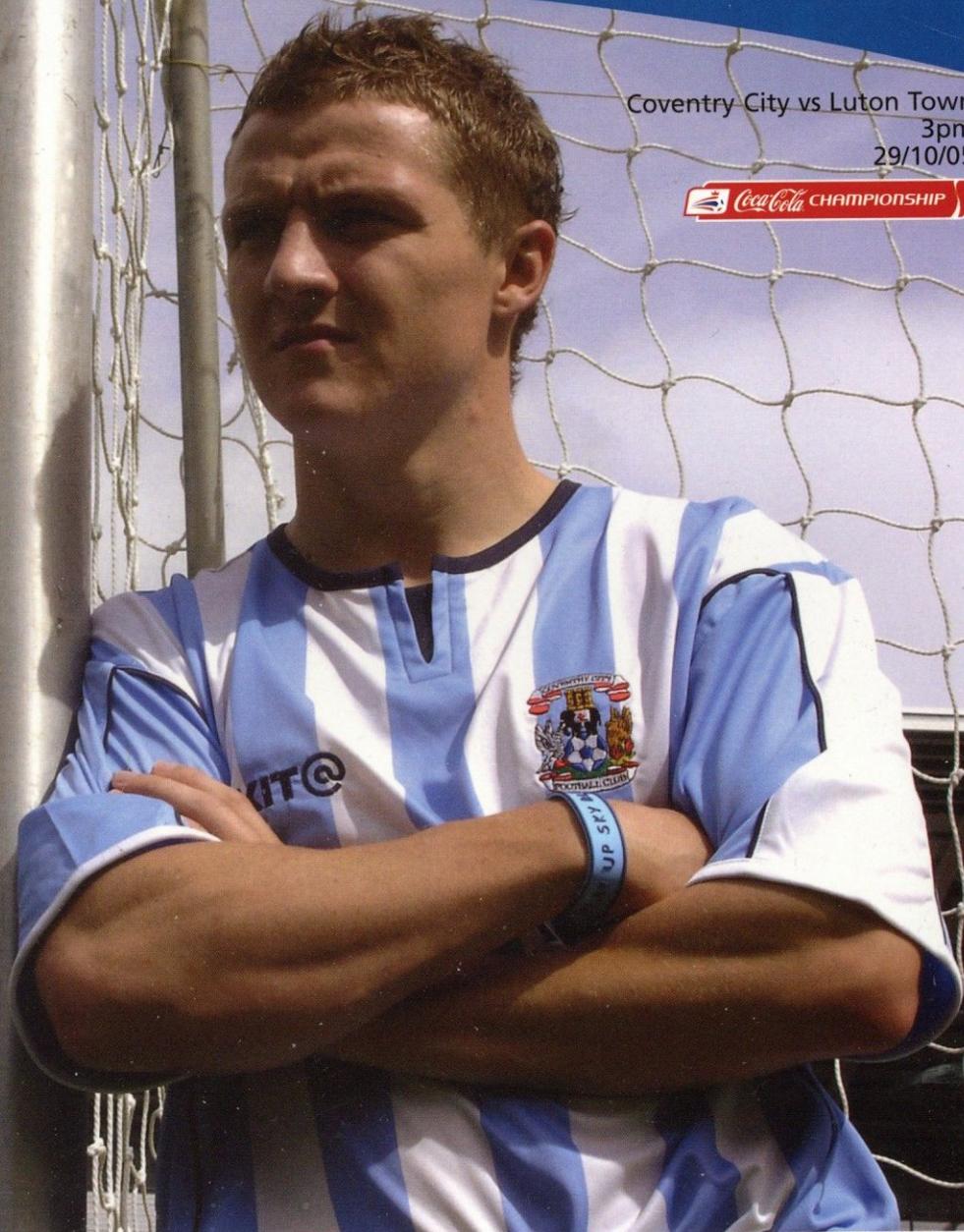
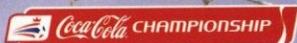




SKYBLUES

Coventry City Official
Matchday Magazine,
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ISSUE7
INSIDE
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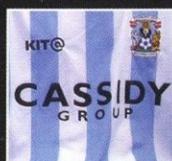
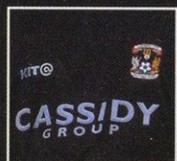
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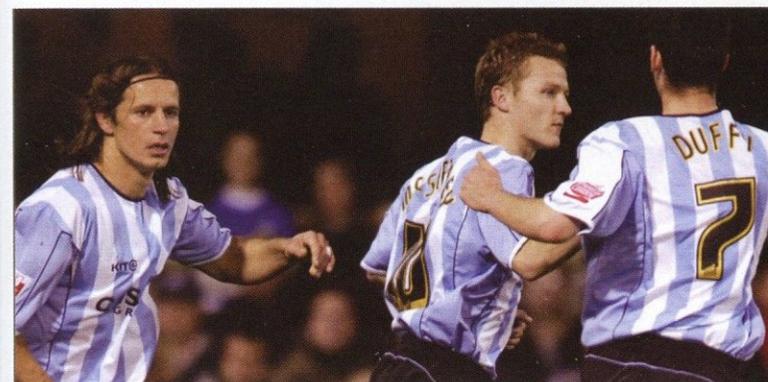


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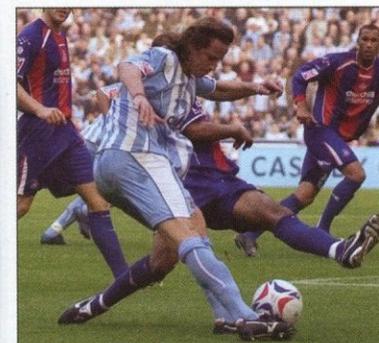
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issue7



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Honours

Formed: 1883
Football League: Division Two Champions 1966-67, Division Three Champions 1963-1964, Division Three (South) Champions 1935-36
 Division Four Runners-up 1958-1959
FA Cup: Winners 1987
FA Youth Cup: Winners 1987
Football League Cup: Semi-Final, 1981, 1990
European Competitions: European Fairs Cup 1970-71

Club Officials

President: Geoffrey Robinson MP
Chairman: Mike McGinnity
Directors: Sir Derek Higgs, Michael Jepson, Brenda Price, Joe Elliott
General Manager: Neil Bryson
Commercial Director: Alan Stevenson
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Financial Controller: John Street
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Stadium Manager: Don Blair
Safety Officer: Pete Smith
Team Manager: Micky Adams
Assistant Manager: Adrian Heath
Reserve Team Manager: Alan Cork
Academy Manager: Steve Ogrizovic
Medical Officers: Dr Moss Gold, Dr Richard Keating, Dr John Batten, Dr Pat Griffin
Club Statistician: Jim Brown



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club honours & officials

matchday magazine
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Graphic Designer: Carl Newell
Writers: David Antill, Jo Lumani, Dan Scaife, Rachel Jones
Contributors: Jim Brown, Dan Clifford, Geoff Foster
Pictures: Action Images, Tricia Heames, Des Hill
Printing: Lion FPG Ltd



Official Programme Sponsor

MickyAdams

Welcome back to the Ricoh Arena for this afternoon's game against Luton Town.

I know that many of our supporters will be feeling down in the dumps following the defeat against Leicester City last weekend but I don't think it is all doom and gloom. In many ways, I can understand their frustration – we went ahead only to lose the lead and eventually the three points – but we are capable of bouncing back from that and there's no better platform than the next game.



The Leicester match was disappointing for a number of reasons. We looked the brighter of the two sides for the opening half an hour and deserved to take the lead, courtesy of a well-taken finish from Gary McSheffrey. But we conceded at the worst possible time just seconds before half-time – a goal which I believe we had a couple of opportunities to clear – and the misery was compounded at the start of the second half when they netted a winner.

It was a sloppy goal to concede – especially as they had stolen the ball from us at the restart. But we can only learn from these mistakes and put them right in our next game. Another factor which didn't go for us was that having studied the video, we should have had two penalties. We didn't get the decisions on the day and McSheffrey was wrongly booked for diving – his fifth yellow card of the season, which now rules him out of the game against Stoke City.

On the flip side, there were plenty of positives against Ipswich Town the previous Tuesday. We dominated possession and it was disappointing to go behind against the run of play. They scored their second and there must have been quite a few people who didn't give us a hope of getting back into the match. But we proved them wrong by showing a bit of heart and passion and I feel that we were certainly worth a point at the final whistle. Joe Royle felt that Ipswich deserved the three points as he believed the ball crossed the line from one of their efforts but we can also argue that there was no reason to disallow what would have been McSheffrey's second of the evening.

Despite our position in the table, the mood in the camp remains good and it's important that the fans stick with us. It was fantastic to see a record number of people inside the Ricoh Arena for the Palace game – the most we've had at home since playing Manchester United in 1987 – and it's a real shame that they didn't experience a City victory that day. I'd like to thank everybody who has been to watch us play so far and encourage them to be patient. We're doing everything we can to try and get it right.

I don't doubt that we have all the components in place – it's now just a case of putting it together and overcoming our inconsistency. I think anyone who looks at the individuals in our squad will see that we're underachieving at the moment. I know that's no consolation – but I believe it is an indication that we are capable of producing much brighter outcomes. Although we want that to happen sooner rather than later, it's a long time until the end of April.

Our next two games are at home and it would be great to show the fans exactly what we can achieve. Our supporters have already witnessed some pleasing performances at the Ricoh Arena and I believe the next couple of fixtures could be a great platform for us to get back on track. There have been plenty of surprises already in this division – we now need to make sure that it's us who are surprising people.

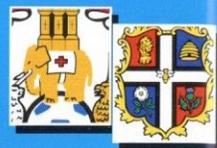
Finally, I'd like to welcome Mike Newell and his Luton Town side to the Ricoh Arena for this afternoon's game. Mike is rated as one of the best young managers in the League and it's not difficult to see why, with Luton experiencing a flying start to life in the Championship. They currently sit third in the table – helped in no small part by being unbeaten at home – and we know today is sure to be a tough encounter, which we will be relishing.

Keep the faith and enjoy the game.

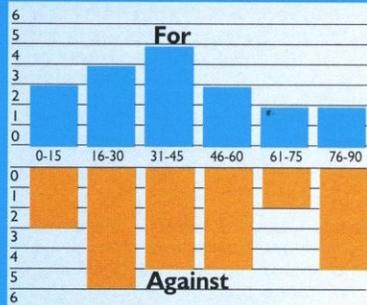
Micky Adams
C.F.



Coventry City v. Luton Town



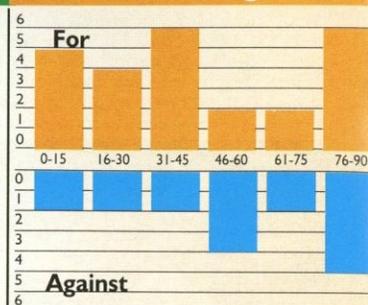
When for & against



Where & how scored

8	Close range	10
11	Inside 18yd box	9
0	Outside 18yd box	6
7	Shots	14
6	Headers	7
4	Volleys	3
1	Penalties	1
0	Free Kicks	0
1	Own Goals	0

When for & against



Last 6 results

Opponents	H/A	Score
Leicester	A	1-2
Ipswich	A	2-2
Palace	H	1-4
Sheff Wed	A	2-3
Watford	H	3-1
Hull	H	0-2

Swings

Won when Behind	0
Drawn when Behind	4
Drawn when Ahead	2
Lost when Ahead	2

Discipline

Fouls committed	230
Average per game	15.33
Yellow cards	29
Red cards	3

Set piece goals

Scored from free kick	2
Conc from free kick	2
Scored from corner	3
Conc from corner	4

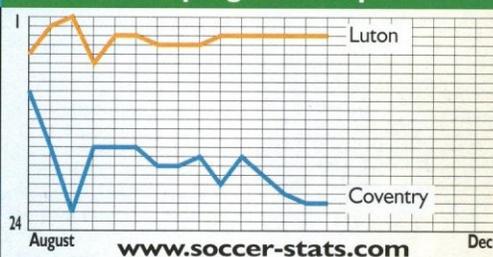
Strike ratio

Shots on target	94
Goals scored	19
% shots scored	20.2
Divisional rating	16

Top scorer

Goals Scored	5
Games Played	14
Points Won	2

Seasonal progress comparison



Best winning sequence	0	Best winning sequence	2
Worst losing sequence	2	Worst losing sequence	0

Last 6 results

Opponents	H/A	Score
Plymouth	H	1-1
Norwich	H	4-2
Crewe	A	1-3
Cardiff	A	2-1
Preston	H	3-0
Sheff Wed	H	2-2

Swings

Won when Behind	2
Drawn when Behind	2
Drawn when Ahead	2
Lost when Ahead	2

Discipline

Fouls committed	203
Average per game	13.53
Yellow cards	18
Red cards	1

Set piece goals

Scored from free kick	5
Conc from free kick	2
Scored from corner	0
Conc from corner	3

Coventry's Last Match

2-1	
De Vries 45, 46	McSheffrey 24
Attendance: 22,991	Referee: Wright
Douglas, Johansson, McCarthy, Kisorbo, Stearman, Sylla, Hamill (Tiatto 82), Gudjonsson, Hume (Hammond 87), Dublin, De Vries	Ince, Hall, Duffy (Whing 67), Shaw, Heath, Nalis (Morrell 67), Hughes, Doyle, Scowcroft, Adebola, McSheffrey
Booked: Gudjonsson, Sylla	Booked: McSheffrey, Scowcroft
Sent Off: none	Sent Off: none

Luton's Last 10 Years



Strike ratio

Shots on target	102
Goals scored	25
% shots scored	24.5
Divisional rating	6

Top scorer

Goals Scored	6
Games Played	13
Points Won	5

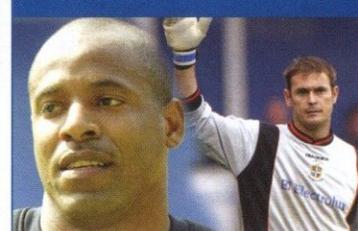
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Coventry City v Luton Town

Head to Head



Clayton Ince v Marlon Beresford

Clayton Ince:

Played: 3 Clean Sheets: 1

Marlon Beresford:

Played: 13 Clean Sheets: 3

Most managers will agree that if you can get a reliable 'keeper between the sticks then you will always have half a chance of doing something in this division. And the two custodians in either goal this afternoon would certainly like to consider themselves in that bracket. For Beresford a start today would represent his 51st in the League since returning to Kenilworth Road in June 2004 following a spell at Barnsley, and the vastly experienced 36-year-old has certainly seen it all, having taken in a mighty 11 clubs during his career thus far.

In stark contrast City stopper Ince is at only his second English club, having moved from Crewe during the summer when his contract expired. The Trinidad and Tobago international spent almost six years at Gresty Road, having been signed from the extravagantly named Delta Force. And with the on-loan Stephen Bywater being recalled to Upton Park by West Ham the 33-year-old now has his chance to really shine in City colours, having been given his league debut at the Walkers Stadium last time out. So with Ince hoping to make his second league start at the Ricoh against the Hatters this afternoon, who will be the hero come full time?

Come on Down



City host Luton in the league for the first time in over 14 years this afternoon, and while memories of that clash back in August 1991 may not spring readily to mind, a repeat would be very welcome indeed.

It was all sky blue on that balmy summers day at the start of the 1991/1992 campaign, with City running out 5-0 winners at Highfield Road to give their fans some early season cheer.

The Sky Blues hammered the Hatters courtesy of goals from Robert Rosario, David Smith, Paul Furlong and a Kevin Gallagher brace, goals that would help the diminutive Scotsman eventually finish with a haul of 10 for the season.

And that game was special for a couple of reasons. Not only was it City's biggest win of the season - narrowly beating the 4-0 mauling of Rochdale in the Rumbelows Cup - but it also marked the last appearance in a sky blue shirt of a true club legend.

Defender Trevor Peake, who had starred in City's cup success of 1987 and was a big fans' favourite, played his last game for the Club after eight years and 331 appearances for the Sky Blues.

And the defender dubbed 'Feathers' by John Sillett - referring to Peake's uncanny knack of being able to float into just the right position to thwart the opposition - received a special goodbye gift from Luton's Sean Farrell. The Hatters player was sent off for elbowing the City stalwart.

The 1991/1992 campaign was also a significant one as it was the last season in which the top-flight was known as Division One, before being re-branded the Premiership.

Luton would eventually be relegated come May, as the Sky Blues escaped the drop by just two points and lived to fight another day to welcome in a brand new era in English football.



Form Guide Coventry City WLLDL

Leicester City 2 Coventry 1
Ipswich Town 2 Coventry 2
Coventry 1 Crystal Palace 4
Sheffield Wednesday 3 Coventry 2
Coventry 3 Watford 1

Form Guide Luton WWLWD

Luton 1 Plymouth 1
Luton 4 Norwich 2
Crewe 3 Luton 1
Cardiff 1 Luton 2
Luton 3 Preston 0



All-time Head to Head:

	Coventry	Draw	Luton
League	32	12	16
FA Cup	0	1	2
League Cup	1	0	3
TOTAL	33	13	20

Last five meetings: Home - Coventry City

Coventry 5 Luton 0, Div 1, 21/8/91
Coventry 2 Luton 1, Div 1, 13/3/91
Coventry 1 Luton 0, Div 1, 16/9/89
Coventry 1 Luton 0, Div 1, 12/11/88
Coventry 4 Luton 0, Div 1, 15/3/88

Last five meetings: Away - Luton

Luton 2 Coventry 0, League Cup, 27/10/98
Luton 1 Coventry 0, Div 1, 20/12/91
Luton 1 Coventry 0, Div 1, 22/9/90
Luton 3 Coventry 2, Div 1, 7/3/90
Luton 2 Coventry 2, Div 1, 15/4/89

All the latest **TeamNews...**

NEWCOMERS make their mark

Coventry's last match at the Ricoh Arena saw two of Micky Adams' new signings make their debuts.

Month-long loan signing Lilian Nalis went straight into the starting line-up and despite the poor scoreline, he put in an impressive display in midfield against Palace.

The Frenchman – who has joined City from Sheffield United – kept his place in the side for the Ipswich match where he netted the equalising goal for the Sky Blues and then also featured at his former club Leicester.

You can find out what Nalis is looking to achieve in his brief stop at the Ricoh over the page.

Also making his debut against Palace was Youssef Sofiane, who has signed on non-contract terms along with former Reading striker Bas Savage.

Sofiane came on as a second half substitute against the Eagles but has not featured since.

The 21-year-old, Lyon-born player joined West Ham in June 2002 having started his career in his native France as a trainee with Auxerre.

Sofiane made two senior appearances during his time at Upton Park, coming on as a substitute in the Hammers' 2-1 win against Preston at Deepdale in August 2003, making only his second start in claret and blue four days later against Rushden and Diamonds in the League Cup.

The player has also spent loan spells at Lille, Notts County and last season spent four months with Dutch outfit Roda JC and after his Coventry debut he expressed his desire to impress Micky Adams.

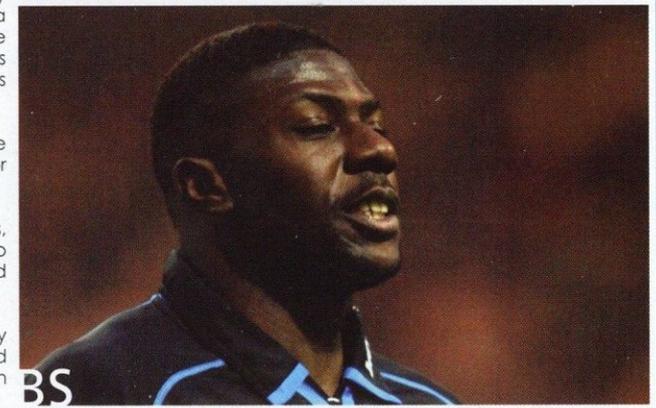
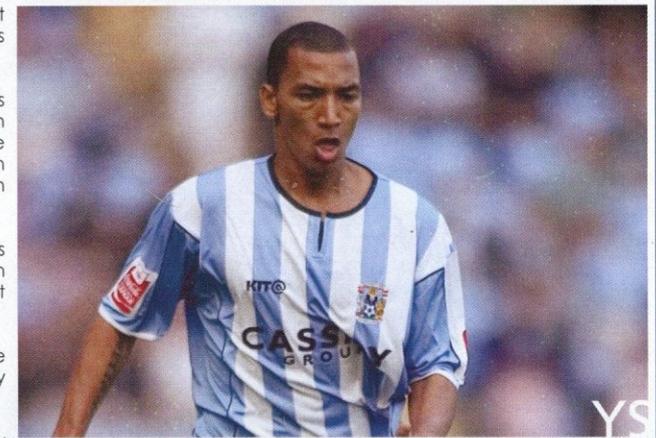
"I was disappointed with the result that we got," he said. "I think 4-1 was a bit harsh but it was a very disappointing day."

"I was surprised to come on but I was really pleased to get my chance. I've been here for a couple of weeks but I was really pleased to come on after 45 minutes. I want to get as many games as I can first of all and try and help the Club as much as I can."

Former Reading forward Savage started on the bench against Palace and has played twice for the reserves but is yet to feature in the first team.

