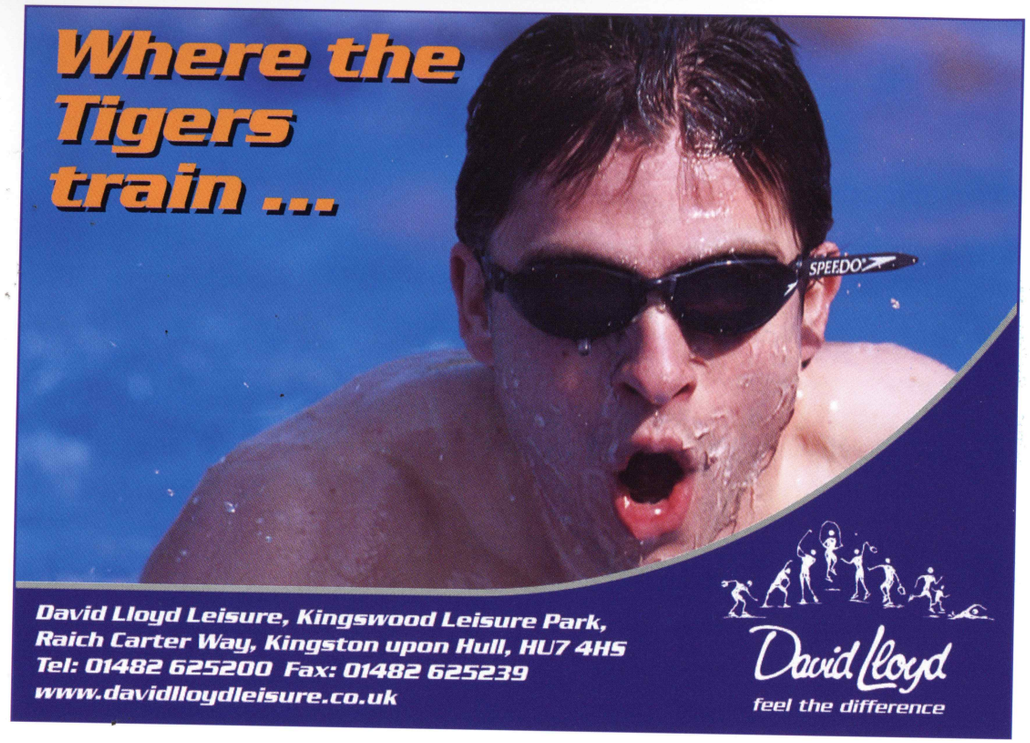


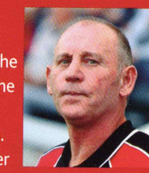
Coca-Cola League 1 NEWS

> Fulham midfielder Liam Rosenior will not be returning to **TORQUAY UNITED** according to his father and Gulls, Leroy.

The 20-year-old spent some time at Plainmoor towards the end of last season and had been tipped for a return this season but his father was quick to dismiss a move.

"Liam has been in the first team squad at Fulham for the last couple of weeks and he's captain of their reserves," Rosenior said.

"We've got quite a few midfield players at the club now and I'm trying to strengthen our squad in other positions."



> **WREXHAM** boss Denis Smith is taking a look at two trialists at the Racecourse grounds as he looks to guide his side into play off contention.

Both Finnish midfielder Jarno Heinikangas and Spanish forward Juan Ugarte have been training with the Welsh outfit looking to secure a permanent deal.

Heinikangas is a former Finnish Under-21 international while Ugarte can boast Real Sociedad as one of his former clubs but has recently been training at Doncaster Rovers.

> **HARTLEPOOL UNITED** boss Neale Cooper has agreed a deal with Championship side Leeds United to extend Martin Wood's loan spell at Victoria Park for a further month.

Woods introduced himself to the Pool fans in the best way setting up three goals on his first appearance for the club in the 4-1 win against Torquay last month and has gone to make a further four appearances in his first month at the club.

Cooper said: "Martin has got good feet and he likes to come inside. He is confident with his passing and he always looks for the right ball."

