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DUE to transfer window activity there have been several changes to the Luton squad since we went to press with our opposition pages. As a result there are some players featured who no longer play for the Hatters.

LIVERPOOL vs LUTON TOWN

15.01.08

CONTENTS

Rafa Benitez: A word with the boss p.04

Steven Gerrard: Skipper notes p.08

L4 interview: Charles Itandje p.12

Paul Anderson: The loan star with an eye on Anfield p.27

The Files of Anfield Road: LFC Uncut - rare and unseen p.35

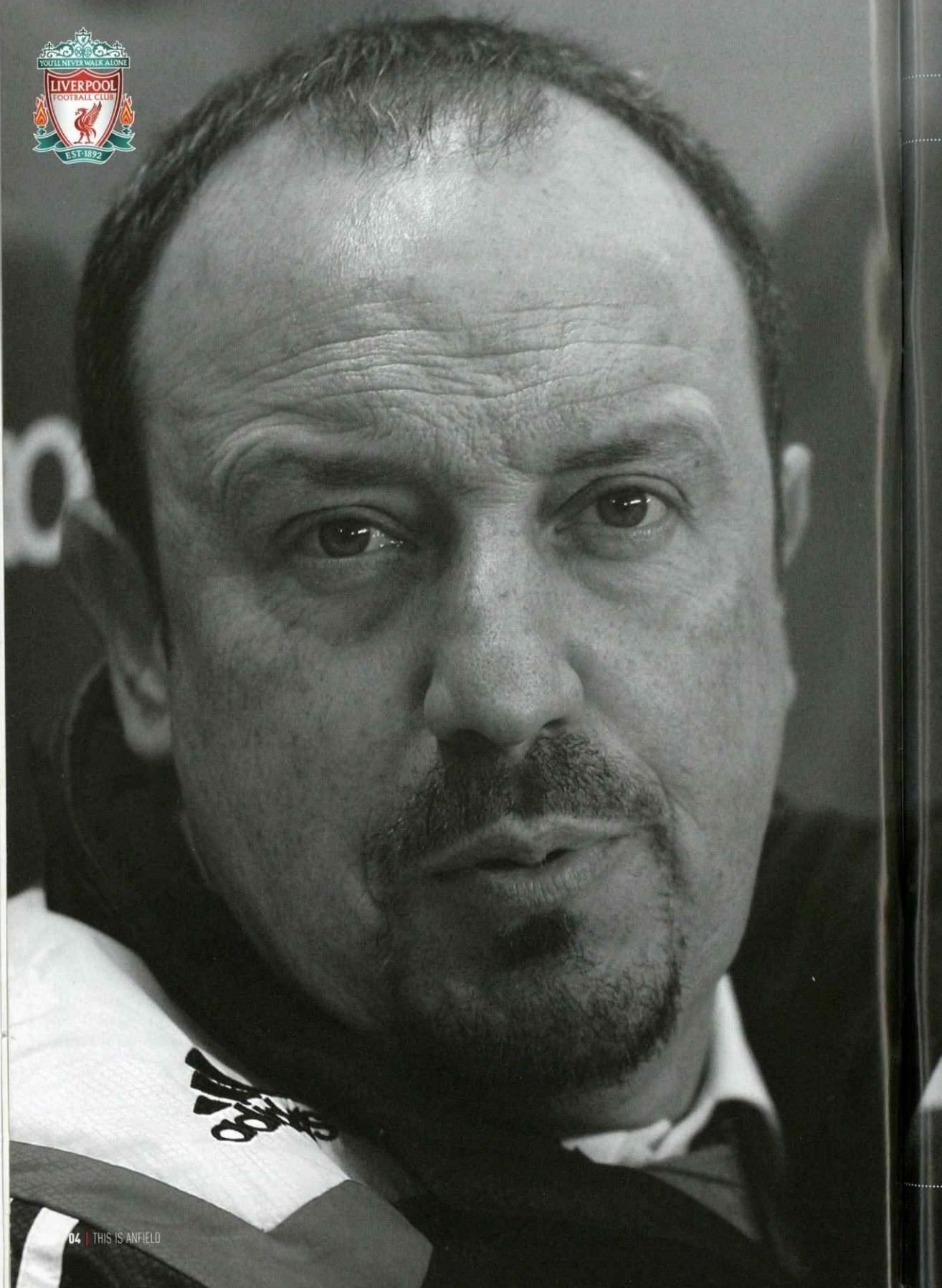
Kop'n'Goal Years: A classic Liverpool v Luton cup tie p.45