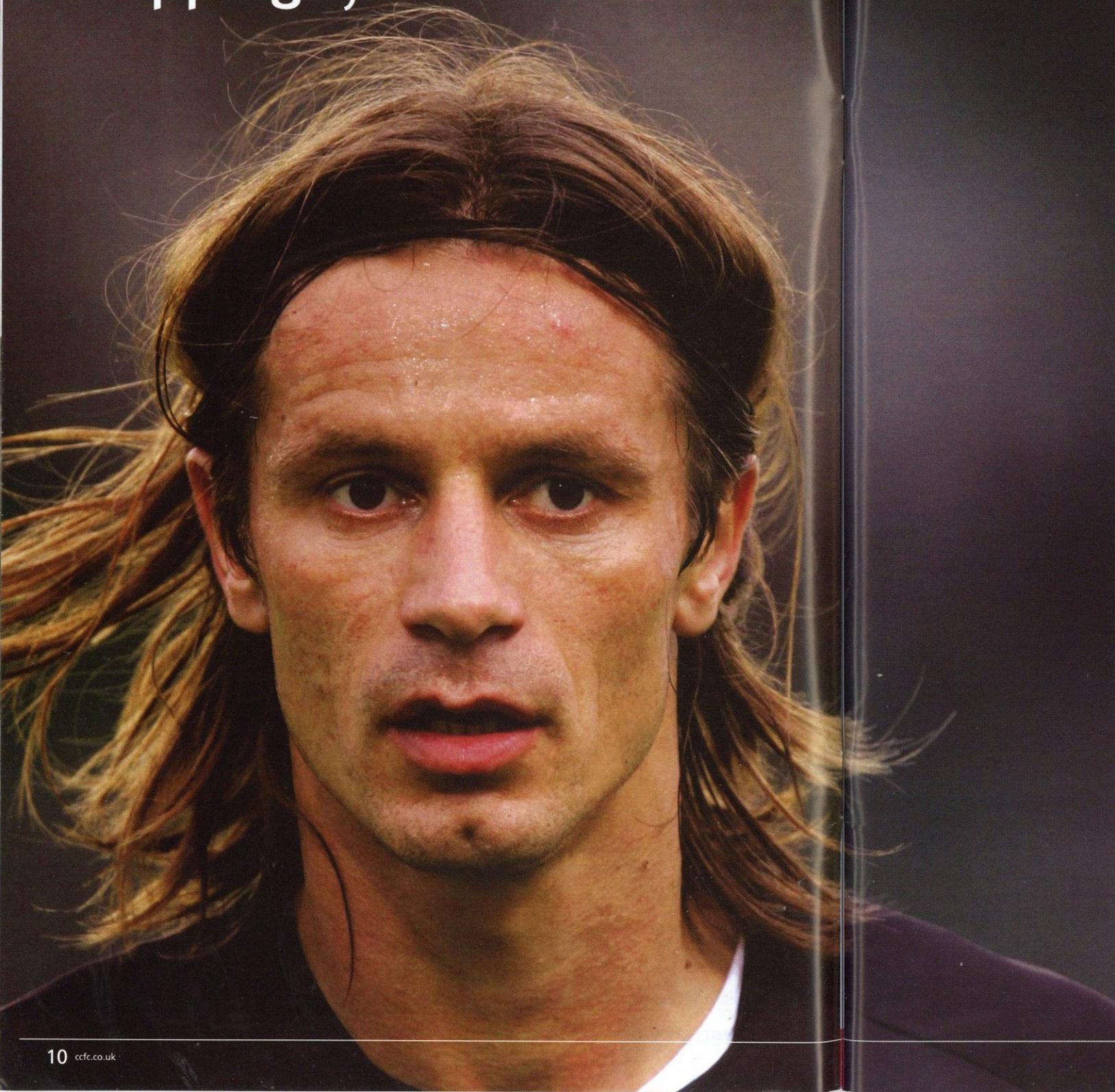
The 23-year-old was most recently with the Royals, where he made 18 appearances, and also enjoyed loan spells at League Two sides Bury and Wycombe last season.

The London-born player links up with Micky Adams' men after impressing during a trial period at the Club and offers increased competition in the City front line.



Just the job

Stoppingby...



"When I found out Micky wanted me to come here I decided it was a good move for me. I hope to get some points before the end of the month to give something back to him."

He may not have been here long, and as Lilian Nalis will explain he could be gone just as quickly, but the Frenchman has already seen enough to know that the Sky Blues should not be languishing around the relegation zone in the Championship.

With funds tight at Coventry City it was a pleasant surprise when the news of Nalis's loan signing came through. More than just an average performer at this level he joins the Sky Blues from runaway league leaders Sheffield United and has considerable Championship experience from his days with Leicester City.

And it comes as no surprise to learn that the influence of Micky Adams – the manager he signed for at Leicester – had a major effect on his decision to leave the comfort zone of Bramall Lane where the locals have forgotten how it feels to lose, for the slightly nervier surroundings of the Ricoh Arena where victories have been few and far between.

"I was waiting for my place in the team but you want to play games so when I spoke to the gaffer and found out there was an opportunity to come to Coventry I took it," says the 34-year-old who made his home debut against Crystal Palace a fortnight ago.

"I think there was a call between Neil Warnock and Micky Adams and then I was asked if I wanted to come here and I did because I enjoy working with him.

"I refused the opportunity to go to Hull for a month before this came up but when I found out Micky wanted me to come here I decided it was a good move for me. I hope to get some points before the end of the month to give something back to him."

In the three games that he has featured in so far, Nalis has helped the Sky Blues accumulate just the one point from a trip to Ipswich but he believes there is more to come and he hopes it will emerge over the course of the next seven days, after which his original month spell comes to an end.

"I think Coventry should be a good team. It's about confidence and not conceding goals on set pieces – I think in three games we've conceded six or something which is far too many.

"It's all about the team, it's not about personal things. We have to stick together and work hard because in a week where you've got three games you can go from where we are in the league up to the top ten so it's a very important time for us. We have to forget about other results and just focus on these games coming up.

"As a team we have played some good stuff. We started really well against Leicester and got some good opportunities. If we'd gone in one nil up at half time it would have been a totally different game but we conceded from a throw-in just before half time and that's really hard.

"The start of the second half was not the best for us either and in this division you have to concentrate all the time because anybody can win matches and if you're not concentrating that's when you get caught out. But like I say there is enough quality in this team to build from here."

After joining up with the Blades in May, it seems very soon to be sent out on loan but Nalis confirms there are no problems for him up in Sheffield.

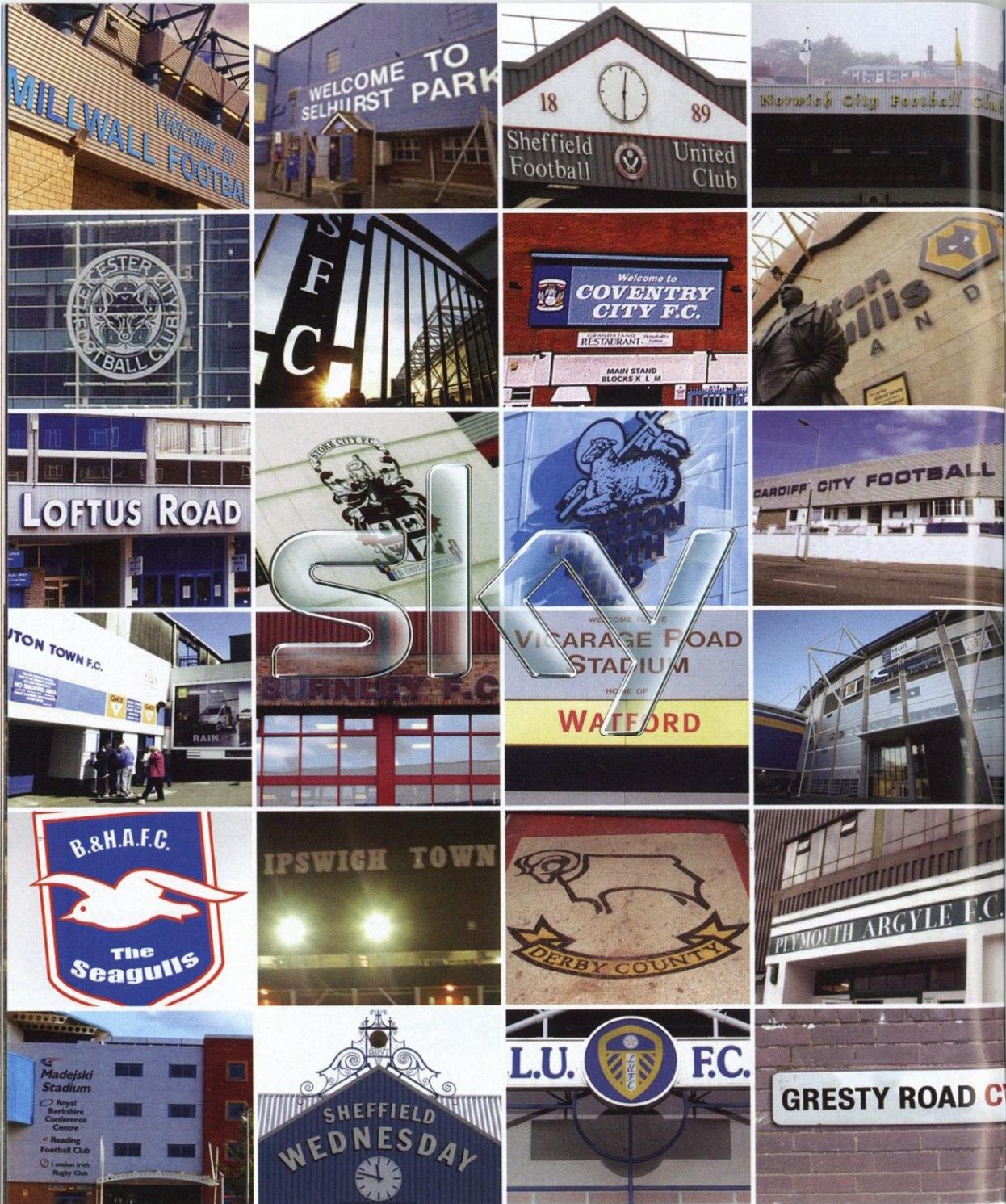
"I am very happy to be here and I am enjoying my football at the moment. I started the season in the team but then I got tonsillitis and when I came back the team just kept on winning."

It would certainly be a shame for Sky Blues fans should the gifted midfielder's stint here come to an end after the trip to Cardiff next week so what are the chances of his stay being prolonged?

"I've got another three matches until I think it will be the end. I can't tell you if I'll stay longer and it will not be decided by me. Whether I stay or go back to Sheffield will be decided in the same way as it was when I came to Coventry.

"I've just got to concentrate on my game and playing well for Coventry City because we need to get some points.

"Luton are playing good football but from what I've seen we're capable of doing the same so I hope we can do it today. It'll be a tough game but we have to be prepared and we've focussed on it since last Sunday."



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All the latest **TeamNews...**

Call-up for Clayton

Clayton Ince has been called-up for Trinidad and Tobago for their crucial play-off games against Bahrain.



Ince and his international team-mates, likely to include Stern John, take on the Middle-Eastern country for a place in next year's World Cup finals in Germany.

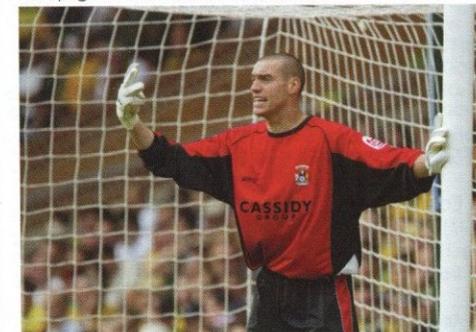
The first crunch clash will take place in Trinidad on November 12, before the second leg in Bahrain on November 16.

Ince is now the Sky Blues' first choice shot stopper following the departure of Stephen Hughes and made his league debut for City in last week's 2-1 defeat to Leicester.

Bywater recalled

Stephen Bywater was recalled by West Ham United last week and went straight into the Hammers squad for the game against Middlesbrough

The goalkeeper was on the bench for the fixture, following an injury to Roy Carroll which saw Shaka Hislop go in between the sticks.



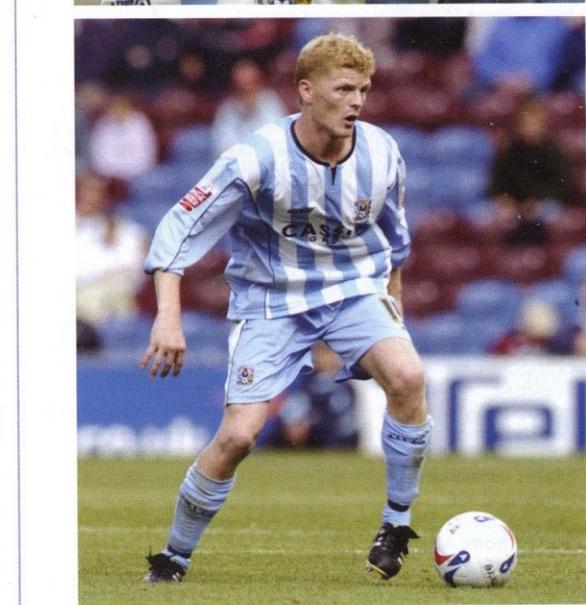
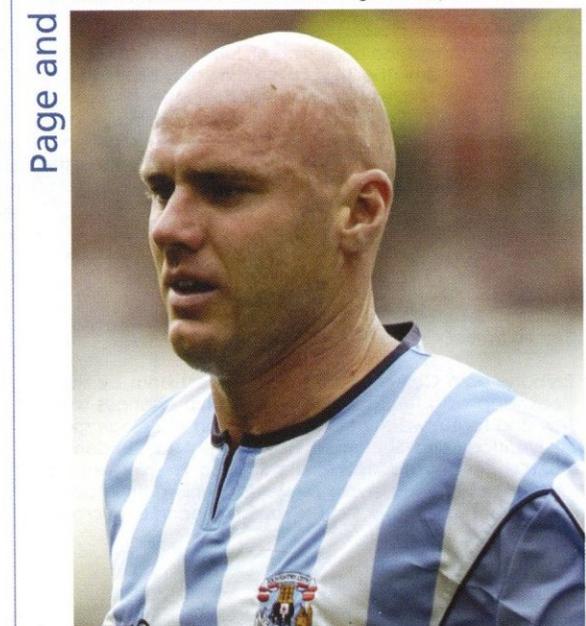
It means that Clayton Ince is now the Sky Blues' only senior keeper, supported by 18-year-old Jonathan Tuffey.

Bywater featured in 14 games for City since his arrival in August on a three-month loan.

available

Micky Adams will have two fresh faces to select from today if he wishes, with Robert Page and Claus Jorgensen both returning from suspension.

Centre-back Page has missed the last three games after being sent-off for violent conduct against Watford, while midfielder Jorgensen has been missing for the last two fixtures after his late red card against Crystal Palace.



Page and Jorgensen

Luton Town who'swho?



Between the Sticks

Marlon Beresford

DOB: 2/9/69

Position: Goalkeeper

Signed from: Barnsley

Mike Newell strengthened his squad with the signing of the 6'1" goalkeeper at the beginning of July 2004 from League One rivals Barnsley. The 34-year-old is a vastly experienced goalkeeper with over 400 appearances under his belt for among others Sheffield Wednesday, Burnley and Middlesbrough and he returned to Kenilworth Road on a two-year contract after impressing during a successful three-month spell with the Hatters last year.

At the Back

Chris Coyne

DOB: 20/12/78

Position: Centre-back

Signed from: Dundee

Brsibane-born Coyne was signed for West Ham by Harry Redknapp as a teenager, but Premiership chances were few and far between at Upton Park, and after loan spells at Brentford and Southend, Coyne went to Dundee. A £50,000 cheque persuaded the Scottish Premier League club to let the defender move to Kenilworth Road in September 2001 and Coyne rapidly became a crowd favourite.

Sol Davis

DOB: 4/9/79

Position: Left-back

Signed from: Swindon

It was a huge disappointment to Swindon Town, and a coup for Luton, when highly-rated left-back Davis decided to leave the County Ground after his contract expired at the end of the 2001/02 season. Swindon boss Andy King failed in attempts to persuade him to sign a new deal, and Luton swooped for the tough-tackling defender.

Kevin Foley

Born: 1/11/84

Position: Centre-back

Signed from: Academy

The emergence of Kevin Foley was one of the success stories of last season for Luton, during the course of the campaign he went from the Hatters youth team to the Republic of Ireland Under-21's. Each time he has comfortably adjusted himself to the level of football and is pushing for a regular first team slot again this term.

Markus Heikkinen

DOB: 13/10/78

Position: Centre-back

Signed from: Aberdeen

Mike Newell pulled off a real coup with the signing of Aberdeen central defender Heikkinen. Although born in

Sweden, Heikkinen is a Finnish international and has made an impressive start to his stay at Kenilworth Road since being called up as a late replacement for Chris Coyne who was injured in the warm-up in the club's opening Championship win over Crystal Palace.

Russ Perrett

DOB: 18/5/73

Position: Right-back

Signed from: Cardiff

Having signed a one-year contract in the summer Perrett will be looking to make up for lost time this season after a frustrating spell on the sidelines last year. The ex-Portsmouth man was restricted to just six games during the 2003/2004 season and 13 games last season but when fully fit the experienced campaigner is an important member of the squad.

In the Middle

Kevin Nicholls

DOB: 2/1/79

Position: Centre-midfield

Signed from: Wigan

Tough-tackling skipper Nicholls quickly gained the captain's armband after arriving at Kenilworth Road in the summer of 2001 for a bargain fee of £150,000 after Charlton had sold him for £250,000 to Wigan two years before. His huge enthusiasm and ferocious tackling soon made him a big favourite with Hatters fans, although opponents do not always view his all-action style with similar relish.

Ahmet Brkovic

DOB: 23/9/74

Position: Right-midfield

Signed from: Leyton Orient

Ahmet Brkovic is a hardworking member of the Luton squad who had an inspirational season last time out, scoring 16 goals from midfield. Believing a move would be good for his career, he refused new terms at Leyton Orient in the summer of 2001, to join Luton on a Bosman free transfer - Orient had signed him on a free from HNK Dubrovnik in the autumn of 1999 and the Hatters have gone from strength to strength ever since.

Carlos Edwards

DOB: 24/10/78

Position: Left-midfield

Signed from: Wrexham

Signed on a free transfer at the start of this season from Wrexham, Newell tried to sign Edwards during his time as Hartlepool manager but his failure to do so has worked out in Luton's favour. Edwards spent five seasons at Wrexham, helping them win the LDV Vans title last season against Southend, and his pace gives Luton more attacking impetus.

Peter Holmes

DOB: 18/11/80

Position: Centre-midfield

Signed from: Sheffield Wednesday

A talented two-footed midfielder, Holmes came to Luton as one of former boss Ricky Hill's first signings. He found first team opportunities limited when he first arrived but former Manager Joe Kinnear found a place for him. After initially being released in the summer of 2003 as a result of the club's financial situation he continued to train with Luton and agreed a fresh deal in November 2003, signing another one-year contract at the start of this term.

Keith Keane

DOB: 20/11/86

Position: Right-midfield

Signed from: Academy

Having made his debut as a 16-year-old two seasons ago he went on to enjoy an extended run in the side from February onwards while Kevin Foley was out injured. Such was the contribution he made that the return of Foley didn't signal the end of his involvement at first-team level and he finished the season with fourteen appearances under his belt.

Up Front

Dean Morgan

DOB: 3/10/83

Position: Striker

Signed from: Reading

Morgan moved to Kenilworth Road from Reading in July 2005 after seeing his opportunities limited at the Madjeski Stadium, having scored three league goals in 13 starting appearances for the Royals. Morgan began his career at Colchester where he scored six goals in 25 appearances.

Enoch Showunmi

DOB: 21/4/82

Position: Striker

Signed from: Willensden Constantine

Showunmi originally joined the Hatters on non-contract terms in September 2003 after impressing on trial with the club and signed that autumn. The London-born forward joined the club fresh from non-league football with Willensden Constantine - the same side that nurtured the early years of Barry Hayles career - after completing university.

Rowan Vine

DOB: 21/9/82

Position: Striker

Signed from: Portsmouth

The Basingstoke-born striker initially joined Town on a three-month loan deal from Premiership Portsmouth and Vine is now a Luton player having signed a three-year contract following his impressive season during the club's League One success. A former Colchester man he has happy memories of playing the Sky Blues having smashed a hat-trick past City in the FA Cup Third Round tie last January.



starman

Steve Howard

DOB: 10/5/76

Position: Striker

Signed from: Northampton

Rarely can £50,000 have been better spent in football than the fee Luton paid Northampton Town on deadline day in March 2001 to prise the bustling striker away from the Cobblers. He has been the Hatters leading marksman in each of his last four seasons and is a huge favourite at Kenilworth Road. By the end of last season he had moved up to seventh in Luton Town's list of leading post-war goalscorers, averaging a goal every two games for the Hatters and he's carried that form into the new season, scoring five goals so far.

Factfile - thehatters



Luton Town
Year formed: 1885
Stadium: Kenilworth Road
Manager: Mike Newell
Chairman: Bill Tomlins

TheGaffer

Mike Newell was appointed as the Hatters boss in the summer of 2003, returning to the club he had previously served as a player in the mid-eighties.

Newell has been in football for more than 20 years, beginning as a striker at Crewe before joining Wigan. After three years at Springfield Park he moved to Luton for £80,000 in January 1986 and scored 19 goals in 68 matches for the Hatters.

He racked up a succession of big money transfers after that: £350,000 to Leicester, £1.1million to Everton, £1.1 million to Blackburn, where he won a Premiership winner's medal, and £900,000 to Birmingham. West Ham, Bradford, Aberdeen, Crewe again, and Blackpool were also grateful for his goal-scoring abilities before he moved into coaching at Tranmere.



In total Newell played over 500 league games for 14 clubs in a 19-year professional career that saw him compete at every level.

In November 2002 he was given his first job as a manager, at Hartlepool. He guided them to promotion a few months later, but surprisingly his contract was not renewed. But Luton fans hadn't forgotten him, and gave him a huge welcome back when he took charge for the first time.

Despite the Hatters being in administration for the majority of the 2003/04 season he led the Town to a respectable top ten finish, which saw them in the hunt for a play-off place until the final month of the season when injuries and suspensions finally took their toll on an already stretched squad.

However, last season was a totally different story as the Hatters were runaway winners of League One, losing only six games all season and with Luton's electrifying start to this campaign, Newell's managerial credentials just keep on strengthening.

Recent Form: *DWLWW*

October 22: Luton 1 Plymouth 1
 Substitute Bojan Djordjic snatched a late equaliser for Plymouth to deny Luton all three points at Kenilworth Road.

Warren Feeney had twice gone close before he fired Luton ahead, converting Carlos Edwards' pinpoint cross. Steve Howard missed a chance to double Luton's lead with a weak header from six yards, and they paid the price when Djordjic headed home two minutes from time.



October 18: Luton 4 Norwich 2
 An explosive first half display saw Luton destroy Norwich with Wayne Feeney, Carlos Edwards, Peter Holmes and Steve Howard all scoring before the interval.

Dean Ashton pulled a goal back for the visitors in the second half, who had Calum Davenport sent off for a professional foul before Ryan Jarvis scored Norwich's second.

October 15: Crewe 3 Luton 1
 Crewe stunned high-flying Luton and secured only their second win of the season through late goals from Kenny Lunt and Luke Varney.

Dean Morgan had slotted home Ahmet Brkovic's cross to give Luton a 29th-minute lead but Lunt headed in Luke Rodger's cross on 88 minutes and two minutes later, Varney made sure with a neat finish after Billy Jones brought the hosts level.

October 1: Cardiff 1-2 Luton
 Luton ended Cardiff's eight-match unbeaten run as they came from a goal behind at Ninian Park.

Michael Ricketts put the Bluebirds ahead after just nine minutes before Dean Morgan pulled one back with the winner coming in the second half when Peter Holmes scrambled a loose ball home from close range.

September 27: Luton 3 Preston 0
 Three first-half goals earned Luton the win against Preston.

Warren Feeney opened the scoring as early as the fourth minute, with Ahmet Brkovic grabbing number two and Steve Howard wrapping up the victory.

Facts and Figures

Luton Town were renowned for their artificial playing surface during the 1980s. It was installed in the summer of 1985, and was greeted warmly at first although it did not take long for support to dwindle and in 1991, Kenilworth Road was re-laid with a grass pitch.