> **SWINDON TOWN** have signed Christian Roberts on a two-and-a-half year deal from Bristol City. The initial fee is £20,000, but an additional £30,000 is based on appearances and performances, and there is also an undisclosed sell-on clause.

Swindon boss Andy King said: "He gives me another option. Roberts fits the bill that I have been looking for."

Roberts made the perfect start for his new club, scoring the only goal in the victory over Oldham Athletic at the County Ground last Saturday.

> **SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY's** Danish striker Kim Olsen has left Hillsborough after having his contract terminated by mutual consent.

The 25-year-old made 12 appearances for the Owls since joining back in February earlier this year but has not figured so far this season.

New Owls boss Paul Sturrock has decided to release the Dane to allow him to pursue his career elsewhere.

> **MILTON KEYNES DONS** boss Stuart Murdoch has been dealt a huge blow with the news that midfielder Gary Smith will face a spell on the sidelines.

20-year-old Smith picked up a nasty ankle ligament injury during his sides 0-0 draw with Brentford last weekend and was forced to hobble off in the first half.

Smith will be out of action for at least six weeks after it was confirmed that the former Middlesbrough man had ruptured his ankle ligaments.

> **BRISTOL CITY** have moved to end speculation that a takeover bid is about to be made for the club. Bristol City Holdings Limited issued a statement on the club's website to deny that Jon Maguire had any intention of making a bid for the club.

Following speculation in the press, the Company stated that Mr Maguire's sole interest was to put forward ideas to reverse what he believed to be the very poor performance of the club over the past ten years.

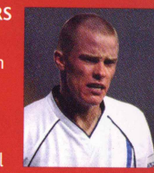
Meanwhile, Bristol Rugby Club have approached the Robins with a view to using Ashton Gate for their home games. The rugby club currently play at Bristol Rovers' Memorial Stadium ground, which was ironically purchased from the rugby club, but a move across the city would allow them to meet the Rugby Union Premiership ground regulations.

The Robins chief executive Colin Sexstone said: "We would like to do what we can to help the rugby club. But any decision made would have to be beneficial to the football club and we have asked Bristol to supply us with more details before we discuss it further."

> Dele Adebola has extended his loan spell at **BRADFORD CITY** into a third month.

However, Football League rules mean that, as he is older than 23, he cannot extend the loan period beyond three months.

The Coventry City striker has also been attracting the attention of Rotherham United boss Ronnie Moore.



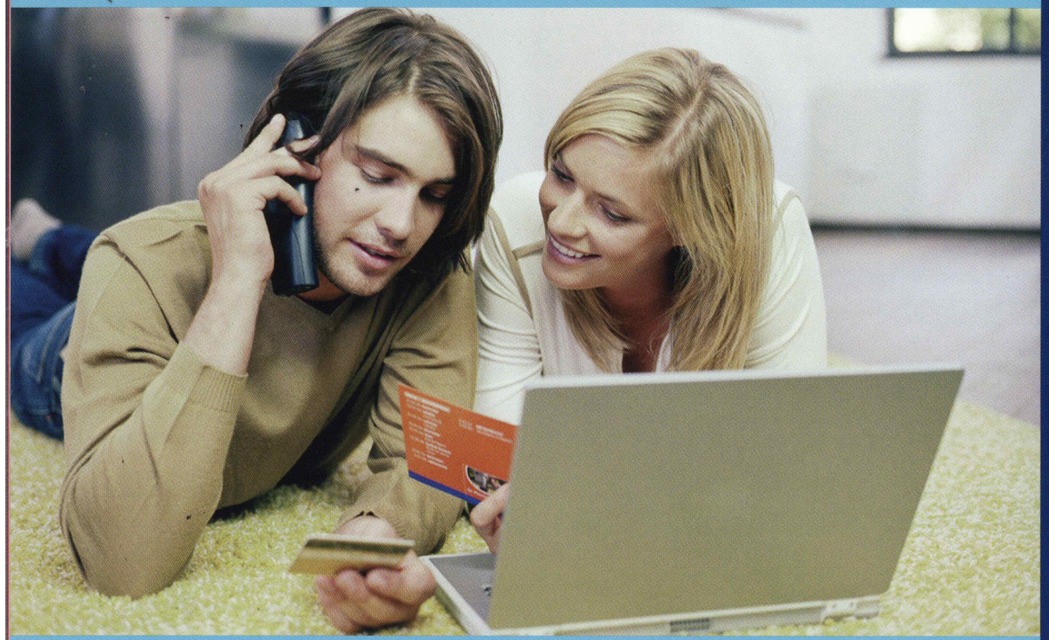
> **TRANMERE ROVERS** boss Brian Little has turned down a bid from Championship side Preston North End for winger Iain Hume.