Picture power: The 2006 Kenilworth Road epic p.68

Class of 07/08: Fabio Aurelio answers the questions p.74

EXECUTIVE EDITOR Ken Rogers
EDITOR Steve Hanrahan
ART EDITOR Rick Cooke
PRODUCTION EDITOR Paul Dove
SUB EDITOR Roy Gittoe
DESIGN TEAM Barry Parker, Colin Sumpter, Glen Hind, Lee Ashun, Alison Gilliland, Jamie Dunnmore, James Kenyon
WRITERS Chris McLoughlin, David Randles, Gavin Kirk, John Hynes
SALES AND MARKETING MANAGER: Elizabeth Morgan
PHOTOGRAPHIC AGENCIES Main partners: Empics, Liverpool Daily Post & Echo

LFC 24 HOUR INFORMATION LINE: 0870 444 4949
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SUBSCRIPTIONS: 0845 143 0001
 (International +44 845 143 0001)
Subscriptions online: www.liverpoolfc.tv/match/magazine or email us at subscriptions@liverpool.com
Write to: THIS IS ANFIELD,
 Sport Media, PO BOX 48,
 Old Hall Street, Liverpool L69 3EB
email: thisisanfield@sportmedia-tm.com



A WORD WITH THE BOSS

We are creating chances but we have to start scoring more if we want to win

As we welcome Luton Town and their supporters to Anfield, tonight's replay may have come as a surprise to some people.

Everybody was expecting us to win at Kenilworth Road but that proved not to be the case.

While we were very disappointed with our performance we at least did enough to stay in the FA Cup and the 1-1 draw has provided us with another chance here tonight.

Other Premier League clubs do not have this opportunity after the third round so we must try to do our best to progress in the competition.

The game at Luton was our third consecutive draw after Manchester City and Wigan. I believe we had enough chances to win each of those games but we haven't done enough in front of goal.

We have to start scoring more if we want to win.

As I say, we had our chances at Luton despite not playing well. We just didn't take them.

Their goalkeeper has made some fabulous saves from Ryan Babel and John Arne Riise, and Dirk Kuyt and Peter Crouch have both had opportunities to score.

Luton also had chances and so we must be disappointed that we were not controlling the game.

At the same time, we must give full credit to Luton for their performance. They worked really, really hard but I believe it will be a different game here at Anfield.

We know from experience that the FA Cup can be dangerous, particularly against lower league opposition who can present different pitfalls.

Blackburn, Birmingham, Bolton and Everton were just some of the Premier League teams that had problems in the third round. There is always the chance of an upset and that is why everybody likes the FA Cup.

Regardless of the result, tonight's game is really important for Luton. Given their recent problems off the pitch the revenue from tonight's match, which is being televised, could be really important.

We also met Luton two years ago in the FA Cup. Hopefully we will meet them again some time in the

coming years. We wish them all the best for the future.

The fourth round draw has been made and we know that whichever team wins tonight will be at home to either Swansea or Havant and Waterlooville next.

However, it is too early to be talking about the next round. We must treat every team with the utmost respect and so Luton is the only target we have at this moment.

Provided there were no problems following our game against Middlesbrough on Saturday, tonight will be Jamie Carragher's 500th game for Liverpool Football Club.

That is a fantastic achievement for any player.

It is really difficult to play 500 games at this level but even more so for just one club.

The quality, mentality and loyalty of Carra is amazing.

He joins an elite group of players who have played 500 plus games for the club; players such as Billy Liddell, Emlyn Hughes, Kenny Dalglish, Alan Hansen and Ian Rush.

When we talk about these names we remember that they were all fantastic players for Liverpool. Carra has earned his place alongside them.

Finally, it was with great sadness that we attended the funeral of our longstanding manager's secretary Sheila Walsh last week.

All of the managers who worked with Sheila since and including Bob Paisley always spoke highly of her and I can only add to that.

Sheila was brilliant, both as a colleague and a person.

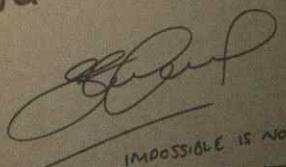
We can talk a lot about the great job she did but it is the person we will remember. Sheila was a very nice person to be around, with a great sense of humour.

She will be missed by all at Liverpool Football Club. Our thoughts are with her family.

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LEAGUE CHAMPIONS
1900/01 1905/06 1921/22 1922/23
1946/47 1963/64 1965/66 1972/73
1975/76 1976/77 1978/79 1979/80
1981/82 1982/83 1983/84 1985/86
1987/88 1989/90

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS
1976/77 1977/78 1980/81
1983/84 2004/05

EUROPEAN SUPER CUP WINNERS
1977/78 2001/02 2005/06

UEFA CUP WINNERS
1972/73 1975/76 2000/01

FA CUP WINNERS
1964/65 1973/74 1985/86 1988/89
1991/92 2000/01 2005/06

LEAGUE CUP WINNERS
1980/81 1981/82 1982/83 1983/84
1994/95 2000/01 2002/03

CHARITY SHIELD WINNERS
1966 1974 1976 1979
1980 1982 1988 1989
2001 2006

STEVEN GERRARD

We didn't play well at Luton – this is our chance to put it right

TONIGHT'S FA Cup third round replay is probably a game that we could have done without, but having watched the game with Luton at Kenilworth Road nine days ago I wouldn't pretend that they don't deserve it.