Luton's record attendance is 30,069 for an FA Cup Sixth Round replay against Blackpool in 1959.

Luton's biggest league win is 12 - 0: against Bristol Rovers in Division Three South in 1936.

Their record transfer fee received was £2.5m for John Hartson from Arsenal in 1995

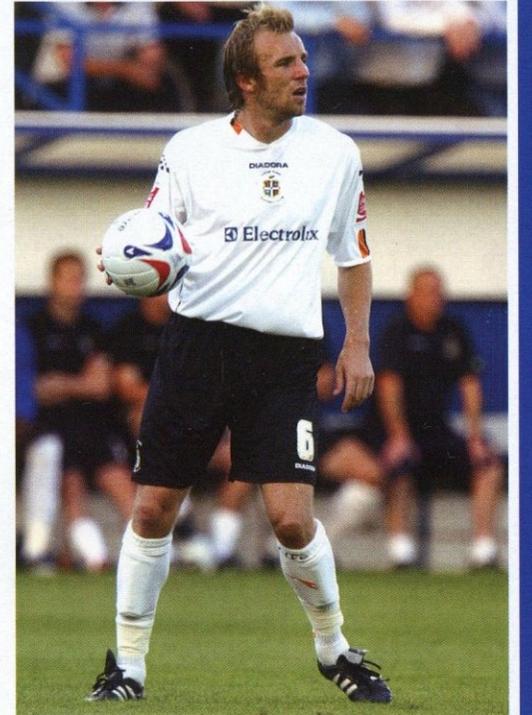


Luton were relegated from the old Division One (Championship) when they finished bottom in 1995/96 and stayed there until 2001 when they were relegated to the basement division in English football. However they bounced back at the first attempt, finishing second in League Two before winning promotion back to this level last term. They have not been in the top flight since 1992, when Coventry just pipped them to safety.



In the physio's room

Luton do not have too many injury worries preventing players from featuring today although Paul Hughes is a very long term absentee and midfielder Paul Underwood has been struggling lately with a hamstring injury.



Rollcall 05/06 *correct up to 26/10/05

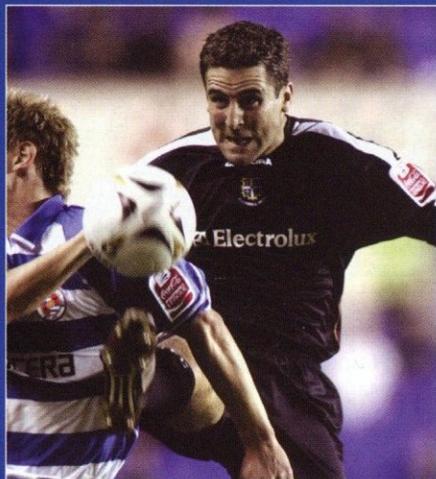
No.	Name	Apps	Goals	YC	RC
1	Marlon Beresford	13	0	0	0
33	Dean Brill	4	0	0	0
2	Kevin Foley	9	0	1	0
3	Sol Davis	14	0	2	0
4	Chris Coyne	13	1	2	0
5	Russ Perrett	5	0	0	0
6	Paul Underwood	9	0	1	0
26	Markus Heikkinen	13	0	2	0
45	Leon Barnett	2	0	0	0
7	Carlos Edwards	15	1	1	0
8	Kevin Nicholls	16	3	3	0
11	Steve Robinson	12	0	0	0
14	Michael Leary	1	0	1	0
15	Steven O'Leary	1	0	0	0
18	Ahmet Brkovic	16	4	1	0
27	Peter Holmes	9	2	1	0
9	Rowan Vine	1	0	0	0
10	Warren Feeney	17	5	1	0
16	Enoch Showunmi	15	0	0	0
19	Steve Howard	14	6	2	1
23	Dean Morgan	16	4	1	0

chriscoyne

When you've got off to an explosive start like Luton, it would be easy to let yourself get carried away but you can be sure the Hatters will keep themselves well and truly grounded, especially at the Ricoh today where they are well aware of one of Coventry's biggest talents.

Australian centre half Chris Coyne knows he could well be in for a busy time today as he is likely to come face-to-face with an old teammate of his, Gary McSheffrey, who scored 10 goals in 24 appearances in two separate loan spells at Kenilworth Road.

Since McSheffrey's return to the fore with the Sky Blues, Luton have gone from strength to strength, storming to the League One Championship last season and making a dazzling start to this campaign to currently sit in third place.



But Coyne knows what the City striker is capable of and you can be sure that Mike Newell has picked out the man who has netted twice in his last two games as one to watch.

"I hope I won't be marking him, I won't keep up," jokes the 26-year-old. "To be honest we don't really pick out individuals but we know him well and we'll be prepared.

"He's a great lad Sheff and he did really well when he was with us. We were all surprised that he wasn't playing at Coventry when he came to us because he fitted in so well and instantly showed how much skill and ability he's got in front of goal."

Coyne's down-to-earth attitude is reflected in his reaction to the start Luton have made to this term.

While statistics alone show that the Hatters have done remarkably well to rise from the basement division to the Championship in the space of

four seasons, when you consider that they entered administration during that period, their feat is all the more impressive.

"We have had some pretty tough times. When you've got people coming in saying you won't be paid this month it can be hard but we've got a great group of lads here who have been together a long time and we can all rally together when we need to but we also help each other to not get carried away when things are going well.

"We had some difficult times when we went into administration but we stuck together, and managed to show some consistency despite what was going on."

Having experienced the lows, it certainly made the high of finishing top of League One last season with an impressive 98 points taste all that much sweeter.

"It was fantastic," confirms Coyne. "Everybody wants to win something and when we were promoted to the Second Division or League One as it is now in 2002 we missed out on the top spot to Plymouth so it was great to be Champions this time.

"This was realistically a season of consolidation for us – that was the main aim. But it doesn't stop you aiming for the top and after we've made a good start we really want to keep it going.

"Like I say we've got a great set of lads who have been together a while but a lot of us are only in our mid-twenties so I'm sure we can keep improving.

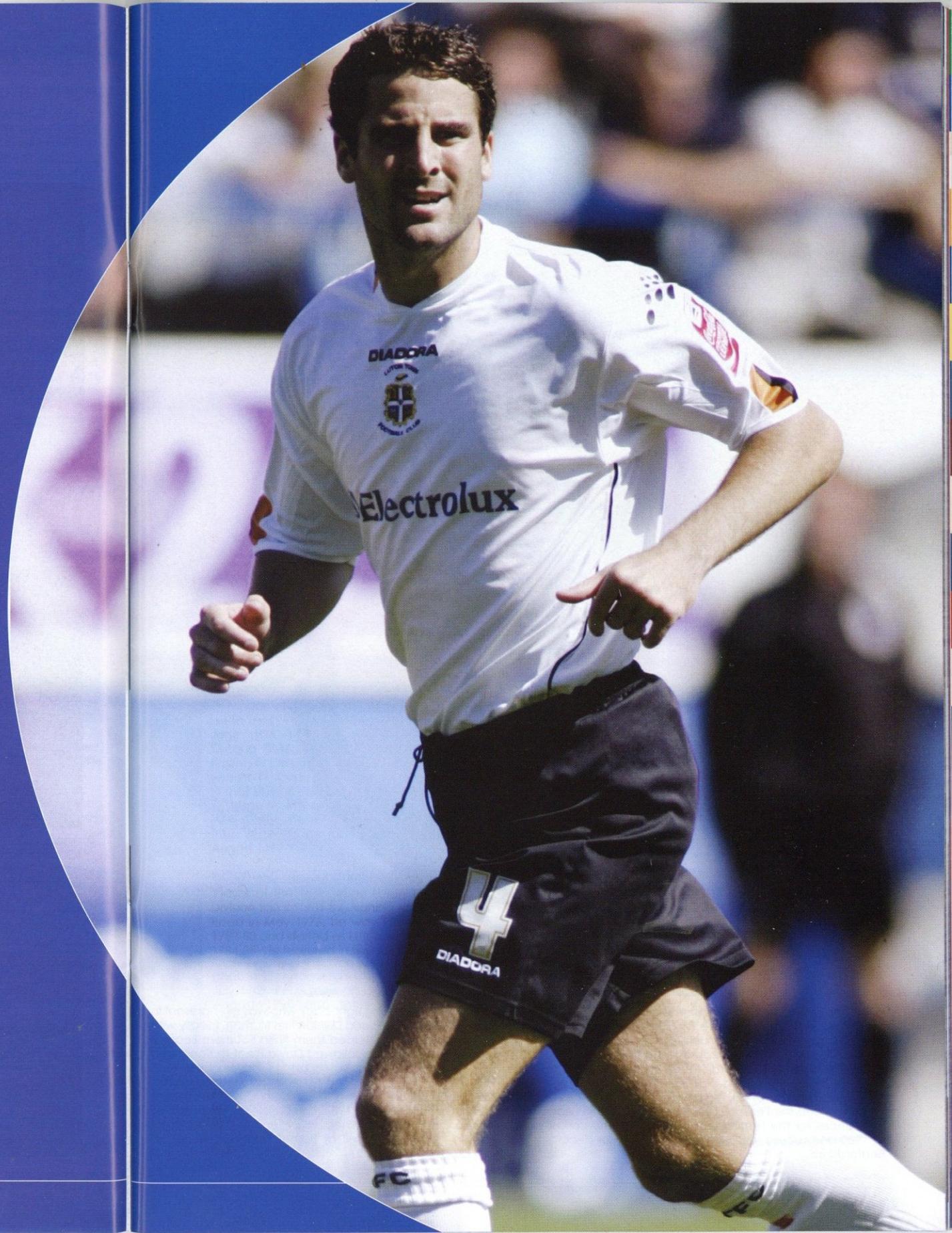
"The manager deserves a lot of credit because when things are going badly they're the first in the firing line so when things are going well they have to be praised. He's a very good man manager, he knows how to treat his players and he'll never say anything against them in public.

"We've shown we've got a lot of spirit because every time we've lost we've managed to bounce back and win the next match but we're only about a quarter of the way through the season so there's a long way still to go."

One of Luton's main strengths this year has been their home form, having not lost yet at Kenilworth Road but with more changeable results on the road – four wins and four defeats – what does Coyne expect today?

"The atmosphere at Kenilworth Road has a lot to do with our results there but we work very hard ourselves to turn it into a fortress.

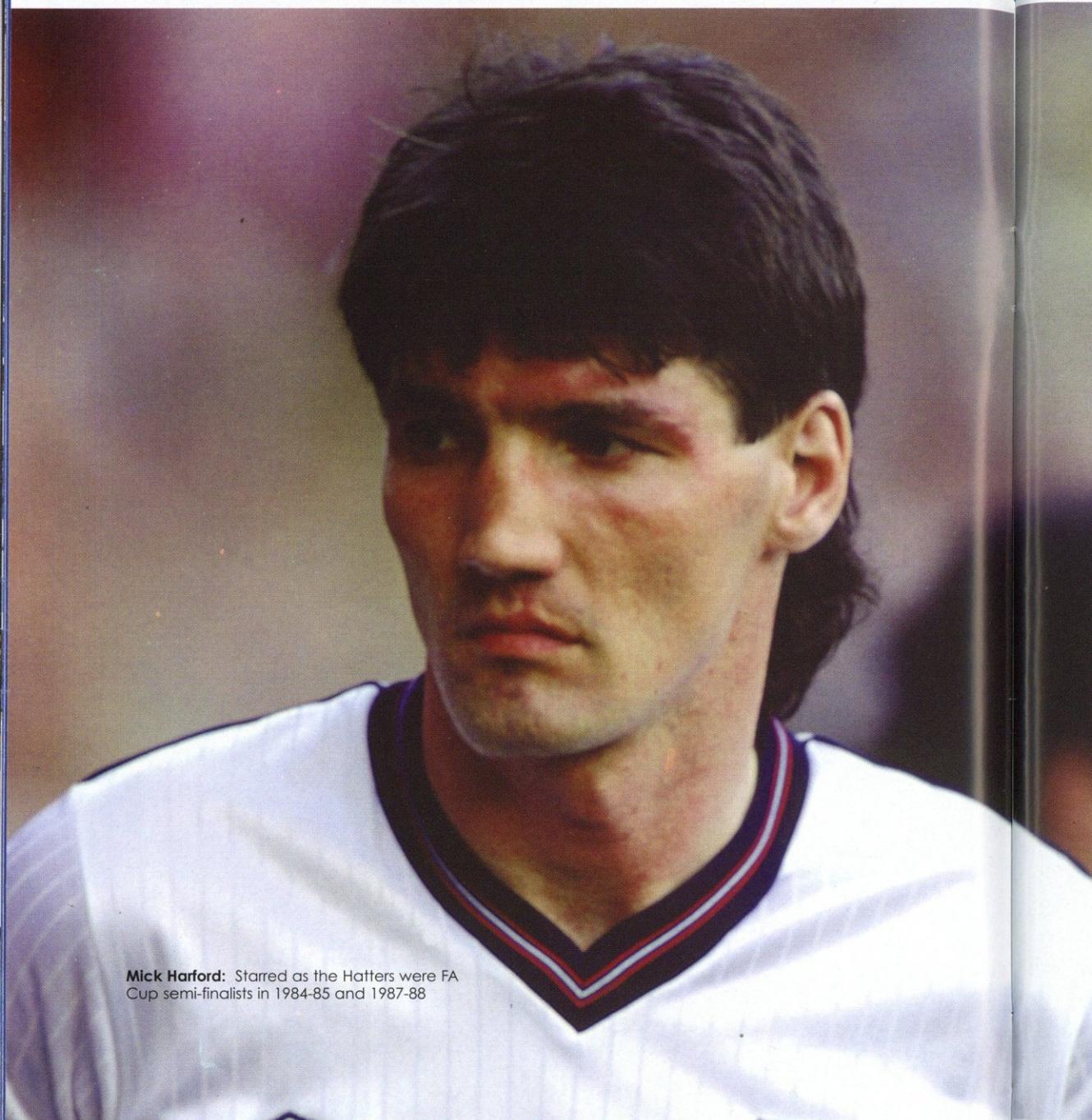
"But we all like playing at bigger stadiums and hopefully we can get three points on the road today."





TheHatters dreamteam

Football historian LEIGH EDWARDS selects a post-war Luton 'Dream Team' with the help of several Luton supporters and club officials.



Mick Harford: Starred as the Hatters were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1984-85 and 1987-88

RON BAYNHAM: England international goalkeeper who was a key figure as Luton Town were FA Cup finalists in 1959. He impressed with Worcester City before moving to Kenilworth Road in November 1951 and contested a first-team slot with fellow England keeper Bernard Streten as Luton gained top-flight status for the first time in 1954-55. Missing just one match in both 1955-56 and 1957-58, he was capped three times and also represented the Football League. He made 388 League appearances for the Hatters until injury ended his career in May 1965 and subsequently worked as an interior decorator in Bedfordshire.

KIRK STEPHENS: Attacking right-back who was ever-present in Luton Town's 1981-82 Second Division title triumph. Initially with Nuneaton Borough, he helped them finish Southern League runners-up in 1974-75 and followed David Pleat to Kenilworth Road in June 1978. He was voted Luton's 'Player of the Year' in 1978-79 and 1983-84, scoring twice in 227 League games for the Hatters before moving to Coventry City in exchange for Ashley Grimes in August 1984. Later rejoining Nuneaton as player-manager after a knee injury ended his top-flight career, he also had a spell at Barnet and worked for his father's building firm.

MITCHELL THOMAS: Versatile England U-21 international left-back who had two spells at Luton Town. Born locally, he signed professional at Kenilworth Road in August 1982 and starred as Luton reached the FA Cup semi-finals in 1984-85. He followed David Pleat to Tottenham Hotspur for £275,000 in July 1986 and featured in the 1987 FA Cup final, moving to West Ham for £525,000 in August 1991. Returning to Luton in November 1993, he netted six goals in 292 League games overall for the Hatters prior to joining Burnley in July 1999 and was an experienced figure in their 1999-2000 promotion success.

BRUCE RIOCH: Influential midfielder who was capped 24 times by Scotland after leaving Luton Town. Signing professional for Luton in September 1964, he starred in the 1967-68 Fourth Division title triumph and netted 46 goals in 149 League games prior to joining Aston Villa for £100,000 in July 1969. He was a key figure in their 1971-72 Third Division title success and moved to Derby County in February 1974, helping to win the League Championship in 1974-75. He played for Everton, Derby again and Torquay, since managing Middlesbrough, Millwall, Bolton Wanderers, Arsenal, Norwich City and Wigan Athletic.

SYD OWEN: Long-serving England international centre-half who skippered Luton Town in the 1959 FA Cup final. Signing professional for Birmingham City in October 1945, he moved to Luton in June 1947 and starred in their 1951-52 FA Cup run, 1952-53 promotion near-miss and 1954-55 promotion success. He was 'Footballer of the Year' in 1958-59 and netted three goals in 388 League games before becoming Luton's manager for a year in May 1959. Subsequently Leeds United's chief coach under Don Revie until October 1975, he then coached at Birmingham, Hull City and Manchester United. He died in August 1998.

MAL DONAGHY: Northern Ireland international central defender who gained a club record 58 caps while at Luton Town. He moved to Kenilworth Road from Larne in June 1978 and was ever-present as Luton won the Second Division title in 1981-82 and were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1984-85. Voted 'Player of the Year' in 1985-86, he was an FA Cup semi-finalist again in 1987-88 and starred in that season's Littlewoods Cup final triumph. He netted 16 goals in 410 League games for the Hatters prior to joining Manchester United for £650,000 in October 1988, then returned on loan before moving to Chelsea in August 1992.

RICKY HILL: England international midfielder who was 'Player of the Year' when Luton Town won the Second Division title in 1981-82. Signing professional at Kenilworth Road in May 1976, he was 'Player of the Year' again in 1982-83 and starred as Luton were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1984-85. He featured in two consecutive Littlewoods Cup finals including the 1988 Wembley triumph and netted 54 goals in 436 League games before moving to Le Havre in July 1989. Reuniting with David Pleat at Leicester City in August 1990 and later as a coach at Sheffield Wednesday and Spurs, he briefly rejoined Luton as manager.

BRIAN STEIN: England international striker who scored twice in Luton Town's 1988 Littlewoods Cup final triumph. Moving to Kenilworth Road from Edgware Town in October 1977, he was leading marksman in Luton's 1981-82 Second Division success and also starred as they were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1984-85 and 1987-88. He joined Caen in July 1988 and moved via Anancy back to Luton

in July 1991. Voted 'Player of the Year' for the second time in 1991-92, he netted 130 goals in 427 League games overall for the Hatters before joining Barnet in August 1992. His younger brother Mark also played for Luton.

MICK HARFORD: England international striker who played for Luton Town in consecutive Littlewoods Cup finals including the 1988 Wembley triumph. Signing professional for Lincoln City in July 1977, he had spells with Newcastle United, Bristol City and Birmingham City prior to joining Luton in December 1984. He starred as the Hatters were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1984-85 and 1987-88, moving to Derby County in January 1990 and returning to Luton in September 1991. Joining Chelsea in August 1992, he later played for Sunderland, Coventry and Wimbledon. He is currently managing Rotherham United.

MALCOLM MACDONALD: Ace marksman who was capped 14 times by England after leaving Luton Town. Initially with Tonbridge, he joined Fulham in August 1968 and moved to Kenilworth Road in July 1969. He was Luton's top scorer in two consecutive seasons including the 1969-70 promotion success and netted 49 goals in 88 League games before being sold to Newcastle United for £180,000 in May 1971. An FA Cup finalist in 1974, he joined Arsenal for £333,000 in August 1976 and was an FA Cup finalist again in 1978 before injury ended his career. He subsequently managed Fulham and Huddersfield Town.

PAUL WALSH: England international striker who was capped five times while at Luton Town. Signing professional for Charlton Athletic in October 1979, he starred in their 1980-81 promotion success and moved to Luton in July 1982. He was 'Player of the Year' in 1982-83 and leading marksman in 1983-84, netting 24 goals in 80 First Division games for the Hatters prior to joining Liverpool in May 1984. Helping to win the League Championship in 1985-86, he joined Tottenham Hotspur in February 1988 and was an FA Cup winner in 1991. He later played for Portsmouth and Manchester City until injury ended his career.





CCFC

BRITANNIA
TYRES
SUPERSTORE

CCFC Britannia Tyres Superstore Grand Opening

The Ricoh Arena was awash with Sky Blues fans of all ages this week when Coventry City players, coaches and hierarchy attended the official opening of the CCFC Britannia Tyres Superstore.

The state-of-the-art superstore – based in the North-West corner of the Ricoh Arena – has been open since August but the Grand Opening was held off until the October half term holidays to allow school children to come along to meet their heroes.

At a time when the Sky Blues were embarking on a brand new era it was only fitting that their Club Shop matched the environment and thanks to Coventry-based Britannia Tyres, the new superstore has already proved to be a roaring success.

Britannia Tyres will be the sponsor of the superstore for the next three years, continuing a link between the Club and company which stretches back several years.

And Managing Director Mike Rogocki was delighted to see the turn out for the Grand Opening of the store, as hundreds of supporters flooded in to meet their heroes and take advantage of a 20% discount on all items of stock.



"It's fantastic," said Mike. "Open, airy spaces, it's everything a modern shop should be. On a Tuesday lunchtime it's incredibly busy and it's great to see. From one shopkeeper to another, I wish we were as busy as this as well."

Britannia have been based in Coventry at Abbots Lane since 1994, before which Mike was involved with both Big City Tyres and HTS Budget Tyres at the same site, after moving to the Midlands from his native Cheshire in 1973.



Originally a Manchester United fan Mike may not have deserted his hometown side completely but admits that the results of the Sky Blues mean the most nowadays

"My original team is Manchester United but I have to say that I am a 'legitimate' because they were the nearest club to where I grew up," he explains. "I still look out for their results but it's Coventry who are most important to me."

Having advertised with Coventry City for the last six years – branching from an advert on the back page of the programme to stadium advertising and most recently to sponsoring the Main Stand for the final two seasons at Highfield Road – Mike and Britannia obviously have a vested interest in the fortunes of the Sky Blues, and he is delighted to continue it at the Arena.

"With the move to the new stadium I decided not to sponsor a stand because I wanted any funds that I spent to go directly to the Club and that is why I have sponsored the shop. The club will get every penny."

And his support is very much appreciated by Coventry City Chairman Mike McGinnity who was at the opening of the store along with assistant manager Adrian Heath and coach Alan Cork.

"From the Club's point-of-view I would like to personally thank Mike – on behalf of the Board of Directors – for his very generous sponsorship and I hope he believes he is getting value for money," said Mr McGinnity.

"This is not the first time Mike has sponsored something at the club. He has been backing us for some time and what we want is a happy relationship with all our sponsors. The more we can do for Britannia Tyres the happier I will be."