Canadian international Hume has been in fine form this season scoring six goals in his 12 appearances which has caught the eye of Lillywhites boss Billy Davies.

North End Chairman Derek Shaw confirmed to the club's official website that his side did lodge a bid: "I can confirm that reports in a national newspaper this morning are correct - that we have made a bid for Iain Hume," he said.

"He is a player Billy identified in his first week in charge of the club as someone he would like to add to the squad and the board have backed his judgement with a very generous offer."

KAROO
BROADBAND



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COMING NEXT at the KC Stadium

HULL CITY V WALSALL

COCA-COLA LEAGUE ONE
SATURDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2004
KICK OFF 3.00PM

PAUL MERSON'S WALSALL ARE THE NEXT VISITORS THE KC STADIUM IN TWO WEEKS TIME WHEN THEY WILL BE LOOKING FOR A WIN TO CLIMB UP THE LEAGUE ONE TABLE AND CHALLENGE FOR A PLAY-OFF POSITION.

Relegated last season, it hasn't been the greatest of starts to life in a lower league for the Saddlers, who at the time of writing are situated in 18th in League One with 14 points from a possible 39.

Life in management started well enough for Merson with a 3-2 win over Port Vale on the opening day of the season but the former England international then had to wait five games before seeing his side win again, with another 3-2 victory, this time against Swindon.

Once more, it was five league games before Walsall won again with a 2-1 win over Colchester following a run of four defeats and a draw.

All three of the Saddlers' league victories have come at the Bescot Stadium this season and Merson will be looking improve his side's away form that has seen them concede 15 goals in just seven games.

Merson will also be looking for his strike partnership of Matty Fryatt and Jorge Leitao to get back amongst the goals after a lean spell of late.

Fryatt started the season positively with five goals in his first six games but the 18-year-old has now gone seven matches without finding the back of the net while Leitao is also finding the goals hard to come by with just one in his last eight appearances.

The Saddlers are not tipped to be in a promotion place come the end of May with odds of 12/1 while odds of 10/3 can be found on Merson's side occupying one of the four relegation places at the end of the season.

In the head-to-head statistics, the Tigers are ahead with 12 wins from the 24 meetings that have taken place between the two sides.

City have only ever come up against Walsall in league matches with the last fixture in the old Division Two ending as a 3-0 win for Walsall back in 1996.

Martin Butler gave the Saddlers the lead after 25 minutes and that's the way it stayed until half time.

Just two minutes after the restart, Kyle Lightbourne, who went on to play for the Tigers, doubled the lead before Clive Platt sealed the win and all three points with just five minutes remaining.

Just a month earlier, both sides had met for the first time in the season but on this occasion it was the Tigers who came out on top.

In front of 3,060 spectators at Boothferry Park, Greg Abbott gave Terry Dolan's Tigers side a vital win as they looked to fight off relegation with the only goal of the game coming on 79 minutes.

However, it wasn't enough and at the end of the season the Tigers were relegated, finishing bottom of the league and 21 points away from safety.

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Comp	Hull City Wins	Draws	Walsall Wins
League	12	7	5
Total	12	7	5

match statistics 2004/05

ALL FIXTURES COCA-COLA LEAGUE ONE UNLESS SHOWN OTHERWISE. ALL KICK OFF TIMES AT 3.00PM UNLESS SHOWN OTHERWISE.