And those sentiments are echoed by Mike.

"There is an element of self-interest from my point-of-view because I'll repeat what I always say, what's good for Coventry City is good for the city of Coventry."



"It's fantastic. Open, airy spaces, it's everything a modern shop should be. On a Tuesday lunchtime it's incredibly busy and it's great to see. From one shopkeeper to another, I wish we were as busy as this as well."



With the Sky Blues not getting off to the best of starts this term, Mike refuses to be downbeat. He was encouraged to see nearly 25,000 supporters inside the Ricoh for the game against Crystal Palace – City's biggest league attendance for 18 years – and has every confidence that fortunes will change under Micky Adams.



"Coventry's Coventry and you can't fault the people – they're the best supporters in the world. They've shown it this year and I'm looking forward to our first 30,000 gate and I don't think we're that far away from it.

"I don't think it'll take a lot to turn it around – as the manager has said it is all about confidence. We've got a great bunch of guys and you can see everybody is working hard for the club. With all that effort we are going to get returns for it, both on the financial side and the playing side.

"It has been absolutely fantastic here. The atmosphere is brilliant and I'm sure the results will change."

You can visit the superb CCFC Britannia Tyres Superstore in the North West corner of the Ricoh Arena and you can visit the online store at ccfc.co.uk to see what's on offer.

Britannia Tyres is based in Abbots Lane in Coventry and also has branches in Nuneaton and Hinckley.

Many thanks to Lee Whitehead of the Cake Shop in Bedworth for kindly donating the cake.

DISAPPOINTING DEFEAT FOR CITY

Sky Blues slump in front of record crowd

COVENTRY CITY 1

Heath (45)

CRYSTAL PALACE 4

Ward (13), Morrison (45), Watson (58), Macken (90)

Saturday October 15, 2005, Ricoh Arena, Coca Cola Championship

The Sky Blues were beaten by four goals to one by Crystal Palace in front of the biggest crowd of the season so far at the Ricoh Arena.

City fans took advantage of reduced ticket priced for the match but unfortunately the players could not deliver a fitting performance and Palace were well worth the three points.

The visitors took an early lead through Darren Ward who swivelled inside the area to divert a long range shot past Stephen Bywater.

However, City composed themselves to enjoy plenty of possession in the first half and they netted a timely equaliser when Matt Heath headed home a Stephen Hughes corner just before half time.

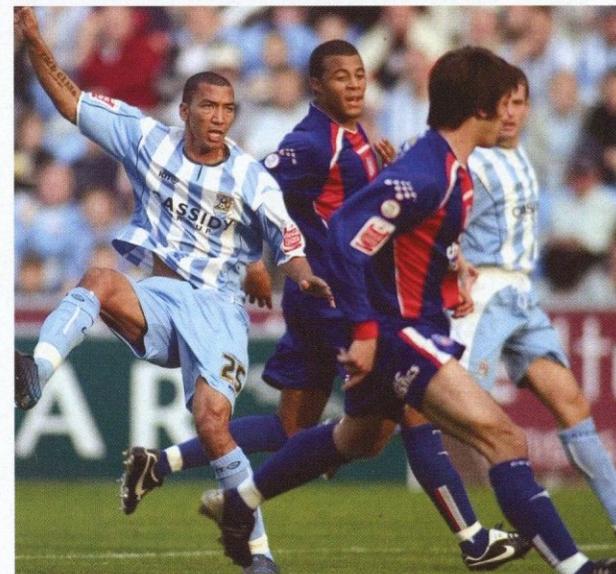
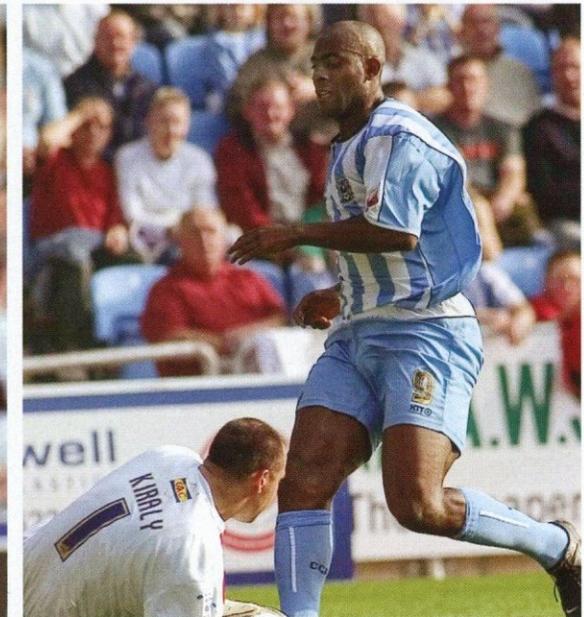
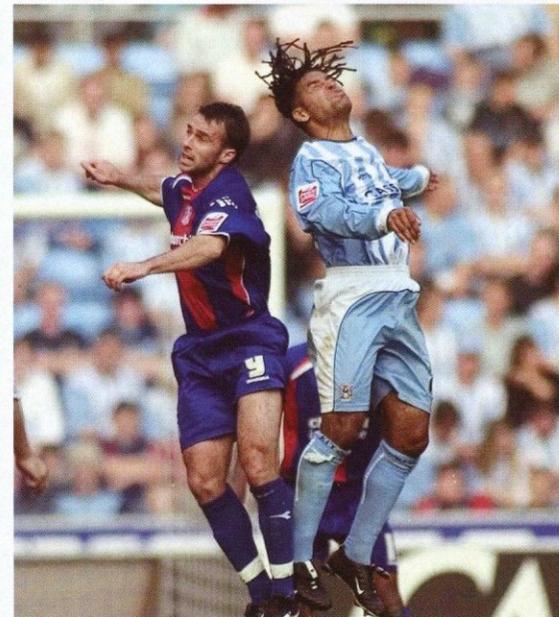
But just when the Sky Blues looked as if they would be going into half time on a high, Palace brought them back down to earth when an unmarked Clinton Morrison headed them back into the lead with virtually the last touch of the half.

Ben Watson's goal early in the second half effectively killed the tie and there was more bad news for Coventry when substitute Claus Jorgensen was red carded for verbally abusing the referee towards the end.

Jon Macken added salt in the wound with a last ditch fourth, following up after Bywater had saved Andy Johnson's shot making it a miserable afternoon all round for the Sky Blues.

Micky Adams was disappointed that the players could not deliver a fitting performance for City's highest home attendance in 18 years.

"Our confidence is fragile at the moment but we have all been there before, and it will return," said the City manager. "We have got some decent players at the club but as I said before what they are lacking at the moment is confidence. It is not something you can give players and when they are lacking confidence they have got to work their way through it. There is no hiding place and I certainly won't be hiding away. They have got to stand up and be counted."



MatchFacts

Coventry City

Bywater, Duffy, Hall, Heath, Whing, Flood (Jorgensen 60), Doyle, Hughes (Watson 89), Morrell, Scowcroft, McSheffrey.
Subs (not used): Ince, Osbourne, Impey

Sent-Off: Jørgensen (82) **Booked:** Nalis

Crystal Palace

Kiraly; Ward; McAnuff; Freedman (Macken 87); Morrison (Johnson 78); Watson (Hughes 61); Soares; Butterfield; Boyce; Reich; Hall. **Subs (not used):** Speroni; Hudson

Booked: n/a

Referee: Mr A Wiley

Attendance: 24,438

Venue: Ricoh Arena

MatchStats

Coventry		Palace
14	Goal Attempts	12
8	On Target	8
6	Off Target	4
13	Corners	3
14	Fouls	15
56%	Possession	44%



SKY BLUES BUSINESS PAGES



Coventry City Football Club is launching a new initiative, the Sky Blue Business Directory, an opportunity for businesses to advertise with the Sky Blues, with this week's theme restaurants.



The Shilton Arms

The Shilton Arms, Church Road, Shilton, Nr. Coventry
Telephone 02476 612607

A 25% discount off all meals after 9pm Sunday – Thursday.
During October, November, January and February

Wednesday evenings is:
Two for the Price of One After 9pm

Yes, order any two meals from the main menu or specials board and only pay for the higher priced one. The second meal is completely free

Bon appetite!



The Rose & Castle

The Rose & Castle, Main Road, Ansty, Nr. Coventry
Telephone 02476 612822

A 25% discount off all meals after 9pm Sunday – Thursday.
During October, November, January and February

Wednesday evenings is:
Two for the Price of One After 9pm

Yes, order any two meals from the main menu or specials board and only pay for the higher priced one. The second meal is completely free

Bon appetite!



The Red Lion

The Red Lion, Wall Hill Road, Corley Moor, Nr. Coventry
Telephone 01676 542345

A 25% discount off all meals after 9pm Sunday – Thursday.
During October, November, January and February

Wednesday evenings is:
Two for the Price of One After 9pm

Yes, order any two meals from the main menu or specials board and only pay for the higher priced one. The second meal is completely free

Bon appetite!

DESI DISH

DESI DISH Indian Restaurant, Coventry's only Indian restaurant offering fine Indian and Punjabi style food, is delighted to invite you to our Diwali Food Festival 5th November 2005

Only £14.95 per person.

We are now also open for business lunch
£5.95 Tuesday to Fridays each week.

Bookings for Christmas are now being taken.

Boxing Day and New Years Eve dinners
only £19.95 per head payment, with booking.

Join us before the match or afterwards, special dinners or celebrations. Please book to avoid disappointment.

Desi Dish Contemporary Indian Restaurant
02476 256 226 / 02476 256 343

83 Far Gosford Street, (near Binley Road end)
Coventry CV1 5DZ

The SkyBlues Quiz

Spot the Ball



Name the Stadium

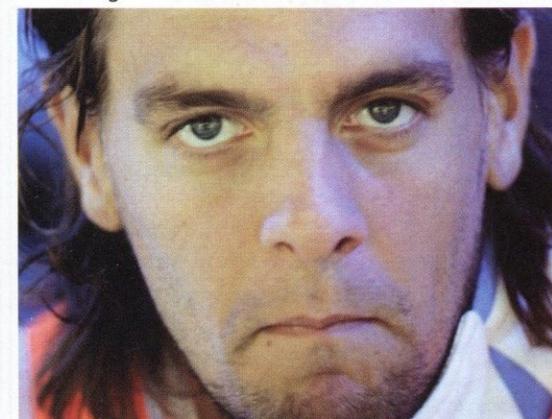


Sporting Knowledge

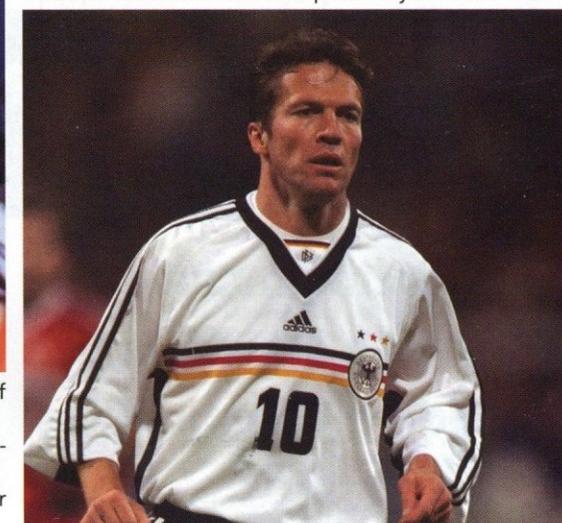
- Which player added to his impressive haul of derby goals, when grabbing the winner in the recent Birmingham v Villa clash?
- Which Real Madrid defender scored in the Spanish side's 4-1 win over Rosenborg after scoring two own goals in recent weeks?

What Year?

- Manchester United won the FA Cup.
- Nottingham Forest won the League Cup.
- Liverpool won the title.
- AC Milan won the European Cup.
- Juventus won the UEFA Cup.
- Sampdoria won the Cup Winners' Cup.
- Real Madrid won La Liga.
- Lothar Matthaus won European Player of the Year.



- Who recently quit as Portsmouth's Director of Football?
- From which Championship side is Lilian Nalis on-loan from?
- Which member of the City squad started his career at Auxerre before moving to West Ham?
- Tony Pulis manages which Championship side?
- Luton Town boss Mike Newell won a Premiership winner's medal with which club?
- True or false – Mike Newell also played for Liverpool?
- Where do Luton play their home games?



- David Speedie was City's top scorer.
- Brian Borrows was City's Player of the Year.
- City finished 12th in the top flight.

Dan's Tricky Teaser

Name two clubs to have won a foreign country's league?

Sporting Knowledge: 1. Kevin Phillips, 2. Jonathan Woodgate, 3. Velimir Zajec, 4. Sheffield United, 5. Youssef Soufiane, 6. Plymouth Argyle, 7. The Hatters, 8. Blackburn Rovers, 9. False, 10. Kenilworth Road, Name the Stadium: Anfield (Liverpool) Dan's Tricky Teaser: Portsmouth, Monaco have won the French League and Derry City of Northern Ireland have won the Republic of Ireland League. What Year: 1990 Spot the Ball: F5

Geoff Foster



I'll tell you an embarrassing story. After many years of trials, tribulations, tears and tantrums (mostly from me and Mrs Geoff), a while ago the Foster household decided that there were enough little Fosterlets running around, and my genetic legacy was safe for another generation.

likey' episode. A competition had been held in some suitably backwater American town with the purpose of crowning an identikit Dolly Parton as the country crooner's low-rent doppelganger.

Many buxom and vertically challenged ladies took part, all sporting the requisite blonde wig and high heeled cowgirl boots. The result was agreed upon by all present as being the fairest one on the day, and the winner hailed as the most authentic Dolly clone on display.

Dolly Parton herself came third. She had entered the tournament under an assumed name as a bit of a laugh. Not so funny now, eh, Dolly? You don't even pass as a faint version of yourself these days. Oh dear.

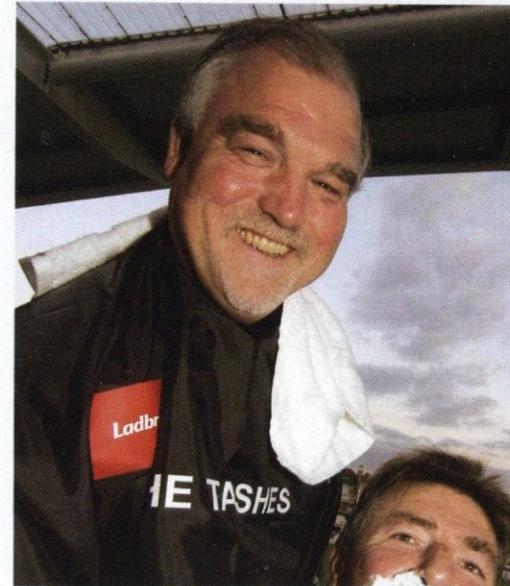
This led me to muse on football teams who seem to be doing rather bad impressions of themselves this season. For example, there's no way that the autumn 2005 version of Spurs bears any resemblance to the perennial losers of past seasons. Hanging on to Chelsea's shirt-tails? Never...

I loved it when the Brazilian World Cup winning team came to watch the Sky Blues side of Regis, Kilcline and Peake vintage, and commented how much the City played like them. I smile when crowds today lambast poorly playing but highly touted opponents with the cry "Are you Brighton in disguise?" just to prick their inflated egos.

Even better was the Stamford Bridge faithfuls' mocking "Boring Boring Chelsea" chant as they went four-up in the Champions' League against Real Betis. Jo Mo's boys were well and truly emerging from their media disguise as unentertaining dull-merchants. Certainly, they were the Real deal on show - not the fake Spaniards.

Is Peter Crouch doing a realistic impression of the mighty Liverpool strikers of old? Can Neil Warnock ever force himself to appear to be a humble and bashful manager? Is it possible to mistake the Priestfield Stadium for a 21st Century professional football venue?

And as for my south-of-the-border surgeon, from where I was lying, I now realise he bore an uncanny resemblance to David James - but with thankfully safer hands.



So I had the snip. It's hard to think of the kind of small talk one could engage in during such a medical procedure, but the surgeon in charge had a good pop at making me feel comfortable, at ease and relaxed.

"Has anyone ever told you that you look like Mike Gatting?" he enquired, whilst getting busy with the scissors. I wasn't sure which view gave him this particular reminiscence, nor did I ever establish whether he had performed a similar reproductive favour for the former England captain.

This rather unnecessarily intimate story swam into my head when last week I read of a similarly bizarre 'looky-

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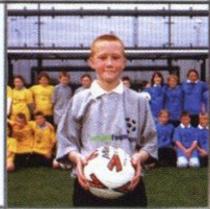
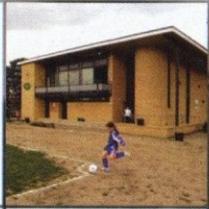
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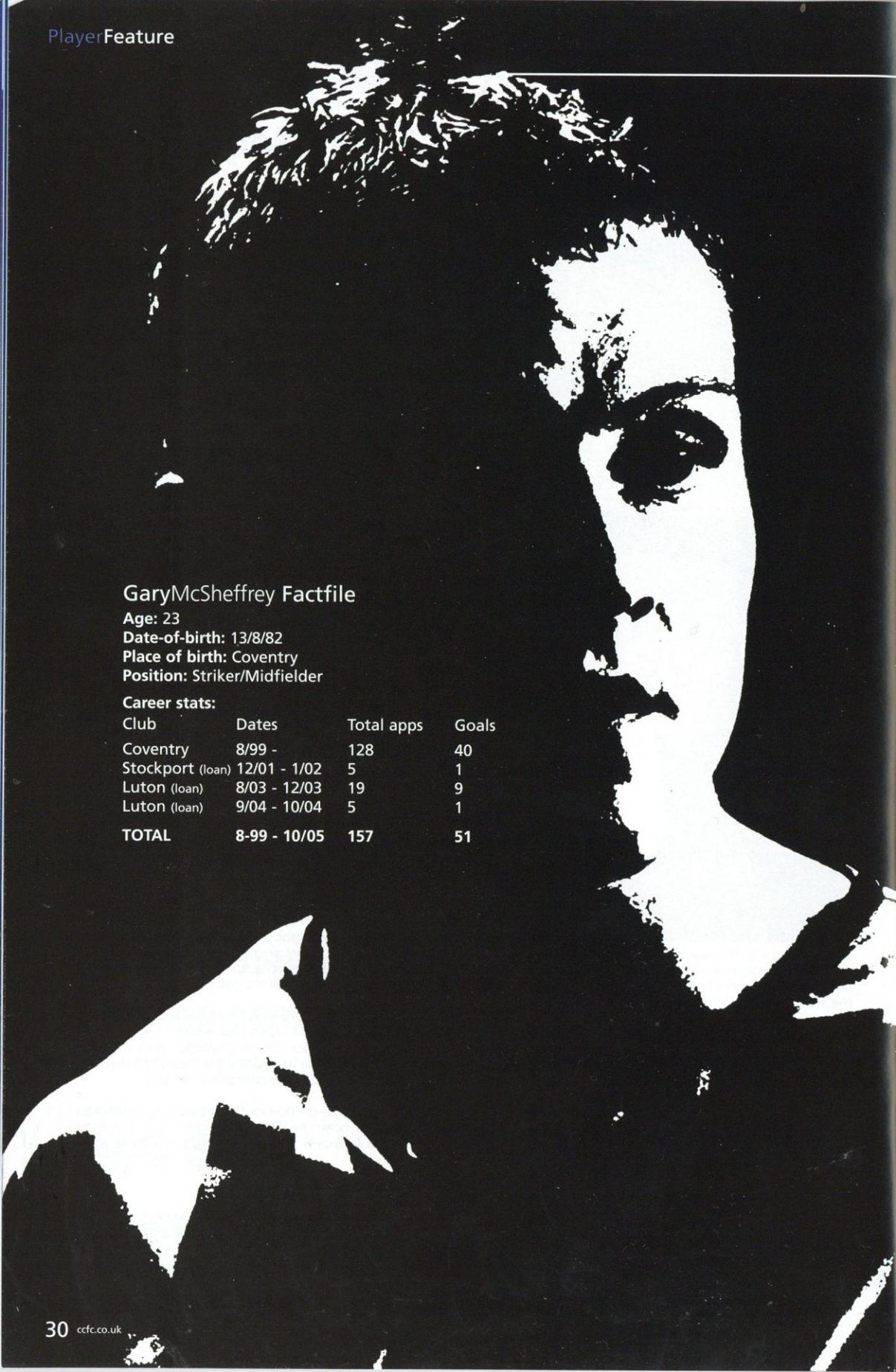
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GaryMcSheffrey Factfile

Age: 23

Date-of-birth: 13/8/82

Place of birth: Coventry

Position: Striker/Midfielder

Career stats:

Club	Dates	Total apps	Goals
Coventry	8/99 -	128	40
Stockport (loan)	12/01 - 1/02	5	1
Luton (loan)	8/03 - 12/03	19	9
Luton (loan)	9/04 - 10/04	5	1
TOTAL	8-99 - 10/05	157	51



gary **McSheffrey**

Frustration is probably the one word which has summed up the season for the Sky Blues to date and that is certainly true for Gary McSheffrey, with last week's disappointing 2-1 defeat to local rivals Leicester epitomising all of City's poor play and poor fortune in the space of 90 minutes.

Without an away win all season, we made the short trip to the Walkers Stadium off the back of a confidence-building 2-2 draw with Ipswich, having trailed the Tractor Boys by two goals to nil at one point.

And the game against the East Anglians proved to be a good one for McSheffrey who, granted a rare start up front alongside Dele Adebola, repaid his manager with a goal as well as having another one ruled out.

Nevertheless having overturned a two goal deficit it was definitely a point gained and the demonstration of character from the players went a long way to restoring depleted confidence levels.

That certainly seemed to be the case for the vast majority of the first half at the Walkers, where City made all the early running against their local rivals thanks in no small part to the electric display of McSheffrey who notched his fifth goal of the season with a neat finish following good work from his strike partner Adebola.

It looked as if the goal was enough to give the Sky Blues a lead going into half time. That was until a lapse of concentration saw the home team grab a scrappy equaliser sixty seconds before the half time whistle with the second – and ultimate winner – coming exactly the same amount of after the restart.



GM

"I didn't start as well as I'd like to but it's coming together now and I'm not in a bad run of goals at the minute. Personally it's not too bad but I'd swap all my goals for wins every week so we could push up the table."

So at the end of the game there was definitely a feeling of what if? What if we hadn't conceded right on the stroke of half time? Or more importantly as far as McSheffrey was concerned, what if the referee had awarded one of two penalties that he went down for rather than dismissing both with a wave of the hand before brandishing a yellow card to the livewire forward for what he deemed as diving?

And anybody who had seen the Coventry kid's downbeat manner after the final whistle would be left in no doubt as to how much defeat against our most local rivals in the Championship hurt.