KEY: First Sub[1] Second Sub[2] Third Sub[3] Goalscorer[1]

DATE	VERSUS	H/A	RES	HT	POS	ATT	AWAY ATT	LINE-UP										SUBS					SCORERS
Sat Aug 7	**A.F.C. Bournemouth**	H	**W1-0**	**1-0**	**9**	17,569	401	Myhill	Hinds	Dawson	Joseph[1]	Delaney	Green[1]	Ashbee	Lewis	Elliott	Allsopp[2]	Barmby[3]	Duke	Cort[1]	France	Walters[2]	Wilbraham[3]	**Green (pen) 4**
Tue Aug 10	Torquay United	A	W3-0	2-0	2	3,973	956	Myhill	Hinds	Dawson	Cort	Delaney	Green[1]	Ashbee	Lewis	Elliott[2]	Allsopp[2]	Barmby[3]	Duke	Price	France[1]	Walters[2]	Wilbraham[3]	Green 9, Elliott 19,57
Sat Aug 14	Port Vale	A	L2-3	1-1	3	6,736	1,568	Myhill	Hinds[3]	Dawson	Cort	Delaney	Green[1]	Ashbee	Lewis	Elliott[1]	Allsopp[2]	Barmby[1]	Duke	Joseph	France[1]	Walters[2]	Facey[3]	Barmby 14, Elliott 89
Sat Aug 21	**Oldham Athletic**	H	**W2-0**	**2-0**	**2**	16,916	1,195	Myhill[1]	Joseph	Dawson	Cort	Delaney	Green[1]	Ashbee	Lewis	Elliott[3]	Allsopp[1][2]	Barmby	Duke[1]	Keane	France	Walters[2]	Facey[3]	**Allsopp 27, Green 45**
Tue Aug 24	**Wrexham CC 1**	H	D2-2 L1-3 pens	1-2	-	6,079	84	Duke	Joseph	Cort	Delaney	Edge[1]	Price[3]	Ashbee	Keane[1]	France[1]	Facey[2]	Walters	Dawson[1]	Elliott[2]	Allsopp	Green[3]	Hinds	**Keane 22, France 67**
Sat Aug 28	Barnsley	A	W2-1	0-1	3	13,175	3,600	Myhill	Joseph[2]	Cort	Delaney	Dawson	Green[3]	Ashbee	Lewis	Elliott[1]	Wilbraham	Barmby	Duke	Allsopp[1]	Keane[1][2]	France[3]	Walters	Elliott 58, Keane 88
Tue Aug 31	**Bradford City**	H	**L0-1**	**0-0**	**4**	16,865	575	Myhill	Joseph	Cort	Delaney	Dawson	Green[2]	Ashbee	Lewis	Elliott	Wilbraham[3]	Barmby[1]	Duke	Allsopp[1]	Keane	France[2]	Walters[3]	
Sun Sep 5	Huddersfield Town	A	L0-4	0-2	6	13,542	3,225	Myhill	Joseph	Cort	Hinds[2]	Dawson	France	Ashbee	Lewis	Allsopp	Wilbraham[3]	Barmby	Duke	Edge	Keane	Walters[3]	Price[2]	
Sat Sep 11	**Blackpool**	H	**W2-1**	**1-1**	**3**	15,568	657	Myhill	Joseph	Cort	Delaney	Dawson	Green[1]	Ashbee	France	Elliott[1]	Allsopp[3]	Barmby[2]	Duke	Lewis	Keane	Price[1]	Walters[2]	**Green 14, Elliott 57**
Sat Sep 18	Peterborough Utd	A	W3-2	1-1	2	5,795	1,637	Myhill	Joseph[3]	Cort[1]	Lewis	Dawson	Ashbee	Keane	France	Elliott[2]	Allsopp[2]	Wilbraham[3]	Duke	Walters[1]	Green	Price[2]	Thelwell[3]	Elliott 23,65, Cort 50
Sat Sep 25	**Stockport County**	H	**D0-0**	**0-0**	**3**	16,182	314	Myhill	Thelwell[1]	Cort	Lewis	Dawson	Ashbee	Keane	France	Elliott	Allsopp[2]	Wilbraham[3]	Duke	Green[1]	Price[2]	Edge	Walters[3]	
Tue Sep 28	Hartlepool Utd LDV 1	A	D3-3 L1-3 pens	1-0	-	1,535	72	Myhill	Thelwell[2]	Hinds	Lewis	Edge	Price[1]	Ashbee	Green[1]	Keane[3]	Facey[2]	Walters	Duke[1]	Wiseman[2]	Elliott[1][3]	Allsopp	France	Price 12, Green 46, Elliott 107