"We conceded a couple of bad goals, one from a long throw-in and one from a corner so it's the same things that are constantly shooting us in the foot at the moment," said the 23-year-old. "We should be big and tough enough not to concede in the last minute of a half but on the other hand we controlled the game and should have had a couple of penalties but the referee's decisions didn't go our way."

"It's frustrating but when referees are like he was it's almost as if you can't speak to them. He pushed me away when I tried to speak to him and when you go back to try and speak again they can send you off so you have to really control yourself. I definitely couldn't stay on my feet for the first one and for the second one, the goalkeeper clipped my ankle when I took it around him so in my opinion they're stone wall penalties."

"Obviously I'm not going to go down if I can score. There were two occasions when I went down but there was also another occasion when I could have gone down but didn't because I didn't get touched."

"It's so frustrating that they've got so much authority and protection that you can't even go down for a legitimate penalty and even if he doesn't give a penalty, it doesn't automatically mean I've dived. Yet again decisions didn't go our way but we've just got to stick together and get on with it."



"I also picked up my fifth booking of the season so I've got a suspension now which put today's game in threat for me because from the start of the season I'd looked at this game and seen it as a fixture that I really wanted to play in."

Thankfully for McSheffrey his suspension does not kick in until seven days after the offence meaning he is available for selection for today's game against Luton – a team he has close connections with having spent two separate loan spells with them in the last two seasons when things weren't going so well for him with Coventry City.

Loaned out initially by Gary McAllister for three months at the start of the 2003/2004 season he netted an impressive nine goals in 19 performances for the then-League One outfit.

He was Kenilworth Road-bound again at the start of last term, this time only for a month when he netted once in one start as most of his appearances came from the bench.

But having enjoyed the most settled start at Coventry City since making his debut back in 1999 – McSheffrey has been everpresent so far this campaign – the chance to play against the club who helped him to get his career back on track is an understandably appealing one, especially considering the Hatters electric start following promotion to the Championship.

"It will be really nice to play against them because I never have done and a lot of the lads that I knew when I was with them are still there and they're obviously doing very well.

"I think their start has surprised most people but I looked at them and thought they could easily hold it together in this league and I had a feeling they would do well.

"I'm surprised they've got off to as good start as they have

but not totally surprised. I knew they were a quality team and I remember when I was there we played Charlton in the League Cup and they had a really good team out. We drew four each and lost on penalties so I was never in doubt that they had a good team down there.

"It's a good place to play and Kenilworth Road is a very tough place for other teams to go to. It's only a small stadium but they get behind their team. But we've got them at the Ricoh and we've got to show them what we can do. Hopefully we'll take three points.

"It is the biggest game of our season so far and we've got to put the recent results behind us. Three points is all we want along with a good performance for the fans."

So how does McSheffrey view his own start to the season? Five goals in all competitions is a reasonable return but when you consider that two of them have come in the last two matches when he has played for 90 minutes up front, he is just warming up.

"I'm settled but not necessarily pleased with the way things have gone overall. I didn't start as well as I'd like to but it's coming together now and I'm not in a bad run of goals at the minute. Personally it's not too bad but I'd swap all my goals for wins every week so we could push up the table.

"I like playing up front but as long as we're winning, that's the main thing, and we're not at the minute so we've got a lot to do.

"If we don't believe we can win our next game then we won't so we've got to go into each game thinking this will be the one. I've got no doubt that we can get back to winning again and hopefully we can kickstart our season today."

You ask the questions...

We asked fans to supply some questions for Gary – here's a selection of the best:

What's it like now being an integral part of the team, compared to where you were a few years ago, when you were surplus to requirements, training on your own, and being loaned out to different clubs? *Simon Daly*

It's good. It shows that football is all about opinions. Going to Luton on loan kickstarted my career, I came back, played well and I finally feel like Coventry City is where I belong. Micky Adams and Adrian Heath have helped to restore my self belief.

If you weren't playing for City where would you be sitting in the Ricoh? *Greg Miles*

I'm not too sure where I'd sit at the Ricoh because I've played every game here so far but at Highfield Road I would have sat in the one opposite the Main Stand if I wasn't a player.

Congratulations on recently scoring your 50th senior goal. Do you have one that is the most memorable? *Randi Weaver*

It was my first ever goal for the club, away at Crystal Palace and it was quality! Magnus Hedman put a long goalkick downfield, I controlled it and in one touch volleyed it into the back of the net. That one will always stick with me.

Describe your typical matchday routine? *Brian Duffy*

I get up, have some breakfast, watch Soccer AM and then we have a pre-match meal at the hotel at about midday. Nothing too complicated but that's my routine before I get to the ground.

As a loyal Coventry City fan I go to each match and pay £8 and my dad has to pay £21. Do you really think that it is a realistic price? *Keith Perry*

I think it's probably in keeping with a lot of other clubs so in that respect it is realistic. I guess it all depends on how we perform on the day whether the fans think it is fair but we always go out there and try to make it value for money.

Is it true you might be going to Wigan in January? *Matthew Stephen*

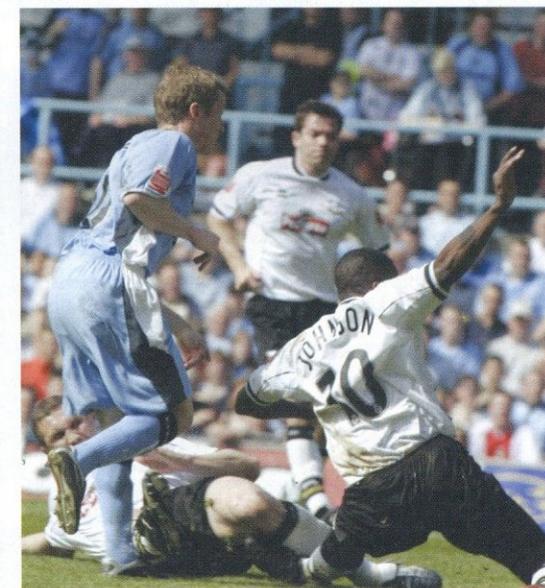
No

What's it like, playing for the club that you supported as a kid? *Sophie Ryder*

It's great. It's what I've always wanted to do but the biggest disappointment for me is where we are in the league at the moment. Hopefully we can turn it around.

Where do you think Coventry will finish this season? *Jack Jenkinson*

It's all about consistency and we all know how quickly things can change in this league. When we get a good run we'll jump up the table and if we're mid-table in January and February then we can legitimately push for the play-offs. The players are concerned at where we are in the league but there is no need to panic yet.



Why do you think your form isn't as good as the latter part of last season? *Murray Kemp*

I don't know. It's wasn't the best of starts for me but I worked very hard to try to get through it and I feel like my form has returned in the last couple of games. If players knew why they're in bad form they never would be and like I say the only way to get through it is to work hard.

What stadium do you most like to play at, the Ricoh or Highfield Road?

Highfield Road at the end of last season was unbeatable and because the stands are that much closer to the pitch there is more of an intense atmosphere. But the Ricoh is quality and I have no doubt that it'll only get better with time.

FL Championship stats

2005/06 season

Scored & conceded in last 15 mins

FOR	76-90	Total	%	AGAINST	76-90	Total	%
Crewe	5	15	33.3	Leicester	7	18	38.9
Plymouth	4	12	33.3	Palace	4	13	30.8
Hull	4	13	30.8	Southampton	4	13	30.8
Palace	6	22	27.3	Luton	5	17	29.4
Brighton	4	15	26.7	Stoke	6	22	27.3
Stoke	4	15	26.7	Brighton	5	20	25.0
Sheff Utd	8	31	25.8	Reading	2	8	25.0
Derby	5	20	25.0	Derby	5	21	23.8
Preston	4	16	25.0	QPR	4	17	23.5
Luton	6	25	24.0	Preston	4	18	22.2
Reading	5	25	20.0	Wolves	3	14	21.4
Burnley	4	20	20.0	Millwall	5	25	20.0
Leicester	3	16	18.8	Burnley	4	20	20.0
Sheff Wed	2	12	16.7	Coventry	5	26	19.2
Wolves	3	19	15.8	Ipswich	4	22	18.2
Watford	3	23	13.0	Sheff Wed	3	17	17.6
Norwich	2	16	12.5	Cardiff	3	18	16.7
QPR	2	16	12.5	Watford	3	18	16.7
Cardiff	3	25	12.0	Hull	2	13	15.4
Coventry	2	19	10.5	Sheff Utd	2	13	15.4
Millwall	1	11	9.1	Leeds	1	13	7.7
Ipswich	1	14	7.1	Crewe	2	29	6.9
Southampton	1	17	5.9	Norwich	0	21	0.0
Leeds	1	18	5.6	Plymouth	0	19	0.0

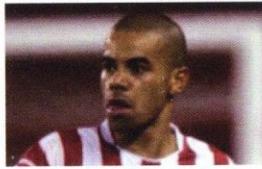
Margins of victory & defeat

WON BY	1 gl	2 gls	3 gls	4+ gls	LOST BY	1 gl	2 gls	3 gls	4+ gls
Sheff Utd	7	3	1	1	Millwall	5	1	0	2
Reading	6	2	1	1	Stoke	3	3	2	0
Luton	5	2	1	0	Burnley	5	2	0	0
Palace	1	5	1	0	Crewe	2	3	0	2
Leeds	5	2	0	0	Ipswich	3	2	1	1
Cardiff	4	0	1	1	Norwich	4	2	1	0
Stoke	4	2	0	0	Coventry	3	1	1	1
Reading	3	2	1	0	Plymouth	2	4	0	0
Watford	4	1	0	0	Brighton	2	3	0	0
Ipswich	4	0	1	0	Palace	5	0	0	0
QPR	4	0	1	0	Hull	4	1	0	0
Wolves	2	2	0	1	Leicester	3	1	1	0
Burnley	2	0	1	1	Sheff Wed	3	2	0	0
Hull	2	2	0	0	Cardiff	3	1	0	0
Leicester	2	2	0	0	Derby	3	1	0	0
Norwich	2	2	0	0	Preston	2	0	2	0
Southampton	2	2	0	0	QPR	1	2	1	0
Derby	2	1	0	0	Watford	3	1	0	0
Plymouth	3	0	0	0	Wolves	3	1	0	0
Preston	2	0	0	1	Leeds	2	1	0	0
Brighton	1	1	0	0	Luton	2	1	0	0
Coventry	0	1	1	0	Sheff Utd	2	0	0	0
Crewe	1	1	0	0	Southampton	2	0	0	0
Millwall	2	0	0	0	Reading	1	0	0	0
Sheff Wed	2	0	0	0					

Volleys

Most volleyed shots scored

Player	Club	Goals
Adebola	Coventry	2
Ashton	Norwich	2
Broomes	Stoke	2
Healy	Leeds	2
Hulse	Leeds	2
King	Watford	2
Lita	Reading	2
Morgan	Luton	2



On the bounce: Stoke City's Marlon Broomes (above) and Reading's Leroy Lita (below).



Long range goals

Most goals outside the 18 yard box

Player	Club	Goals
Young	Watford	4
O'Connor G	Burnley	3
Bisgaard	Derby	2
Feeney	Luton	2
Idiakez	Derby	2
Koumas	Cardiff	2
Quinn	Sheff Utd	2
Vaughan	Crewe	2



The long ranger Watford's Ashley Young has netted the most goals from long range.

Goalkeeping & goalscoring

Best goalkeeping ratio

Total goals conceded	8
Opposition shots on target	83
Percentage of shots saved	90.4

Reading



Best strike ratio

Total goals scored	25
Shots on target	73
Percentage of shots scored	34.2

Cardiff City



Worst goalkeeping ratio

Total goals conceded	25
Opposition shots on target	69
Percentage of shots saved	63.8

Millwall



Worst strike ratio

Total goals scored	16
Shots on target	97
Percentage of shots scored	16.5

Leicester City



Comebacks & throwaways

WON FROM	-3	-2	-1	TOTAL	LOST FROM	+3	+2	+1	TOTAL
Sheff Utd	0	1	2	3	Watford	0	1	1	2
Luton	0	0	2	2	Coventry	0	0	2	2
Cardiff	0	0	1	1	Luton	0	0	2	2
Crewe	0	0	1	1	Burnley	0	0	1	1
Ipswich	0	0	1	1	Cardiff	0	0	1	1
Leeds	0	0	1	1	Crewe	0	0	1	1
Leicester	0	0	1	1	Palace	0	0	1	1
Millwall	0	0	1	1	Derby	0	0	1	1
Norwich	0	0	1	1	Hull	0	0	1	1
Plymouth	0	0	1	1	Leeds	0	0	1	1
Preston	0	0	1	1	Preston	0	0	1	1
Reading	0	0	1	1	Southampton	0	0	1	1
Stoke	0	0	1	1	Stoke	0	0	1	1
Watford	0	0	1	1	Wolves	0	0	1	1
DRAWN FROM	-3	-2	-1	TOTAL	DRAWN FROM	+3	+2	+1	TOTAL
Derby	0	0	7	7	Crewe	0	1	4	5
Coventry	0	1	3	4	Sheff Wed	0	0	5	5
Southampton	0	0	4	4	Brighton	0	1	3	4
Brighton	0	0	3	3	Cardiff	0	1	2	3
Burnley	0	0	3	3	Derby	0	0	3	3
Hull	0	0	3	3	Preston	0	0	3	3
Plymouth	0	0	3	3	QPR	0	0	3	3
Preston	0	0	3	3	Southampton	0	0	3	3

That's just *Champion...*

A light-hearted look back at recent events in the Championship by Dan Clifford.



Best recent performance

There cannot be a manager in the Championship who has not wondered what Dave Jones said to his Cardiff City players at half-time during last weekend's clash with Crewe. The Bluebirds had given away the initiative of an early opening goal and were struggling at 1-1 when the half-time whistle blew.

Best recent quotes

Times of adversity can often cause people to get into a muddle, and Norwich manager Nigel Worthington is having a difficult time working out whether he likes the situation he is in or not. When asked about the criticism he has received so far this season Worthington said:

"Taking flak is part and parcel of the job. You can like it or lump it, but that's a fact. It's not something that you like though - obviously."

Whatever Jones told his players at the break it was certainly effective - the home team ripped into their visitors after the interval with a staggering five goal haul in the second period.

And QPR manager Ian Holloway admitted to confronting a fan before his side's impressive 3-0 victory over Norwich last Saturday, asking the supporter to tell him exactly what he thought of him.



Holloway said: "I was on the pitch chatting with Richard Langley, who I left out, and a fan shouted 'don't worry Rich, he won't be here much longer'. "So I went over and asked him to say what he thought of me to my face, and we chatted for about 10 minutes. He's entitled to his opinion."

And Mike Newell summed up the progress Luton have made this season when he revealed his surprise at Plymouth's approach to their trip to Kenilworth Road.

He said: "It was like they had just won the cup final the way they were celebrating when they came off the pitch with a 1-1 draw."

The result was described as Cardiff's best since making it to the Championship, and the quality of their display was confirmed by Crewe's assistant manager Neil Baker who admitted that the game was a "rout".

A terrible time for...

Already mentioned are Crewe and Norwich City, and there can be few teams who have had a worse week than the Canaries and manager Worthington.

He said: "We were completely outplayed by Cardiff and it was nothing short of a rout. It took us 27 minutes to string three passes together and I thought we were lucky to go into the break at 1-1. None of them coped well with their opposite man and when we are not strong and competing then you get a result like this."

A 3-0 defeat at QPR has further dented their chances of an immediate return to the Premiership and speculation is growing that star asset Dean Ashton will depart in the January transfer window.

It was also quite some seven days for Crystal Palace and manager Iain Dowie, who saw his side take three points in the league and then capture the scalp of European Champions Liverpool.

It was also an indifferent time for Leeds United who lost a lead against leaders Sheffield United in the league last weekend and then looked distinctly second best in a very one-sided cup tie at Ewood Park against Blackburn.

Palace landed a blow for Championship football when they beat Rafa Benitez's men 2-1 in the Carling Cup on Wednesday night.

The Sky Blues themselves however probably feature in this category after two league defeats on the bounce and the added blow of seeing West Ham recall increasingly impressive loan goalkeeper Stephen Bywater.

The views in this column are not necessarily the views of CCFC.

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Reserves: Second String stung in game of two halves

It was a game of two halves for Coventry City reserves as they lost 3-1 to Watford at Boreham Wood.

City took the lead thanks to a Jordan Parkes own goal, but a fightback from the Hornets after the interval – inspired by veteran striker Les Ferdinand – saw the home side net three to secure the win.

Coventry got to off to a bright start with Craig Reid going close after only eight minutes, firing just wide after a neat turn in the box.

And the Sky Blues were certainly causing problems for the Hornets who had lost all their previous six games. City's superiority was proving to be a huge frustration for the home side and on 21 minutes Watford's Junior Osborne was booked for a dangerous challenge on the lively Reid.

And just two minutes later Alan Cork's men finally made the breakthrough, Reid getting to the byline and his low centre deflected off the unfortunate Jordan Parkes and into the back of the Hornets net.

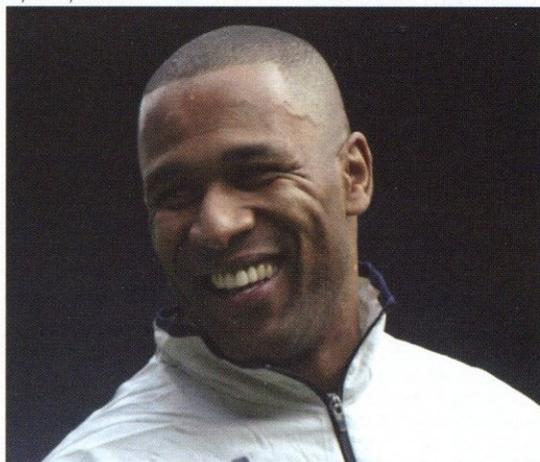
Kevin Thornton was the next to try his luck in front of goal and was incredibly unlucky not to have doubled City's advantage when his 29th minute chipped effort beat Sanna but bounced behind off the top of the crossbar.

Four minutes later and it was the experienced defender Paul Watson who went close to claiming a second for the Sky Blues, curling a free-kick towards the top corner only to see 'keeper Sanna saving well.

Reid had the last chance of the half, his close range effort forcing the busy Sanna into another good save to keep the scoreline at 1-0 going into the break.

While City may have had the best of the opening period it was a completely different story in the second as the home side turned it around.

The vastly experienced Ferdinand first had a header cleared off the line on 51 before converting from the penalty spot following a clumsy challenge from defender Ryan Lynch.



Ferdinand was replaced by Toumani Diagouraga on the hour and it took the French midfielder just five minutes to make an impact, curling a great right-footed effort past Tuffey into the City net.

The Sky Blues were now finding themselves under increased pressure and although Alan Cork shuffled the City line-up it was the home side who grabbed a third and wrapped up all three points for the first time this season.

On 75 minutes after good work involving Diagouraga and Bangura the Jamaican Grant was able to smash in a volley which took a massive deflection off Wall past Tuffey, to compound City's misery.

Academy: City kids earn their Spurs



City's Under 18s grabbed only their second win of the season a fortnight ago as they beat Tottenham 2-1 at the Alan Higgs Centre courtesy of two Vijay Sidhu goals.

Brian Borrows' men have endured an up-and-down start to the campaign and without a win since the opening day against Sunderland, the Spurs victory came as a big boost.

Going into the match, City had recorded two consecutive draws from away matches but with this game - the first of two home ones at the Alan Higgs Centre - it was good to see the kids utilise their home advantage.

The Sky Blues had by far the better of the opening period and went ahead in the 14th minute when Sidhu stabbed the ball home from close range after a header bounced his way following a corner kick.

He then netted a far superior second on 35, as he ran onto a precise throughball and finished with aplomb.

Inevitably, Tottenham rallied after the interval but thanks to some excellent defending from City they did not pull one back until 15 minutes from time when Radwan Hamed found the back of the net.

Thankfully, Coventry's youngsters stood firm and managed to hold on for a well-deserved three points, leaving Under 18s boss Brian Borrow's satisfied with the display.

"We looked very sharp against Spurs and it's always nice to get a victory against one of the big Premiership clubs. Spurs have got some talented kids but we matched them all the way and deserved the win.

"We started the game really well and took things to Spurs and they couldn't really match us in the first half. They came back at us a bit in the second but everybody did their jobs and although there were one or two nervy moments we looked very solid.

"Vijay looked sharp and he's been getting into the reserve team on a couple of occasions this season. He took his goals well and hopefully can build from here."

"We'd drawn a lot of our games leading up to this match and it should give the boys plenty of confidence that we played well and got the win against a good side."



Reserves 05-06

Wed Aug 10	Crystal Palace	A	0-4	L
Tue Aug 16	Arsenal	H	1-0	W
Tue Sep 6	Portsmouth	H	0-1	L
Mon Sep 12	Norwich City	A	0-0	D
Wed Sep 21	West Ham	H	0-1	L
Tue Oct 4	Leicester City	H	2-0	W
Mon Oct 10	Watford	A	1-3	L
Wed Oct 19	Chelsea	H	3-1	W
Tue Oct 25	Leicester City	A		
Tue Nov 8	Southampton	A		
Tue Nov 15	Derby County	H		
Wed Nov 23	Fulham	A		
Tue Nov 29	Charlton	H		
Tue Dec 6	Tottenham H	H		
Mon Dec 12	Arsenal	A		
Tue Dec 20	Crystal Palace	H		
Wed Jan 11	Portsmouth	A		
Tue Jan 24	Norwich City	H		
Wed Feb 1	Ipswich Town	A		
Tue Feb 7	West Ham	A		
Tue Feb 21	Ipswich Town	H		
Tue Feb 28	Watford	H		
Mon March 6	Chelsea	A		
Mon March 13	Charlton	A		
Tue March 21	Southampton	H		
Tue March 28	Derby County	A		
Tue Apr 4	Fulham	H		
Mon Apr 10	Tottenham H	A		
Wed May 3	Play-off			

The home games against Chelsea and Charlton will be played at the Ricoh Arena, with all other home fixtures to be played at Rugby Town.