Sat Oct 2	Hartlepool Utd	A	L0-1	0-2	5	5,768	934	Duke	Thelwell[1]	Dawson	Delaney	Lewis	Green	Ashbee	Keane	Elliott	Allsopp[2]	Wilbraham	France[1]	Cort	Edge	Facey[2]	Price[3]	
Sun Oct 10	**Chesterfield**	H	**W1-0**	**0-0**	**3**	15,500	1,035	Myhill	Price[1]	Dawson	Delaney	Lewis	Keane	Ashbee	Cort	Walters[2]	Green[1]	France	Joseph[1]	Allsopp	Edge	Facey[2]	Wilbraham	**Green 64**
Sat Oct 16	Bristol City	A	L1-3	0-1	4	12,011	797	Myhill	Joseph	Delaney	Cort	Dawson	France[1]	Green	Lewis	Keane[2]	Elliott	Facey[1]	Allsopp[1]	Price[2]	Walters	Edge	Hinds	Facey 54
Wed Oct 20	**Milton Keynes Dons**	H	**W3-2**	**1-1**	**4**	14,137	70	Myhill	Wiseman	Dawson	Joseph	Delaney	France[2]	Lewis	Green[2]	Elliott[1]	Barmby[3]	Facey	Keane[1][2]	Allsopp[2]	Price[1]	Hinds	Brock	**Green 1,90, Keane 87**
Sat Oct 23	**Luton Town**	H																					
Sat Oct 30	Wrexham	A																					
Sat Nov 6	**Walsall**	H																					
Sat Nov 13	F.A. Cup 1																						
Sat Nov 20	Swindon Town	A																					
Sat Nov 27	**Brentford**	H																					
Wed Dec 8	Sheffield Wednesday	A	7.45pm																				
Sat Dec 11	Colchester Utd	A																					
Sat Dec 18	**Tranmere Rovers**	H																					
Sun Dec 26	Blackpool	A																					
Wed Dec 29	**Doncaster Rovers**	H	**7.45pm**																				
Sat Jan 1	**Huddersfield Town**	H																					
Mon Jan 3	Stockport County	A																					
Sat Jan 8	Chesterfield	A																					
Sat Jan 15	**Peterborough Utd**	H																					
Sat Jan 22	Doncaster Rovers	A																					
Sat Jan 29	**Hartlepool Utd**	H																					
Sat Feb 5	**Bristol City**	H																					
Sat Feb 12	Luton Town	A																					
Sat Feb 19	**Wrexham**	H																					
Tue Feb 22	Milton Keynes Dons	A	7.45pm																				
Sat Feb 26	**Colchester United**	H																					
Sat Mar 5	Tranmere Rovers	A																					
Sat Mar 12	**Torquay Utd**	H																					
Sat Mar 19	A.F.C. Bournemouth	A																					
Sat Mar 26	**Port Vale**	H																					
Mon Mar 28	Oldham Athletic	A																					
Sat Apr 2	**Barnsley**	H																					
Sun Apr 10	Bradford City	A	1.00pm																				
Sat Apr 16	**Swindon Town**	H																					
Sat Apr 23	Walsall	A																					
Sat Apr 30	**Sheffield Wednesday**	H																					
Sat May 7	Brentford	A																					