Academy 05-06

Sat Aug 20	Sunderland	H	4-2	W
Sat Aug 27	Newcastle United	A	0-1	L
Sat Sep 3	Chelsea	H	1-1	D
Sat Sep 10	Charlton Athletic	A	2-2	D
Sat Sep 17	Arsenal	H	2-3	L
Sat Sep 24	Reading	A	1-7	L
Sat Oct 1	Cardiff City	H	1-1	D
Sat Oct 8	Birmingham City	A	0-0	D
Sat Oct 15	Tottenham H	H	2-1	W
Sat Oct 22	Bristol City	H	2-0	W
Sat Nov 5	Aston Villa	A		
Sat Nov 12	Leicester City	A		
Sat Nov 19	Milton Keynes Dons	H		
Sat Dec 3	Watford	A		
Sat Dec 10	Reading	H		
Sat Dec 17	3rd Round			
Sat Jan 7	Birmingham City	H		
Sat Jan 14	Tottenham Hotspur	A		
Sat Jan 21	Bristol City 4th Rd	A		
Sat Feb 4	Aston Villa 5th Rd	H		
Sat Feb 11	Leicester City	H		
Sat Feb 18	MK Dons 6th Rd	A		
Sat Feb 25	Watford	H		
Sat Mar 4	Cardiff City	A		
Sat Mar 11	West Ham United SF1	A		
Sat Mar 18	Millwall	H		
Sat Apr 1	Ipswich Town	A		
Sat Apr 8	Fulham	H		
Sat Apr 22	Southampton	A		
Sat May 6	Semi Final			
Tue May 11	Final			

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www.ricoharena.com

ntl pledges support to the Ricoh Arena



ntl would like to warmly welcome you to the Ricoh Arena for today's match between Coventry City and Luton Town. As sponsor of the East Stand, ntl has pledged its support to the Ricoh Arena for the next five years. For a club like Coventry, with such a great football history, it's a fitting home, and hopefully one which can eventually prove to be the springboard to greater success for Coventry City FC.

It goes without saying, that in the Ricoh Arena, the people of Coventry have a facility to be proud of, and not just for the benefit of the surrounding area, but in time, given its central location, the whole country.

As a keen supporter of community initiatives, ntl recognises the important role the Ricoh Arena will play in the community, and we look forward to a continued successful relationship with the Arena and the people of Coventry.

As the established leader of combined Telephone, Digital TV and Broadband services throughout the UK, we are already grateful for your support for ntl. Coventry is one of a number of UK cities (and of course Luton is another!) where we are proud to have such a strong customer base and where we also have one of our longest-standing main UK customer centres. It is our intention to continue to bring even more choice and great value to the people of Coventry and our three million other customers around the UK.

If you do wish to find out more about ntl and our range of great value services, please visit us at www.ntl.com or simply call 0800 052 6295. We would love to receive your call and wherever possible give you even more value through the ntl network.

Finally, we would like to wish you a great day's entertainment here at the Ricoh Arena, and we of course wish fans of both Coventry City and Luton Town the very best for this season.

With kind regards,

Grant Law
Marketing Director



Proud sponsors of the Ricoh Arena East Stand

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What's in a picture?



4 September 1965

George Hudson, one of Coventry City's finest post-war strikers is captured by the camera in perfect balance as he strokes home City's third goal in a 3-3 draw with Manchester City at Highfield Road. It makes it a five-game unbeaten start to the season for the Sky Blues and takes Hudson's goal tally to five in five games.

Four minutes later Young struck again to bring parity but it was City who went close to snatching the winner with man-of-the-match Ronnie Rees bursting through the middle only for his shot to bounce off Dowd's outstretched leg.



It was a thrilling end-to-end match which City led three times. Ron Farmer put City ahead from the penalty spot after Ernie Machin was sandwiched in the box. Neil Young equalised before Dave Clements restored the lead, heading home a corner after goalkeeper Harry Dowd came out and missed the ball.

Dietmar Bruck became City's first-ever substitute in a league game when he replaced the injured Farmer who cracked a cheekbone just before half-time. 29,403 watched the game. On Hudson's shoulder is the blond Ken Hale and also in the picture are defender Allan Harris and winger Dave Clements.

A Mick Kearns error let in Jimmy Murray for Manchester's second before City deservedly went ahead with this goal. 'The Hud' appeared to trap Brian Hill's cross, pivot and guide the ball home in one balletic movement. The crowd rose to applaud a sublime finish.

The two teams in Sky Blue would battle it out at the top of the old Division Two all season before Manchester City, managed by Joe Mercer and Malcolm Allison, won the championship and City missed out to promotion by one point, finishing third behind Southampton.



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With JSB Co-ordinator Rachel Jones



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Half-Time Hotshots



Name: Hayden Haywood
Age: 9
Lives: Luton
Hobbies: Bikes, ps2 & craft making
Favourite Players: Shaw, Hughes & McSheffrey



Name: Lee Haywood
Age: 13
Lives: Luton
Hobbies: Football, badminton & watching City
Favourite Players: Hall, Jorgensen & Adebola



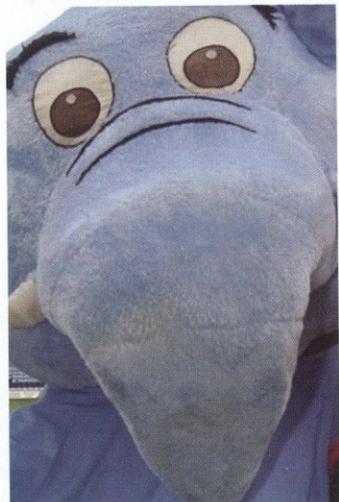
Name: Kieran Haywood
Age: 11
Lives: Luton
Hobbies: Football, scouts & watching City
Favourite Players: Adebola, Hughes & Page



Name: Conor Thorpe
Age: 9 Today
Lives: The Plough Inn, Eathorpe
Hobbies: Football, football & football
Favourite Players: McSheffrey

Hi Kids!

Welcome to the Ricoh Arena this afternoon. I would also like to say hi to the kids from the following schools: Oakfield Primary, Weddington Primary, Ernsford Grange and Southfields Primary School. All of these schools took part in our Get Active Campaign where Robert Page, Andrew Whing, James Scowcroft, Jonathan Tuffey and Kevin Thornton all visited the schools and took part in a PE lesson with the children. I hope you all enjoy the game!



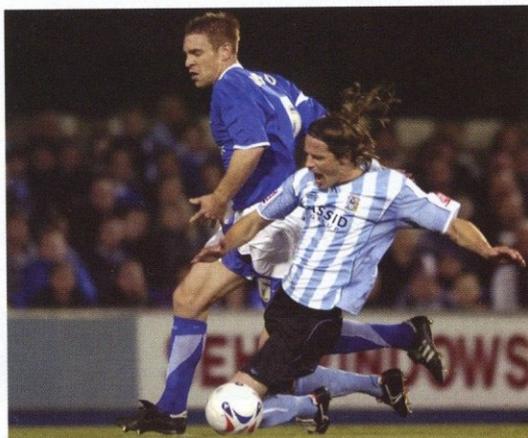
A special hello to the Half-Time Hotshots today. Conor Thorpe is 9 today and is being watched by his friends Brad, Sam and Bradley. Brothers Kieran, Lee and Hayden are also hotshots today and travel from Luton to watch City every week. All four boys were hotshots last season so have all had plenty of practice! I hope you all enjoy your day as Hotshots and I'll see you on the pitch at half-time!

Enjoy the game everyone

Play Up Sky Blues!



Spot the 5 differences



Happy match day Birthday

to the following Pizza Hut JSB members:

Mitchell Kew, William Naul, Conor Thorpe and Bradley Burgess

Lucky Ticket Winner

Congratulations! You have won two tickets to the Ipswich Town game on November 19.

This game's lucky winner is:

Alexander McCord JSB number 60496

To claim your prize call 0870 421 5032

Spot the Difference Answers: a: Y in Cassidy on Nalls shirt, b: CCFC on Nalls sock, c: No. 27 on Nalls shorts, d: Coca Cola logo on Ipswich Players shirt, e: Logo on Ipswich players football boot.



Hughes and Ince go Back to School

City stars Stephen Hughes and Clayton Ince were the latest to do their bit in the community when they visited a Keresley pre-school to put some toddlers through their paces with a kick about in the gardens.

And the skipper took time out to offer his support to the project and outline the importance of getting involved in local community events.

"It's very important for the Club to be involved in the community and I'm happy to do anything like this, especially when you see the look on the kids' faces when you turn up. Although I think some of them were more interested in Sky Blue Sam!"



The visit came after the likes of fellow first teamers Robert Page, James Scowcroft and Andy Whing had all been out and about supporting similar causes.

The Sky Blues' duo were at St Thomas' Pre-school in Wickham Close to present staff with an 'Investor in Children' award, as accredited by the Pre-School Learning Alliance, for the quality of care it provides for all the children who attend.

Sky Blue Sam also made an appearance, to the delight of all the kids, capping off what was a great day, not just for the toddlers, but also the players who looked like they wanted to stay around for another kick around!

City's captain Hughes even took the opportunity to formally hand over the award on stage to the staff who have been recognised for the high standard of care they provide to the toddlers.



Trinidad and Tobago international 'keeper Ince - who made his first league start for City in the recent clash at the Walkers Stadium - was also happy to get involved at the pre-school, based at St Thomas Church.

"It's great to do things like this and when you see the reaction you get it makes it all worthwhile."

CITY STALL TRACTOR BOYS

Coventry's gutsy comeback stuns Royle's men

IPSWICH TOWN 2 

Currie (27), Juan (38)

COVENTRY CITY 2 

McSheffrey (45), Nalis (56)

Tuesday October 18, 2005, Portman Road, Coca Cola Championship

The Sky Blues produced a spirited and battling comeback at Portman Road to give the travelling fans something to sing about on the long journey back from East Anglia.

City went into the game against the Tractor boys on the back of the demoralising defeat against Crystal Palace, but after coming back from two nil down the Sky Blues showed they weren't about to throw in the towel.

City may have been forgiven for looking nervy in the early stages but Micky Adams' men bossed the opening exchanges, playing with purpose and confidence to help silence the home fans.

But with 27 minutes gone – and against the run of play – Ipswich grabbed the lead in the most fortunate of circumstances, Darren Currie's curling free kick evading everyone in the City box and finding the corner of Stephen Bywater's net.

The goal was a huge boost for Joe Royle's men, and having been under the cosh for much of the half the home side doubled their advantage on 37, substitute Jimmy Juan finding space in the box to head a Kevin Horlock cross past Bywater.

But just when the Sky Blues looked as if they would be going into half time with a two-goal deficit to overhaul, up stepped the lively Gary McSheffrey to smash in from close range to send City into the break on a high.

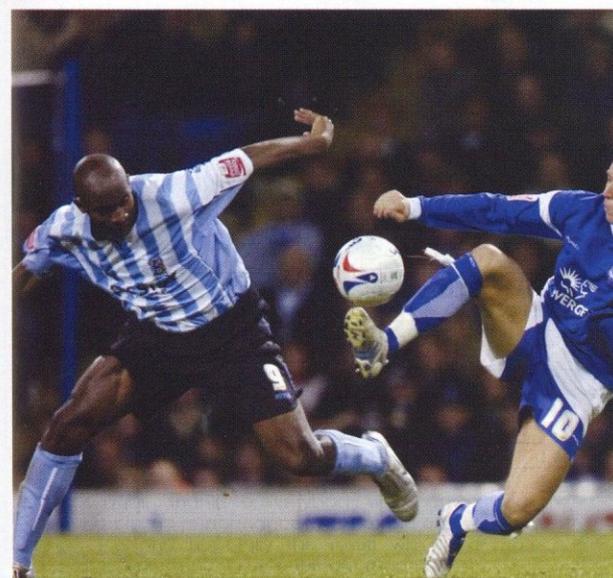
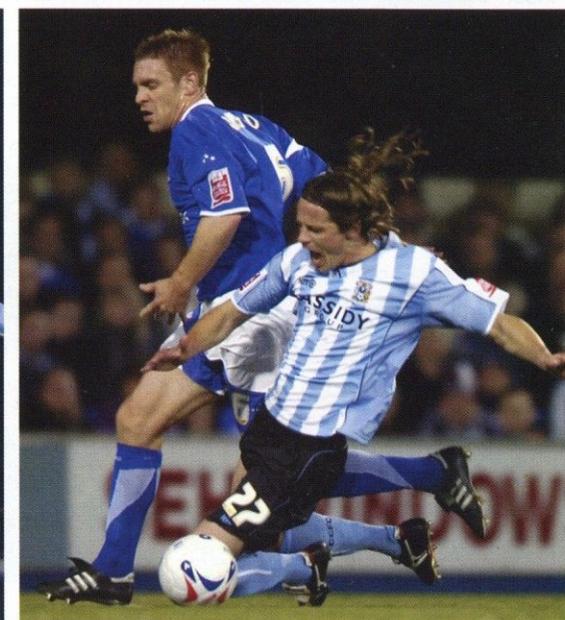
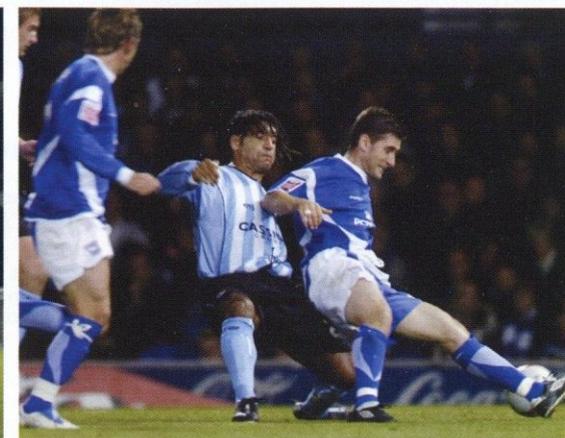
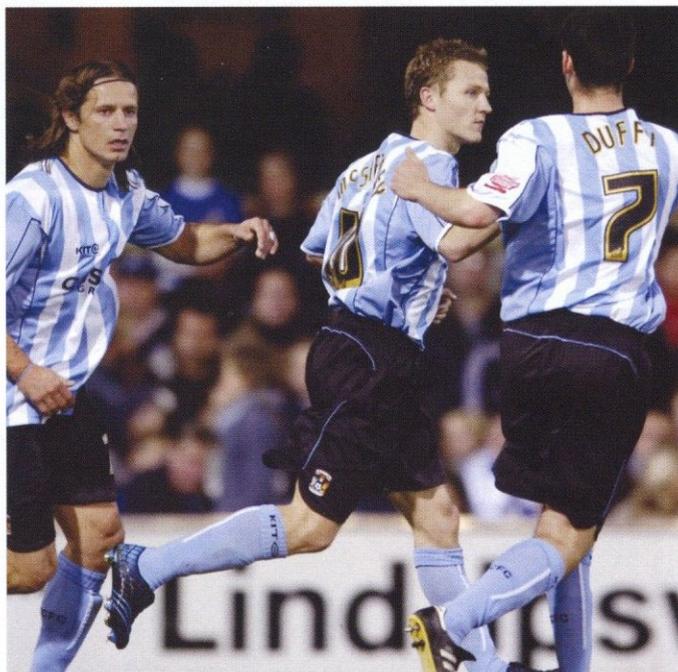
Micky Adams' men came out strongly after the restart and it was no more than they deserved when the on-loan Lilian Nalis stooped low to head past Town 'keeper Lewis Price, to level the score at 2-2.

City could even have gone on to grab all three points and cap off what would have been a fantastic comeback, but Gary McSheffrey's goal was chalked off for an infringement in the build up.

Joe Royle was also left bemoaning his team's luck after they were denied a goal, with the ball appearing to cross the line late on but the referee waved away the home side's appeal.

City's assistant Adrian Heath was full of praise for the players after the final whistle, and was clearly delighted with their gutsy comeback.

"We've had a bit of stick over the last couple of weeks. So it was nice to come back from two goals down and show that we've got a bit character, we don't throw the towel in and that's what they've done tonight. I think we were a little bit disappointed towards the end because we looked the more likely to take the three points."



MatchFacts

Coventry City
Bywater; Hall; Hughes; Duffy; Doyle; Adebola; McSheffrey (Morrell 90); Scowcroft; Heath; Shaw; Nalis.
Subs (not used): Ince; Whing; Watson; Impey.

Booked: McSheffrey 58, Heath 90

Ipswich Town
Price; Richards; De Vos; McEveley; Naylor; Forster (Bowditch 86); Currie; Horlock (Parkin 45); Castro; Proudlock; Garvan (Juan 25); **Subs (not used):** Supple; Wilnis.

Booked: Juan 54

Referee: T Kettle
Attendance: 22,656
Venue: Portman Road

MatchStats

Coventry		Ipswich
15	Goal Attempts	11
7	On Target	5
8	Off Target	6
9	Corners	4
12	Fouls	14
50%	Possession	50%



Joint Council launched

Coventry City is joining forces with the fans with the launch of a new 'Joint Council', to be chaired by Sky Blues legend Jimmy Hill.

He will be joined on the committee by members of the Sky Blue Trust, the Coventry City Supporters' Club and London Supporters' Club along with Chairman Mike McGinnity and President Geoffrey Robinson.

A member from the fanzines and supporter websites will also be present on a rotation basis for the initiative, which aims to bring the supporters closer to the Club.

The Joint Council will discuss a manner of initiatives and incentives to attract new supporters to Coventry City and boost attendances at the Ricoh Arena, as well as raising issues which are affecting the fans.

It will also look to build on the good work

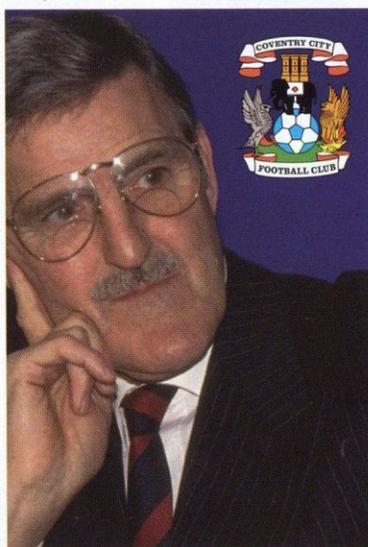
done so far by all of the fans' groups involved, including the Sky Blue Trust's work on the 'Save the Academy' scheme.

The first meeting of the Joint Council is taking place today. Keep checking the matchday programme and official website for updates.

Said Jimmy Hill: "We're delighted to launch this new initiative, which gives supporters the opportunity to put across their views through a recognised body."

"I've always believed in getting input from the fans and hope this committee can help take Coventry City back to the glory days of the Club."

Natalie Cox, from the Sky Blue Trust, added: "It is a fantastic opportunity for all Sky Blue Supporters to have their say. We hope fans will get behind the initiative and feel their voice is being heard."



COMPETITION TIME

Coventry City have linked up with Upshot Communication to offer Sky Blues fans some sensational musical goodies in our new competition available here in the matchday programme and on the official website ccfc.co.uk



This week, one lucky supporter will win a signed copy of the Stereophonics' new album Language. Sex. Violence. Other?

All you have to do to be in with a chance of winning one of these sensational prizes is answer the following question:

What was the name of the band's debut album?

- a) Word Gets Around
- b) Definitely Maybe
- c) Northern Soul

You can enter via email by sending your answer, along with your name and a contact number to david.antill@ccfc.co.uk

If you do not have email, answers by post to David Antill, Coventry City FC, Ricoh Arena, Coventry, CV6 6GE.

Closing date for entries is Friday November 4, 9am. Log on to ccfc.co.uk for more on the competition.



RecordBreakers

Coventry City would like to say thank you to every supporter who attended the last game at the Ricoh Arena against Crystal Palace when we achieved a record-breaking crowd.

Not only did the figure of 24,438 mean it was Coventry City's biggest ever crowd in an all-seater stadium but it was also our biggest home league attendance full-stop in 18 years.

During the Premiership years, crowds at Highfield Road were limited to a capacity of approximately 23,500, ever since the Spion Kop was knocked down and replaced with the East Stand in 1994.

And you have to go back to September 1987 - before all-seater stadia were introduced in this country - when 26,849 fans attended a goalless draw with Manchester United at Highfield Road for a league crowd higher than the one at the Ricoh on Saturday.

So once again, thanks to everybody who came along - unfortunately the performance was not the one we were looking for, and hopefully the result will be a more favourable one against Luton this afternoon.

50/50 Matchday Draw

Win up to £1000 instantly in Coventry City's 50/50 Matchday Draw!

Other prizes include two Legends Club tickets for the next home game, two tickets for the next home game and an autographed football!



Tickets cost just £1 and can be purchased from the CCFC Reception at the Ricoh Arena during the week prior to the match, or on a match day around the ground. The winning numbers will be announced at halftime, and will also be featured in the CCFC matchday programme and the official website ccfc.co.uk.

To claim your prize or if you have any queries regarding the 50/50 Matchday Draw, please call 0870 421 1987 with your winning ticket number or email info@ccfc.co.uk

Winning Numbers COVENTRY CITY -V- Watford

- 1ST PRIZE 07504 £349
- 2ND PRIZE 07995 HOSPITALITY PACKAGES
- 3RD PRIZE 07850 TICKETS FOR NEXT HOME LEAGUE GAME
- 4TH PRIZE 06377 AUTOGRAPHED FOOTBALL

Winning Numbers COVENTRY CITY -V- Hull City

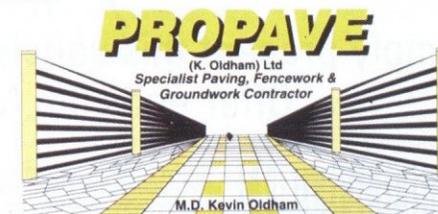
- 1ST PRIZE 04815 £462
- 2ND PRIZE 04812 HOSPITALITY PACKAGES
- 3RD PRIZE 05192 TWO TICKETS FOR NEXT HOME LEAGUE GAME
- 4TH PRIZE 05223 AUTOGRAPHED FOOTBALL

Winning Numbers COVENTRY CITY -V- Crystal Palace

- 1ST PRIZE 08281 £589
- 2ND PRIZE 09821 HOSPITALITY PACKAGES
- 3RD PRIZE 08711 TICKETS FOR NEXT HOME LEAGUE GAME
- 4TH PRIZE 09595 AUTOGRAPHED FOOTBALL

Today's Match Sponsor

Warwickshire-based specialist paving, fencework and groundwork contractor's Propave are today's match sponsor.



Based on Nuneaton Road in Bulkington, Propave can be contacted on 024 7649 0972 or 07971 368468.

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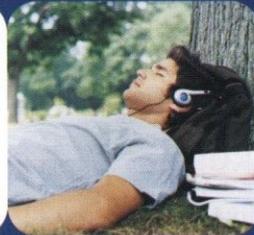
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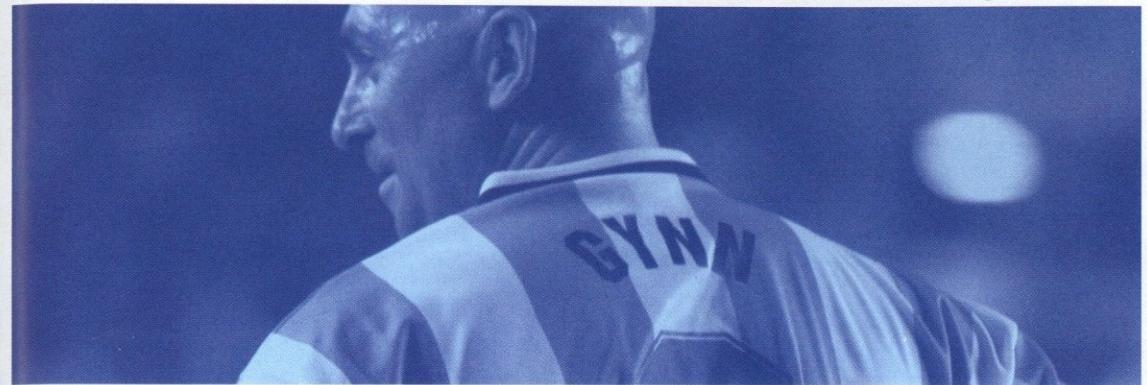
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The thoughts and views of...