TIGERS MASCOTS

BRADLEY MCKENZIE

Bradley is 9 years-old and attends Cavendish Primary School. His favourite players are Stuart Green, Jon Walters and Jason Price.

BEN MCKENZIE

Six year-old Ben's favourite players are Nick Barmby, Stuart Elliott and Ben Burgess. He attends Cavendish Primary School in Hull.

MESSAGES

> Happy 14th birthday Luke Kelsey, enjoy the match!
Love from Mum, Dad and Leann.

> Happy 8th birthday Alex Brown, love mum, dad and Adam.

> Happy 40th birthday Ian Vicker for 28th October, lots of love from Michelle and Hayley x

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roll call 2004/05

		2004/2005 FULL	SUB	GLS	TIGERS CAREER FULL	SUB	GLS	CAREER TOTAL FULL	SUB	GLS	
1	BOAZ MYHILL	13	0	0	36	0	0	55	0	0	LEAGUE
	Modesto, 9/11/82	14	0	0	37	0	0	58	0	0	TOTAL
2	ALTON THELWELL	2	1	0	24	5	1	37	10	1	LEAGUE
	Islington, 5/9/80	3	1	0	26	5	1	39	13	1	TOTAL
3	ANDY DAWSON	14	0	0	46	1	3	238	4	11	LEAGUE
	Northallerton, 20/10/78	14	1	0	47	2	3	270	5	14	TOTAL
4	IAN ASHBEE	12	0	0	82	0	3	275	11	14	LEAGUE
	Birmingham, 6/9/76	14	0	0	88	0	4	312	12	15	TOTAL
5	LEON CORT	11	1	1	11	1	1	146	3	12	LEAGUE
	Bermondsey, 11/9/79	12	1	1	12	1	1	171	3	13	TOTAL
6	MARC JOSEPH	9	1	0	63	2	1	259	20	3	LEAGUE
	Leicester, 10/11/76	10	1	0	66	2	1	293	23	3	TOTAL
7	STUART ELLIOTT	12	0	7	84	6	33	134	26	55	LEAGUE
	Belfast, 23/7/78	12	2	8	85	10	34	138	32	57	TOTAL
8	NICK BARMBY	9	0	1	9	0	1	283	34	54	LEAGUE
	Hull, 11/2/74	9	0	1	9	0	1	342	52	76	TOTAL
9	BEN BURGESS	0	0	0	51	0	22	118	4	43	LEAGUE
	Buxton, 9/11/81	0	0	0	53	0	22	132	6	46	TOTAL
10	DANNY ALLSOPP	9	4	1	40	9	16	150	45	67	LEAGUE
	Melbourne, 10/8/78	9	4	1	41	9	16	167	55	80	TOTAL
11	JON WALTERS	1	9	0	17	20	6	24	25	6	LEAGUE
	Birkenhead, 20/09/83	3	9	0	19	20	6	30	27	6	TOTAL
12	MATT DUKE	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	LEAGUE
	Sheffield, 16/6/1977	2	2	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	TOTAL
14	STUART GREEN	11	1	7	76	6	19	101	7	24	LEAGUE
	Whitehaven, 15/6/81	12	2	8	80	7	20	108	8	25	TOTAL
15	ROLAND EDGE	0	0	0	0	0	0	113	9	1	LEAGUE
	Gillingham, 25/11/78	2	0	0	2	0	0	142	10	1	TOTAL
16	DAMIEN DELANEY	11	0	0	87	0	3	110	6	4	LEAGUE
	Cork, 20/7/81	12	0	0	91	0	3	116	7	4	TOTAL
17	DELROY FACEY	2	4	1	2	4	1	63	57	23	LEAGUE
	Huddersfield, 22/4/80	4	4	1	4	4	1	75	60	23	TOTAL
18	JASON PRICE	1	7	0	30	11	9	212	37	38	LEAGUE
	Pontypridd, 12/4/77	3	7	1	35	11	11	243	38	47	TOTAL
19	JUNIOR LEWIS	13	0	0	26	0	1	128	21	13	LEAGUE
	Wembley, 9/10/73	14	0	0	27	0	1	149	25	13	TOTAL
20	MICHAEL KEANE	5	2	2	5	2	2	51	20	7	LEAGUE
	Dublin, 29/12/82	7	2	3	7	2	3	60	21	8	TOTAL
22	AARON WILBRAHAM	6	2	0	6	2	0	124	56	35	LEAGUE
	Knutsford, 21/10/79	6	2	0	6	2	0	134	59	36	TOTAL
28	RICHARD HINDS	4	0	0	38	5	1	80	18	1	LEAGUE
	Sheffield, 22/8/80	5	0	0	41	6	1	92	24	1	TOTAL
29	RYAN FRANCE	7	5	0	14	26	2	14	26	2	LEAGUE
	Sheffield, 13/12/80	8	5	1	17	26	4	17	26	4	TOTAL
30	SCOTT WISEMAN	1	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	LEAGUE
	Hull, 09/10/85	1	1	0	1	3	0	1	3	0	TOTAL
32	STUART BROCK	0	0	0	0	0	0	135	0	0	LEAGUE
	West Bromwich, 26/09/76	0	0	0	0	0	0	154	0	0	TOTAL
34	RUSSELL FRY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	LEAGUE
	Hull, 4/12/85	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	TOTAL