Micky Gynn



Unfortunately recent results have given us City fans little to cheer about but I can take some heart from one team I have seen play lately, who have given me plenty of belief that we can quickly turn things around.

The team which gives me this inspiration is Crystal Palace, which may sound a little stupid when you consider that our last game at the Ricoh was against them and they beat us 4-1.

However, it is not that game which offers me hope but Palace's one directly afterwards. I've got to admit that Iain Dowie's men looked very impressive to me when they played here. They are definitely the best team I have seen so far this season and after thrashing us I expected them to put a good run of results together and push themselves towards the top two.

Yet four days after beating us they lost 1-0 at home to Brighton and it is results like that which epitomise the Championship, and make me realise that we can easily turn things around.

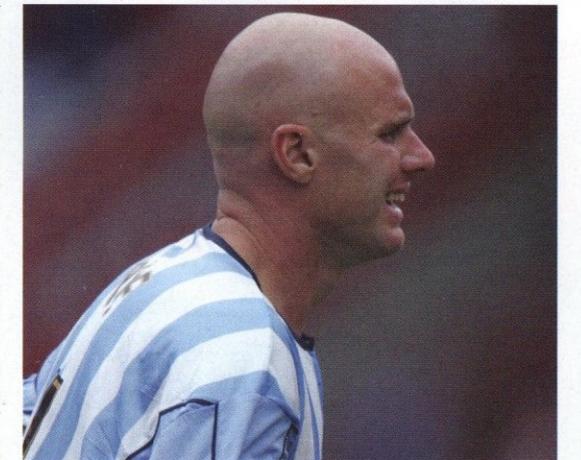
It still doesn't lessen the disappointment of defeat against Leicester last Sunday. Not only is it always nice to get one over on local rivals but I've seen quite a bit of Leicester recently and I know that we are capable of beating them. But as Micky Adams has stated we let ourselves down with a lack of desire at either end and I can see where he's coming from.

We could have got Leicester's first goal clear and for their second - scored just after half time - Mark de Vries had a free header from about seven yards out. Now I'm sure that somebody was meant to be marking him but that player was not doing his job, it's as simple as that.

Players have got to be willing to go in where it hurts and we have not seen that in recent matches. Both goals against Leicester were soft to say the least and perhaps players are looking at their teammates to take responsibility for situations. Well, that's not good enough and I'm sure the players in question are aware of that.

Thankfully today we should see the return of Robert Page and he is a player who leads by example. If he's fit I'm sure he'll be the first name on the teamsheet and you can rely on him to go in where it hurts. Maybe that will inspire others around him to do the same and we will hopefully see a much better performance.

We will definitely need to be better organised at the back because Luton have been scoring for fun recently. I saw them win 2-0 at Leicester earlier in the season and they play some very attacking football. Mike Newell has got them well drilled and if we aren't on our game at the back today they will certainly take advantage.



I said at the start of the season that I thought Luton could be a surprise package and they'll be full of confidence after the start they have made. As far as City are concerned we just have to go back to basics and start putting bodies on the line (not literally the goalline!)

Nobody is questioning the desire of the team in general play and I have no doubt that they go out with the intention of winning every game. It's just in those key areas of the pitch where we need to sharpen up.

For all the 20-pass moves you see the great teams like Chelsea and Arsenal make it is their killer instinct in opposition penalty areas and the desire to go that extra yard in their own penalty area which ultimately wins them matches.

When I played for Coventry many of our successes were based on a desire to win and while our football wasn't always pretty it was often effective. I don't think it will take much to transform our season and the players should never lose heart that it can change in the blink of an eye.



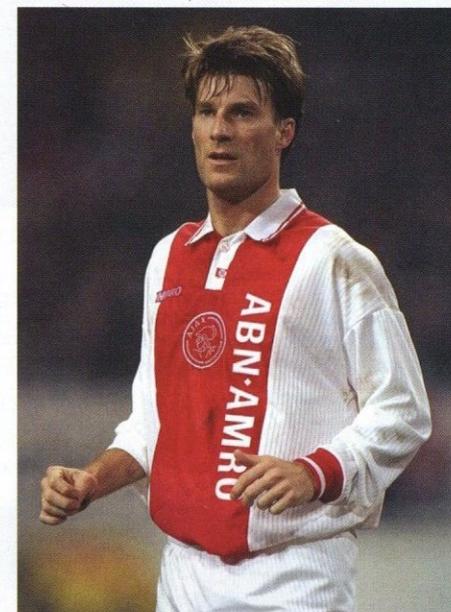
All about me...

Which club did you support as a boy?

I supported Manchester United. They were very big in Denmark. They showed a lot of English football on TV and I remember United winning the FA Cup in 1985 when Jesper Olsen was in the team. Norman Whiteside scored I think. Later, Peter Schmeichel went on to play for them too, along with other Danish players. There's always been a strong link with Denmark and it's always been Man United for me.

Who is your sporting hero?

I'm a big fan of Michael Laudrup, who played in the Danish national team for a number of years and won over 100 caps. He was my idol as a kid and went on to have a great career at clubs like Juventus, Barcelona and Real Madrid. I think him and Schmeichel have really flown the flag for Danish football. They are the two most important players in our history, alongside Brian Laudrup, who also had a great influence on our national side but wasn't so prolific at club level.



If you could choose to play alongside any other player, past or present, who would it be and why?

Diego Maradona, not now though obviously – because he'd be struggling a bit! He's the best player in my lifetime. People talk about Pele being the best but for me it is Maradona. If I could, I'd go back and play alongside him in 1986 when they won the World Cup. That was just amazing to watch. I watch DVDs of the things he has done and his skill is amazing.

What do you do in your spare time?

I try to relax as well as looking after my daughter Lilly. She's real fun to be with. I'm also on the internet quite a lot too and I enjoy listening to music.

What is your earliest sporting memory?

It would be my first ever game when I was a kid. I was only about five. We lost 10-0, it was pouring down with rain and I was covered in mud... but I loved every minute of it! It certainly didn't put me off.

What was the first football match you went to and what was the score?

I remember when we were kids back in Denmark we went to a Danish First Division match. I can't remember the score but I remember Allan Simonsen was playing for the opposition. He was a massive name and had won all sorts of accolades, including the UEFA Cup and European Player of the Year. The main thing was definitely going to watch him.

If you could change places with anybody for one day who would it be and why?

I'd change places with George W. Bush as I'd love to see what is really going on. I think there are a lot of things which have been hidden from the public. But that's maybe going into too much politics!

Who is the best player you've ever played with and against?

The best player I've played with is Jermain Defoe, when he was on loan at Bournemouth. He'd only played one or two senior games when he joined us but he picked things up and developed so quickly. He learned new things every week and we picked up things from him too. He's an amazing young talent. The best player I've played against is Zinedine Zidane, when I played for the Faroe Islands against France not so long ago. His movement on the ball is something special. We only lost 3-0 which is a fantastic achievement for us – we only lost the second half 1-0!

What is the highlight of your career to date?

I've never really won anything like a promotion. But I had a period at Bradford City when I went on a scoring run of eight away games in a row. Other than that, I was proud to be the scorer of the first goal at the Ricoh Arena and part of the winning team. Winning the last game at Highfield Road was also fantastic.

Favourite...

Band / singer? Guns and Roses

TV programme? Only Fools and Horses

Film? Top Gun

Food? Mexican

Holiday destination? Kenya - a safari

Stadium? St James' Park

Sport – other than football? Tennis

Person? My daughter

Woman? Bang & Olufsen

Shop? Elle McPherson

Just the Beginning...

The Ricoh Arena has been the home of the Sky Blues for a couple of months now but as Operations Manager Charles Rayner explains, this is only the beginning for what is going to be a landmark development for not only Coventry, but the Midlands and beyond.



The Sky Blues play their seventh game at the Ricoh Arena today with the visit of Luton Town and already these state-of-the-art facilities have brought a higher profile to the football club.

Most notably there has been a significant increase in the Sky Blues' average attendance with the last game here attracting a crowd of nearly 25,000 – our highest ever in an all-seater stadium and biggest full-stop in the league since 1987.

So while these state-of-the-art facilities look like giving Coventry City a timely boost, so will the Ricoh Arena raise the profile of the city as a whole.

Because what we have already – an impressive stadium and equally grand conferencing and banqueting facilities, not forgetting the 8,000 capacity concert and conferencing venue – is really only the tip of the iceberg.

"There is still a lot of work to do and it's exciting for me because I've been here from the start and seeing it all unfold is quite remarkable," says Operations Manager Charles Rayner (right). "I've seen it develop from the drawings, through to the steelwork going up, to when the team ran out for the first time – that was quite emotional not only for myself but for the whole city of Coventry.

"The people of Coventry never thought the Arena would get off the ground. When I first started in November 2002 we did a survey and I think 56% of people in Coventry thought the Arena would never happen so it became something of a

challenge for us to get the Arena up and running and now we have.

"But without even looking too far ahead we've still got a lot to do at the Arena. When we moved in the priority was to get the football team playing at home and we've played six games now.

"It has all been happening very quickly since the Arena was ready to house its first football match. We had no time to play any trial matches here and the entire football club had to move into offices in the space of a few days.



"We keep moving from one milestone to the next. We played the first football game, we've had our first exhibition, we had our first indoor concert when Bryan Adams played here and next summer we've got our first stadium concert when Bon Jovi play.

"We now need to get the rest of the Arena complete as soon as possible for the full potential of these facilities to be realised. The health and fitness suite is being launched next January as will the 1,000 square metres of community space

"And after that we've got the Isle of Capri casino opening – all in all we've got 3,000 new jobs being created at the Arena in the next 12 months."

Charles adds that it is not just the on-site facilities which will prove beneficial and insists that the knock-on effect of this development will totally change the landscape of the north of Coventry forever.

"The Arena Coventry project sits in a major regeneration area. I didn't know before I joined the project that Foleshill, Holbrooks and Longford are three of the most deprived areas in the UK. Also, the north of Coventry has always been deemed to be the poor part of Coventry and most of the investment has traditionally gone to the south of the city.

"For decades there has not been much investment in the north of Coventry so the Arena is seen as the catalyst for new jobs. The forecast over the next five years is that 10,000 new jobs will be created in this area as a result of the Arena and we will see all sorts of new investment coming in from blue chip companies bringing new products and services to this part of Coventry."

So what exactly does the role of an operations manager at a venue such as this entail and how did Charles find himself in the position?

"I joined the project straight from Leicester City Football Club in November 2002," he explains. "I originally went to Leicester in 1993 to help develop their own merchandise brand which was all done in-house.

"I quickly developed into other areas by looking after the ticket office and sales and marketing. I then started to look after more of the operational side of the football club which I tended to enjoy more.

"I developed into the role of overseeing the Walkers Stadium build which started in the year 2000 and we finally got it finished in the summer of 2002 when the club had just got relegated from the Premier League. Things went from bad to worse and the club had a £28 million debt which they could not fund on their own so went into administration and I was one of about 30 people who were made redundant in one day.

"As luck would have it the Coventry project was just finally getting off the ground so I had about a four-week break before I moved into the Arena Coventry project.

"I came on board in the early days to finalise the architects drawings with the football club and the



"For people coming to the Ricoh for the first time, the wow factor is definitely there. They are bowled over and we really have created something here in Coventry which is the envy of the entire UK."



other tenants. Learning from the mistakes that were made at the Walkers Stadium I tried to make sure they didn't happen here.

"This project is a true one-off because not only is there a football stadium but there will be an exhibition hall, a casino and a health and fitness centre with community space.

"It will attract two million visitors a year of which only 25% will actually be football supporters. There will be one-and-a-half million visitors coming to the Arena each year for purposes other than football so it is a completely different ball game.

"I have now taken on the operational role of the Arena, I look after the tenants of which Coventry City Football Club is one. Next year we will have another anchor tenant arriving - the Isle of Capri casino so these are exciting times for me and for Coventry."

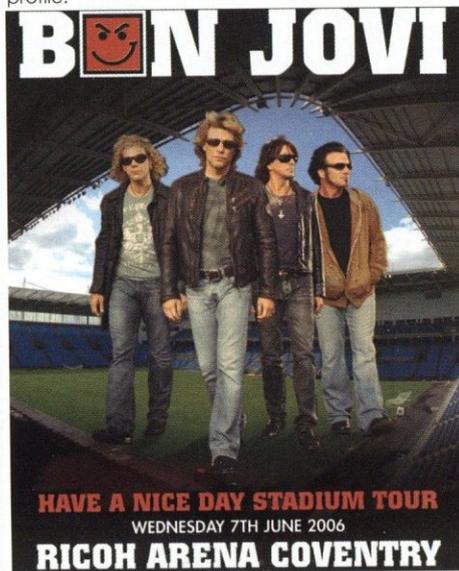
Having experienced the influence of the Walkers Stadium on Leicester, Charles is predicting that the Ricoh will have a far wider-reaching effect.



"This is at least twice as big as the Walkers. Here we've got a 1,000-seater banqueting suite for people to be seated in for a top notch dinner. There are 2,000 car-parking spaces which is the largest amount for any football stadium in the country.

"Hopefully I have learnt from the Walkers, I've certainly learnt from what has happened here already and I will learn as we move forward. The Ricoh Arena won't be fully developed for a year, maybe longer, because it's presenting so many different opportunities. In a year's time we might be building our own 200-bed hotel separate to the Arena. There is so much potential and it may take two or three years to realise that potential.

"The Walkers had a big effect on Leicester but the Ricoh is not just having a big effect on Coventry but on Birmingham, Leamington, all of the West Midlands which can only be good for Coventry's profile."



So what can we expect the Ricoh to bring the people of Coventry in the future?

"Next year the Bon Jovi concert will be massive, with about 40,000 people and that is 12 months in the planning. You can't put on more than one concert of that size without a lot of prior planning. It's a major project for us and if we can get it staged successfully then other big concerts will follow.

"From the bookings I've seen coming in there won't be a day when there aren't any bookings at all because we've got rooms that range from a 10 seat box up to a 1,000-seater dinner, with



everything in between, there are going to be a lot of businesses coming to Coventry that aren't Coventry-based. Already, not deliberately, we are taking business away from Birmingham for conference, banqueting and exhibitions.

"It is quite a niche faculty we've got here because we're not in direct competition with anybody else and this place will be full of activity most days during the year."

And if the feedback that Charles has received so far is anything to go by, the Ricoh will continue to impress for many years to come.

"People are coming to see the blueprint we have created here from all over Europe. The problem for us was that there was no blueprint to go by because this was the first construction of its kind. There was nowhere for us to go to see how a football stadium worked in conjunction with an exhibition hall and casino because it didn't exist.

"This will be the blueprint for the future and this will probably be the way that football clubs get new stadiums funded in the future as well. There's plenty of talk of football clubs marrying up with a casino but this is the only one in Europe where we're a stone's throw away from getting a 90,000 square foot casino - which is the size of a football pitch and the running track combined - opened in conjunction with a stadium.

"For people coming to the Ricoh for the first time, the wow factor is definitely there. They are bowled over and we really have created something here in Coventry which is the envy of the entire UK."



"We keep moving from one milestone to the next - we played the first football game, we've had our first exhibition, we had our first indoor concert when Bryan Adams played here and next summer we've got our first stadium concert when Bon Jovi play."

hometickets

- Tickets are on general sale for the following home matches:

Stoke City – Wednesday November 2 2005, KO 7.45pm

Ipswich Town – Saturday November 19 2005, KO 3pm

Norwich City – Saturday November 26 2005 2005, KO 3pm

- Tickets are on priority sale for the following home matches:

Plymouth Argyle – Saturday December 3 2005 2005, KO 3pm

* Tickets go on general sale on November 7 2005.

Millwall – Saturday December 10 2005 2005, KO 3pm

* Tickets go on general sale on November 14 2005.

ticketnews

www.cfc.co.uk for up-to-date ticket news



How To Purchase Home Match Tickets

Tickets usually go on sale six working weeks in advance of each home League game. The first two weeks of sale is a priority booking period for Season Ticket holders buying guest tickets and Members buying their own and guest tickets. The number of tickets available per person is four, subject to alteration depending on the fixture. At certain bigger matches, other arrangements may apply and you are advised to check with the Ticket Office on 0870 421 1987 for details. General sale is usually from four working weeks prior to each match. Ticket information can also be found in the 'Latest Ticket Info' section of our web site - www.cfc.co.uk

1. Visit our Ticket Office either at the Ricoh Arena or our city centre outlet at West Orchards

2. Postal Applications for payments by any method except cash. Please include a SAE and provide a daytime telephone number. Please quote any Season Ticket or Membership details if appropriate, and remember to quote Credit Card numbers in full, the expiry date, and if applicable the issue number.

3. Online at www.cfc.co.uk tickets are available from the General Sale date. *Booking charges apply and tickets will be posted to the Credit Card holders address unless booked within two days of the match. These will be held for collection and appropriate booking reference needs to be quoted.

4. Telephone the 24 hour home booking line on 024 7657 8000 to pay by Credit / Debit card*.

*All bookings are subject to a booking fee of £1.55 per ticket and a handling charge of £0.95 pence per booking.

ticketprices

All Areas except JSB Area

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Junior **£8.00**
JSB **£7.00**

Student **£11.00** *Proof required on purchase
Disabled Supporter with Personal Assistant **£11.00**

JSB Area

Adult **£16.00**
Senior **£8.00**
Junior **£7.00**
JSB **£6.00**

Student **£8.00** *Proof required on purchase

awaytickets

- Tickets are on general sale for the following away matches:

Cardiff City – Sunday November 26 2005, KO 3pm.

Seating Tickets are priced at £20 for adults, £14 Concessions
Standing Tickets are priced at £18 for adults, £13 Concessions

- Tickets are on priority sale for the following away matches:

Crystal Palace – Tuesday November 22 2005, KO 8pm

Tickets are priced at £25 for adults, £15 Concessions

* Tickets go on general sale on November 7 2005.

Coach Travel for Cardiff and Palace will be priced as follows:

Adults	£9
Concessions	£16
Members	£15
JSB/Senior Citizen Members	£10
Disabled	£13

*Coach will depart the Ricoh Arena at 11am for Cardiff and at 3pm for Palace

Supporters are strongly advised to purchase tickets as early as possible to avoid lengthy queues on match days.



Nextplease... Stoke City, Wednesday November 2, Ricoh Arena

City host Stoke at the Ricoh Arena on Wednesday night, and with it being our second home game in the space of five days hopefully Micky Adams' men can make it two wins from two on our own patch.

But the Potters will be no pushovers and seem to enjoy playing away from home just as much as they do in front of the Stoke faithful at the Britannia Stadium, with three of their six wins this season coming on the road.

Wednesday night's opponents have chalked up 1-0 wins at Millwall, Hull and Preston so far this term, proving that they are more than capable of securing maximum points away from home, something the Sky Blues are no doubt aware of.

Home wins against Luton, Norwich and Crewe complete Stoke's haul of six wins this season but fans will be concerned with their recent form which has seen them win just once in their last six outings, going down 1-0 at Reading last time out.

But with the Potters occupying a healthy eleventh in the table there is certainly no cause for panic at the Britannia, and manager Johan Boskamp will argue that the team is still in a transitional period, having only taken up the reigns in pre-season.

The Dutchman succeeded the popular Tony Pulis as Potters boss after an acrimonious fall out with the Club's hierarchy, who bizarrely accused the now Plymouth manager of failing to take advantage of the foreign transfer market.

Pulis' departure would have been a massive shock for the

supporters who had seen the Club make slow but steady progress, and after two seasons of mid-table consolidation hopes were high that the Potters would make a push towards the play-offs this campaign.

However, it is now Boskamp who is charged with steering Stoke onwards and upwards and Chairman Gunnar Gislason will no doubt be delighted to see the Dutchman recruiting from far and wide, certainly making use of the overseas transfer market.

Norwegian forward Hans Sigurdson, Belgian defender Carl Hoefkens and Guinea forward Sambegou Bangera have all signed on in recent months to give the Stoke squad a cosmopolitan look.

Wednesday's visitors to the Ricoh just about shade the teams' recent meetings, winning three of the last five encounters between the two sides with the Sky Blues triumphing twice - the last of those victories coming in the form of a 4-2 thriller at Highfield Road back in September 2003.

Dele Adebola and Andy Morrell were on target that day and would love nothing more than to shoot Micky Adams' men to victory in midweek.

But City will have to be wary of danger men such as Paul Gallacher who is on-loan from Blackburn and John Halls who have both hit the target twice this term, goals that have secured those three valuable wins on the road.

By Daniel Scalfie



CommercialNews with Commercial Manager Raj Athwal

Hat-trick of sponsorships for Propave

"I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Kevin Oldham, Director of today's matchball sponsor Propave, and his guests for this afternoons match.

Kevin is making it a hat-trick of sponsorships today having been the matchball sponsor at our previous two home games, and with this in mind I would like to call on all City fans to give Kev a call for all your paving work as he will only put it all back into the club.

So far Propave have brought us mixed luck on the pitch with their sponsorships! We beat Watford convincingly when they were matchball sponsors for the first time this season but then we followed that up with a poor 4-1 defeat to Palace last time out at the Ricoh. Hopefully they will bring us some more good luck today.

On a serious note though we are extremely grateful to Kev for his sponsorships – and to everybody who backs us during this transitional phase for the club.

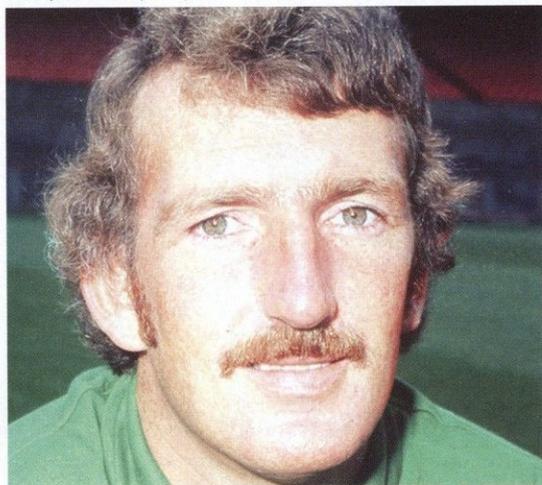
One of our longest backers, Britannia Tyres had a good day earlier this week when the brilliant CCFC Superstore had its grand opening. Mike Rogocki has been a hospitality customer of ours for many years, and also sponsored the Main Stand at Highfield Road and again thanks to him for all the support he has shown.



I am also delighted to announce that the Coventry City Christmas Soccer Ball is already proving to be extremely popular and sales have got off to an explosive start thanks to a host of celebrity guests from the world of sport agreeing to attend.

Attendees include a number of Coventry City playing legends from over the years, and two sporting guests from the Coventry Blaze Ice Hockey Club, Coventry Cassidy Jets American Football team, Coventry Bees and two local boxing heroes in Neil Simpson and Carl Wright (both City fans).

The Christmas Soccer Ball is open to all supporters, but seats are selling out fast for our first official event at the Ricoh Arena. It is guaranteed to be a Christmas cracker so make sure you book your place soon.



Finally I would like to welcome Alex Stepney, the Manchester United legend as today's speaker in the E-on Lounge and Michael Gynn and Brian Roberts who are guest speakers in the Legends Suite. Dave Bennett will be in the Legends again on Wednesday for the Stoke game along with Cyrille Regis.

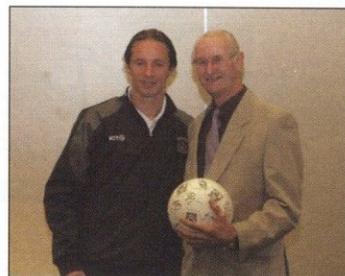
For any information on the Christmas Soccer Ball or for any commercial opportunities with the Sky Blues please call the commercial department on 0870 421 1987."

Man of the match v



Victor Chichelov and Sarah Newnes present Dele Adebola with his man of the match award for the Hull game.

Man of the match v



Lilian Nalis receives his Man of the Match award on behalf of matchball sponsors Propave.



Jim Spain of Match Sponsors the Standard Triumph Club presents Lilian Nalis with his Man of the Match award.



Are you prepared for the Pensions Revolution?

The Government's radical new plans for Pensions come into force on A-Day, 6th April 2006 and will impact on everyone with a pension as well as those planning for their retirement.

As with any changes, there will be significant opportunities for those who are well-prepared and potential pitfalls for those who are not.

To find out the facts and to discuss how you may be able to take advantage of the new rules, including new opportunities to purchase property via pensions, call Karen Holmes at :-

J. MONTAGU FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

on 0151 - 421 - 1018

or e-mail karen@jmontagu.com

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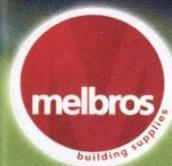
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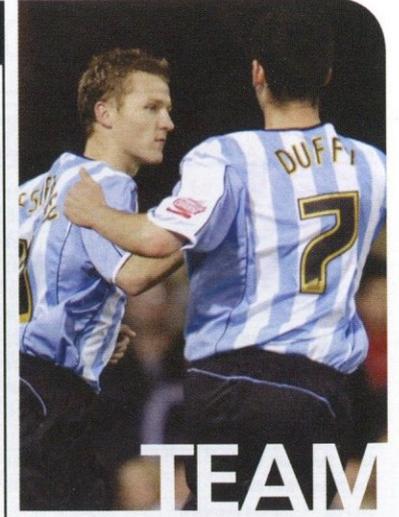
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Career Coventry Appearances and Goals

NAME	D.O.B	LEAGUE	FA CUP	LEAGUE CUP	TOTAL	GOALS
Dele Adebola	23/6/75	47 (20)	2 (2)	2 (2)	51 (24)	14
Stephen Bywater	7/6/81	14			14	0
Graham Barrett	6/10/81	32 (23)		2 (2)	34 (25)	6
Liam Davis		(1)				0
Michael Doyle	8/7/81	96 (3)	5	7	108 (3)	7
Richard Duffy	30/8/85	29	1		30	0
Willo Flood	10/4/85	7 (1)			7 (1)	1
Stuart Giddings	27/3/86	11 (2)	1	2	14 (2)	0
Marcus Hall	24/3/76	137 (18)	8 (2)	14 (1)	159 (21)	4
Matt Heath	1/11/81	10		1	11	2
Stephen Hughes	18/9/76	49 (1)	2	3	54 (1)	5
Andy Impey	30/9/71	1 (1)		1	2 (1)	0
Clayton Ince	30/10/76	1		2	3	0
Claus Jorgensen	27/4/76	21 (16)	(2)	3 (2)	24 (20)	5
Stern John	30/10/76	29 (7)	2	2	33 (7)	12
Gary McSheffrey	13/8/82	77 (35)	5 (2)	7 (2)	89 (39)	40
Andy Morrell	28/9/74	44 (34)	4	5 (1)	53 (35)	18
Lilian Nalis	29/9/71	3			3	1
Isaac Osbourne	22/6/86	10 (5)		2	12 (5)	0
Robert Page	3/9/74	18		1	19	1
James Scowcroft	15/11/75	15		(1)	15 (1)	2
Richard Shaw	11/9/68	278 (20)	19 (1)	21 (2)	318 (23)	1
Youssef Sofiane	8/7/84	(1)			(1)	0
Kevin Thornton	9/7/86			(1)	(1)	0
Paul Watson	4/1/75	1 (2)		1	2 (2)	0
Andrew Whing	20/9/84	51 (14)	2	3 (3)	56 (17)	2
Neil Wood	4/1/83	6 (11)	1	1 (1)	8 (12)	0
Ady Williams	16/8/71	21	2	1	24	2



TEAM Statfact

Coventry's 2-2 draw at Portman Road last Tuesday was the first time the Sky Blues had come from two behind to draw since the 1996-97 season when, with relegation looking a strong possibility, City came from behind to grab a 2-2 draw against Southampton at the Dell with goals from Peter Nalovu and Noel Whelan. On this occasion City's goals came from Gary McSheffrey and loan signing Lilian Nalis.

Appearances and Goals 2005/06

1 Stephen Bywater Full: 14 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	2 Andrew Whing Full: 5 Sub: 4 Goals: 0	3 Marcus Hall Full: 15 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	4 Robert Page Full: 11 Sub: 0 Goals: 1	5 Ady Williams Full: 1 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	6 Stephen Hughes Full: 11 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	7 Richard Duffy Full: 15 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	8 Michael Doyle Full: 17 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	9 Dele Adebola Full: 14 Sub: 2 Goals: 5
10 Gary McSheffrey Full: 17 Sub: 0 Goals: 5	11 James Scowcroft Full: 15 Sub: 1 Goals: 2	12 Andy Morrell Full: 3 Sub: 12 Goals: 2	13 Clayton Ince Full: 3 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	14 Stern John Full: 4 Sub: 2 Goals: 0	15 Claus Jorgensen Full: 8 Sub: 5 Goals: 2	16 Isaac Osbourne Full: 2 Sub: 3 Goals: 0	17 Matthew Heath Full: 11 Sub: 0 Goals: 2	18 Neil Wood Full: 0 Sub: 5 Goals: 0
19 Stuart Giddings Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	20 Richard Shaw Full: 6 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	21 Graham Barrett Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	22 Paul Watson Full: 2 Sub: 2 Goals: 0	23 [Coventry City Logo] Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	24 Andy Impey Full: 2 Sub: 1 Goals: 0	25 Youssef Sofiane Full: 0 Sub: 1 Goals: 0	26 [Coventry City Logo] Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	27 Lilian Nalis Full: 3 Sub: 0 Goals: 0
28 Willo Flood Full: 6 Sub: 0 Goals: 1	29 Kevin Thornton Full: 0 Sub: 1 Goals: 0	30 [Coventry City Logo] Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	31 [Coventry City Logo] Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	32 [Coventry City Logo] Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	33 [Coventry City Logo] Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	34 Liam Davis Full: 0 Sub: 1 Goals: 0	35 [Coventry City Logo] Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	36 [Coventry City Logo] Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0



Date	Opponent	F-A	Attn	Pos/Pts	Referee	GK	RB	LB	CM	CB	CB	LM	CM
Sat 6 Aug	Norwich City	1-1	25,355	9/1	R J Beeby	Bywater	Duffy	Hall	Hughes	Page	Heath	McSheffrey	Doyle
Tue 9 Aug	Millwall	0-0	8,344	17/2	G Hegley	Bywater	Duffy	Hall	Hughes	Page	Heath	McSheffrey	Doyle
Sat 13 Aug	Burnley	0-4	11,683	21/2	N Miller	Bywater	Duffy	Hall	Hughes	Page	Heath	McSheffrey	Doyle
Sat 20 Aug	QPR	3-0	23,043	15/5	A Leake	Bywater	Duffy	Hall	Jørgensen	Page	Heath	McSheffrey	Doyle
Wed 24 Aug	Rushden & Diamonds CC Rd 1	3-0	3,240	-	M Probert	Ince	Whing	Hall	Osbourne	Williams	Heath	McSheffrey	Doyle
Sat 27 Aug	Sheffield United	1-2	17,739	15/5	C Webster	Bywater	Duffy	Hall	Osbourne	Page	Heath	Flood	Doyle
Mon 29 Aug	SOUTHAMPTON	1-1	20,455	15/6	M Thorpe	Bywater	Duffy	Hall	Jørgensen	Page	Shaw	Flood	Doyle
Sat 10 Sep	READING	1-1	22,074	17/7	A Hall	Bywater	Duffy	Hall	Jørgensen	Page	Shaw	Flood	Doyle
Wed 14 Sep	Derby County	1-1	21,840	17/8	P Walton	Bywater	Duffy	Hall	Jørgensen	Heath	Shaw	Flood	Doyle
Sat 17 Sep	Brighton & HA	2-2og	6,529	16/9	G Hegley	Bywater	Duffy	Hall	Hughes	Page	Whing	Jørgensen	Doyle
Wed 21 Sep	Crystal Palace CC Rd 2	0-1	5,341	-	P Taylor	Ince	Impey	Watson	Hughes	Page	Whing	Jørgensen	Doyle
Sat 24 Sep	HULL CITY	0-2	21,161	19/9	I Williamson	Bywater	Impey	Watson	Hughes	Page	Duffy	McSheffrey	Doyle
Wed 28 Sep	WATFORD	3-2	16,978	16/12	P Joslin	Bywater	Duffy	Hall	Hughes	Page	Whing	McSheffrey	Doyle
Sat 1 Oct	Sheffield Wednesday	2-3	22,732	18/12	L Mason	Bywater	Duffy	Hall	Hughes	Heath	Whing	McSheffrey	Doyle
Sat 15 Oct	CRYSTAL PALACE	1-4	24,438	20/12	A Wiley	Bywater	Duffy	Hall	Hughes	Heath	Shaw	McSheffrey	Doyle
Tue 18 Oct	Ipswich Town	2-2	22,656	21/13	T Kettle	Bywater	Duffy	Hall	Hughes	Heath	Shaw	Doyle	Nalis
Sun 23 Oct	Leicester City	1-2	22,991	21/13	K Wright	Ince	Duffy	Hall	Hughes	Heath	Shaw	Doyle	Nalis
Wed 26 Oct	Carling Cup Rd 3												
Sat 29 Oct	LUTON TOWN												
Wed 2 Nov	STOKE CITY												
Sun 6 Nov	Cardiff City												
Sat 19 Nov	IPSWICH												
Tue 22 Nov	Crystal Palace												
Sat 26 Nov	NORWICH CITY												
Wed 30 Nov	Carling Cup Rd 4												
Sat 3 Dec	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE												
Sat 10 Dec	MILLWALL												
Sat 17 Dec	QPR												
Wed 21 Dec	Carling Cup Rd 5												
Mon 26 Dec	Leeds United												
Wed 28 Dec	CREWE ALEXANDRA												
Sat 31 Dec	Preston North End												
Mon 2 Jan	WOLVES												
Sat 7 Jan	FA Cup Rd 3												
Wed 11 Jan	Carling Cup SF1												
Sat 14 Jan	Reading												
Sat 21 Jan	DERBY COUNTY												
Wed 25 Jan	Carling Cup SF2												
Sat 28 Jan	FA Cup Rd 4												
Tue 31 Jan	Hull City												
Sat 4 Feb	BRIGHTON & HA												
Sat 11 Feb	Watford												
Wed 15 Feb	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY												
Sat 18 Feb	Plymouth Argyle FAC Rd 5												
Sat 25 Feb	BURNLEY												
Sun 26 Feb	Carling Cup Final												
Sat 4 Mar	Southampton												
Sat 11 Mar	SHEFFIELD UNITED												
Sat 18 Mar	LEEDS UNITED												
Wed 22 Mar	FA Cup Rd 6												
Sat 25 Mar	Crewe Alexandra												
Sat 1 Apr	PRESTON NORTH END												
Sat 8 Apr	Wolves												
Sat 15 Apr	Luton Town												
Mon 17 Apr	LEICESTER CITY												
Sat 22 Apr	Stoke City FAC SF												
Sun 30 Apr	CARDIFF CITY												
Sat 13 May	FA Cup Final												

Key: • Red Card • Yellow Card Scored (If scorer has been subbed colour will be bold)

S	S	RM	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 3		
John	Adebola	Scowcroft	Jørgensen	Morrell	Osbourne	Shaw	Ince
John	Adebola	Scowcroft	Morrell	Wood	Osbourne	Williams	Ince
John	Adebola	Scowcroft	Jørgensen	Morrell	Wood	Williams	Ince
Scowcroft	Adebola 2	Flood	Morrell	Wood	Osbourne	Williams	Ince
John	Morrell	Jørgensen	Wood	Adebola	Page	Duffy	Tuffey
Scowcroft	Adebola	McSheffrey	Whing	Morrell	John	Wood	Ince
Scowcroft	Adebola	McSheffrey	John	Morrell	Osbourne	Whing	Ince
Scowcroft	Adebola	McSheffrey	Whing	Morrell	Wood	Heath	Ince
Scowcroft	Adebola	McSheffrey	Whing	Morrell	Wood	Hughes	Ince
Scowcroft	Adebola	McSheffrey	Watson	Morrell	Osbourne	Flood	Ince
Morrell	McSheffrey	Osbourne	Scowcroft	Adebola	Thornton	Webb	Davis
Scowcroft	Adebola	Jørgensen	Morrell	Flood	Davis	Osbourne	Ince
Scowcroft	Adebola	Flood	Morrell	Jørgensen	Impey	Watson	Ince
Scowcroft	Morrell	Flood	Jørgensen	Watson	Osbourne	Impey	Ince
Scowcroft	Adebola	Nalis	Sofiane	Jørgensen	Morrell	Whing	Flood
McSheffrey	Adebola	Scowcroft	Morrell	Whing	Watson	Impey	Ince
McSheffrey	Adebola	Scowcroft	Morrell	Whing	Watson	Impey	Tuffey



Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	For	Agst	G/D	Pts
1	Sheffield U	15	12	1	2	31	13	+18	37
2	Reading	15	10	4	1	25	8	+17	34
3	Luton Town	15	8	4	3	25	17	+8	28
4	Leeds United	14	7	4	3	18	13	+5	25
5	Crystal P	14	7	2	5	22	13	+9	23
6	Watford	15	6	5	4	23	18	+5	23
7	Cardiff City	14	6	4	4	25	18	+7	22
8	Wolves	15	5	6	4	19	14	+5	21
9	Southampton	15	4	9	2	17	13	+4	21
10	QPR	15	5	6	4	16	17	-1	21
11	Stoke City	15	6	1	8	15	22	-7	19
12	Hull City	15	4	6	5	13	13	0	18
13	Leicester City	15	4	6	5	16	18	-2	18
14	Ipswich Town	15	5	3	7	14	22	-8	18
15	Derby County	15	3	8	4	20	21	-1	17
16	Preston	15	3	8	4	16	18	-2	17
17	Burnley	15	4	4	7	20	20	0	16
18	Norwich City	15	4	4	7	16	21	-5	16
19	Plymouth	15	3	6	6	12	19	-7	15
20	Brighton	14	2	8	5	15	20	-5	14
21	Sheffield W	14	2	7	5	12	17	-5	13
22	Coventry City	15	2	7	6	19	26	-7	13
23	Crewe A	15	2	6	7	15	29	-14	12
24	Millwall	15	2	5	8	11	25	-14	11

• Table & Stats correct at time of going to press 27/10/05

For all the latest news from the Ricoh Arena

ccfc.co.uk



YOUask the questions

This season Coventry City fans are being given the chance to ask Sky Blues players the questions they have always wanted to.

Each week in the matchday programme we will do an in-depth feature on a City star and we're inviting fans to pose questions of their own.

So if you've got a question for any of the Sky Blues players send it in to david.antill@ccfc.co.uk or alternatively call 0870 421 5034.

We will then ask a selection of the best questions received to each player when it is their turn to be featured in the programme. Keep checking ccfc.co.uk for more specific information on which player will be featured prior to each home fixture.



fanzone

HAPPY 47th Birthday

Rob has been a supporter of the City since he was six years old but has only recently returned to the Midlands having lived in other parts of the country over the last 40 years. When he arrived back in the area and saw the new Arena being built his only remark was "I want to be a part of that!" and is now a season ticket holder in the Marconi Stand. He enjoys watching City on a regular basis although I don't think it does his blood pressure an awful lot of good! So come on City - make it a great weekend for Rob and all the other supporters!

SURPRISE!

Lifelong City fan and Radio 5 Live producer Ian Shoesmith married Suzanne Parsons on September 11th at Winchester House near Putney Bridge. During the best man speech, Ian received surprise congratulations passed on by video message from club captain Stephen Hughes and manager Micky Adams, who was on the playing side when Ian went to his first match against QPR in 1982. Despite living and working in London, Ian follows the Sky Blues home and away is already a regular in the Coventry Evening Telegraph Stand at the Ricoh Arena.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday Wishes to Mick Billings who is 62 on October 30. He has been a City fan forever and is a season ticket holder in The Cov. Eve. Telegraph Stand. Love from Marg & Terry & all the family.

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to Phil McDonnell for October 19 when he was 52 years young. Phil and his son Keith are massive Sky Blues fans and have seats in an Executive Box at the Ricoh.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SAM

Happy 10th birthday for October 20 to Sam Moore. Sam is a season ticket holder in the NTL Stand and also plays football for PSA Peugeot Citroen. Best Wishes from all the family.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to Alec Shrimpton who will be 11 on Monday October 31.

Alec currently plays for Hillmorton Under 11s in Rugby, who are riding high in the mid-Warwickshire league, and have yet to lose a match this season.

Alec is also a season ticket holder in the JSB area. Happy Birthday from Mum, Dad & Anna.



MIXING WITH THE STARS

Here is Barry Chattaway showing the superstars in Hollywood that the Sky Blues are the club to support! Barry is a mad City fan and is now travelling the world having recently retired from Jaguar cars.



CONGRATULATIONS

Double congratulations to Simon Jackson who will be 33 on November 1 and is getting married on November 5 to Jessica Barnell. Simon was born in Coventry and his favourite player of all time is Roland Nilsson. He has lived in Luton for the last ten years and he is watching today's game with 20 of his mates as part of his stag celebrations. Let's hope the Sky Blues can give him something to celebrate!



72 Clubs. The 'Coca-Cola' Football League. The Real League.

To appear in Fanzone call David Antill on 0870 421 5034 or email david.antill@ccfc.co.uk

TODAY'S LINE-UPS



COVENTRY CITY
Manager Micky Adams

- 2 Andrew Whing
- 3 Marcus Hall
- 4 Robert Page
- 5 Ady Williams
- 6 Stephen Hughes
- 7 Richard Duffy
- 8 Michael Doyle
- 9 Dele Adebola
- 10 Gary McSheffrey
- 11 James Scowcroft
- 12 Andy Morrell
- 13 Clayton Ince
- 14 Stern John
- 15 Claus Jørgensen
- 16 Isaac Osbourne
- 17 Matt Heath
- 18 Neil Wood
- 19 Stuart Giddings
- 20 Richard Shaw
- 21 Graham Barrett
- 22 Paul Watson
- 24 Andy Impey
- 25 Youssef Sofiane
- 27 Lilian Nalis
- 28 Willo Flood
- 29 Kevin Thornton
- 33 Jonathan Tuffey
- 54 Krystal Mills



LUTONTOWN
Manager Mike Newell

- 1 Marlon Beresford
- 2 Kevin Foley
- 3 Sol Davis
- 4 Chris Coyne
- 5 Russell Perrett
- 6 Paul Underwood
- 7 Carlos Edwards
- 8 Kevin Nicholls
- 9 Rowan Vine
- 10 Warren Feeney
- 11 Steve Robinson
- 14 Michael Leary
- 15 Steven O'Leary
- 16 Enoch Showunmi
- 17 Paul Hughes
- 18 Ahmet Brkovic
- 19 Steve Howard
- 21 Keith Keane
- 23 Dean Morgan
- 25 Dino Seremet
- 26 Markus Heikkinen
- 27 Peter Holmes
- 29 Calvin Andrew
- 33 Dean Brill
- 45 Leon Barnett
- 47 Rob Beckwith
-
-



Match Officials
M Thorpe
Assistants
G Simpson & G Stretton
Fourth Official
G Mellor

Today's Other Fixtures



Brighton v Ipswich
Crewe v Crystal Palace
Derby v QPR
Norwich v Sheffield W
Preston v Leicester
Reading v Leeds
Sheffield U v Cardiff
Southampton v Stoke
Watford v Wolves



Up Next at Ricoh Arena
Coca Cola Championship
Stoke City
Wednesday November 2
7.45pm KO

Emergency Procedure

In the event of an emergency affecting public safety in the stadium, you will hear three warning chimes. These will be followed by announcements over the public address system. If this occurs please follow the instructions of stewards and police officers. Coventry City Football Club has for many years made the safety of fans in the ground a priority. The following measures will enhance your safety and enjoyment in our football ground. They have been drawn up between ourselves and the emergency services and confirmed by Coventry Advisory Group, a body whose function is to examine all aspects of safety at the ground. Remain seated during the game, keep all gangways clear, be aware of the nearest exit points in the event of any evacuation, in an evacuation, please leave in an orderly manner and obey the stewards or police, if you see a fire, activate the fire alarm or inform the nearest steward or police officer, please assist the Stewards or Police if requested to move from, or into any area, if you are concerned about any aspect of safety, please inform a steward, do not run onto the pitch. There are no high fences since we want all fans to see and enjoy the game. Running onto the pitch can cause danger and you will be fined £1,000.

Today's Mascots



Name: Ciaran Thomas Quinn
Age: 10
D.O.B: 24/1/95
Hobbies: Football & Speedway (Cov Bees)
Favourite Player: Oggy, McSheffrey, Adebola



Name: Hayley Griffiths
Age: 11
D.O.B: 23/4/1994
Hobbies: Playing & Watching Football, looking after Pets
Favourite Player: Adebola & Hughes



Name: Ryan Lawson
Age: 13
D.O.B: 1/5/92
Hobbies: Football, cricket & rugby
Favourite Player: Kevin Foley

OFFICIAL SUPPLIERS TO COVENTRY CITY FOOTBALL CLUB



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