NOTES: 1) As well as League, FA Cup and League Cup, figures in the Total Appearances rows include games played in 'Other' competitions such as the Play-Offs, European competitions and the Auto Windscreens Shield i.e. competitions that are open to all League clubs. This doesn't include friendlies which are by invitation 2) International matches not included 3) Totals for Ian Ashbee do not include his appearances for IR Knattspyrnudeild 4) Totals for Stuart Elliott do not include his appearances for Glentoran 5) Totals for Danny Allsopp do not include his appearances for clubs in Australia 6) Totals for Alton Thelwell do not include his appearances for IFK Haisleholm 7) Totals for Ryan France do not include his appearances for Alfreton Town 8) Totals for Leon Cort do not include his appearances for Dulwich Hamlet, Forest Green Rovers and Stevenage Borough 9) Totals for Junior Lewis do not include his appearances for Dover Athletic and Hendon 10) Totals for Aaron Wilbraham do not include his appearances for Moss FK 11) Figures relating to League, FA Cup and League Cup include equivalent in Scottish competitions

HULL CITY

1	Boaz MYHILL	☐
2	Alton THELWELL	☐
3	Andrew DAWSON	☐
4	Ian ASHBEE	☐
5	Leon CORT	☐
6	Marc JOSEPH	☐
7	Stuart ELLIOTT	☐
8	Nick BARMBY	☐
9	Ben BURGESS	☐
10	Danny ALLSOPP	☐
11	Jon WALTERS	☐
12	Matt DUKE	☐
14	Stuart GREEN	☐
15	Roland EDGE	☐
16	Damien DELANEY	☐
17	Delroy FACEY	☐
18	Jason PRICE	☐
19	Junior LEWIS	☐
20	Michael KEANE	☐
21	Nathan PEAT	☐
22	Aaron WILBRAHAM	☐
28	Richard HINDS	☐
29	Ryan FRANCE	☐
30	Scott WISEMAN	☐
32	Stuart BROCK	☐
33	Clayton DONALDSON	☐
34	Russell FRY	☐

LUTON TOWN

☐	Marlon BERESFORD	1
☐	Kevin FOLEY	2
☐	Alan NEILSON	3
☐	Russell PERRETT	5
☐	Paul UNDERWOOD	6
☐	Paul HUGHES	7
☐	Kevin NICHOLLS	8
☐	Rowan VINE	9
☐	Gary MCSHEFFREY	10
☐	Steve ROBINSON	11
☐	Chris COYNE	12
☐	Michael LEARY	14
☐	Stephen O'LEARY	15
☐	Enoch SHOWUNMI	16
☐	Lee MANSELL	17
☐	Ahmet BRKOVIC	18
☐	Steve HOWARD	19
☐	Curtis DAVIES	20
☐	Keith KEANE	21
☐	David BAYLISS	22
☐	Ian HILLIER	23
☐	Sol DAVIS	24
☐	Dino SEREMET	25
☐	Matthew BLINKHORN	26
☐	Peter HOLMES	27
☐	Calvin ANDREW	29
☐	Dean BRILL	33
☐	David DEENEY	36
☐	Stuart SINCLAIR	37
☐	Leon BARNETT	45
☐	Max HOWELL	46
☐	Rob BECKWITH	47

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