If anything, they might feel hard done to not to have won the game at the first attempt because they certainly had the chances to cause an upset.

We need to be better tonight to make sure that we don't join the other teams from the Premier League who saw their interest in this season's competition come to an end.

It's not the easiest place to go in the world; to play against a team who knew they had to pull something special out of the bag to give themselves a chance of surviving. They were playing on live TV and they needed to put on a show for potential investors.

But we didn't play like we can, or anything like how we can play. We'll be determined tonight to put that right.

We won't be disrespectful to them and we won't treat them lightly but we're not going to give them the possession or the chances that we did down there.

We're not really sure how many of the Luton team will be left from the 1-1 draw with their financial position forcing them to sell several of their best players.

But we can't look beyond the job that

we've got to in 90 minutes – and that's to get into the next round of the cup, a cup that's been very good for us.

This is the first chance I've had to write for you since the Christmas period and, but for two dropped points at home to Wigan, it went pretty well for us results wise.

We were 10 minutes away from what anyone would admit was an excellent run, and suddenly we're out of things again.

We're not.

Just like we were supposed to be out of it four or five weeks ago and then dropped points by United and Arsenal allowed us to close the gap.

We've still got a game in hand to reduce the deficit between us and the league's top two.

They will slip up again. That's a definite. What the manager's said to us is that from now until the end of the season we have to be almost perfect against the teams below us in the table, or the teams outside the top four.

We're going for a run of winning results, hopefully for the next couple of months.

If we do that and take care of our own business then we'll put ourselves in a position where we can take advantage of any slips that the title rivals make.

I believe and I know that the rest of the lads share the view that we can go anywhere in the country and win and that



includes Old Trafford, the Emirates or Stamford Bridge.

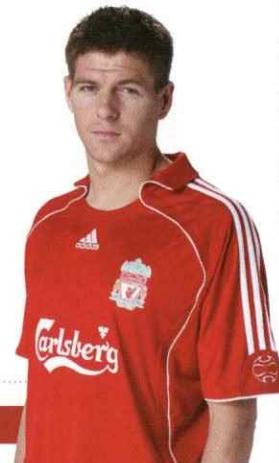
It's far too early for anyone to count us out and I promise you that no-one at Liverpool has thought for a second that we're out of anything.

What it does show you is the difference those draws against Arsenal and Chelsea have made to our position.

We have a real challenge facing us, and one that we'll all relish. We need to be more consistent now than any of us have

ever been in our careers, and we need to take our chances and be resilient at the back by defending as a whole team.

If we do that, then there's no limit to where this team can go or what we can achieve.



Skipper notes

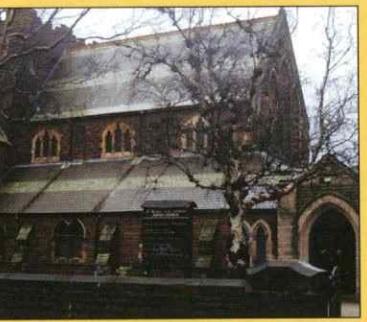


THE funeral of former club secretary Sheila Walsh took place last Thursday.

During her 26 years at Anfield she served under seven different managers and was described as "the glue that held everything together".

Kenny Dalglish, Roy Evans, Graeme Souness and Gerard Houllier were amongst the mourners at St Mary's the Virgin in Waterloo.

Rafa Benitez and the current squad, including Steven Gerrard and Jamie Carragher, were also on hand to pay their respects to Mrs Walsh who sadly died of cancer on New Year's day.



Pictures: John Powell

MAGIC OF THE CUP

AFIRST taste of the FA Cup, especially when paired with a hungry opponent from the lower leagues, can often take imports by surprise.

When that Third Round opponent has hardly been paid in months, and requires new investment just to keep them alive, then anything can happen.

It almost did.

Yet in the case of Charles Itandje, Luton were everything that he expected before kick-off. Their plight had not gone unnoticed and he has seen enough cup football in France to know that upsets are infinitely possible.

The Frenchman was full of praise for the effort that the Hatters' put into the first 90 minutes at Kenilworth Road last Sunday afternoon, but promised them that tonight's action will be altogether different.

He believes that the tight, bumpy pitch and the backing of the majority of the ground, coupled with the survival instinct that the chance to showcase themselves to prospective investors brought out in them combined to bring the very best out of Luton.

No-one would dare claim that we saw the best of Rafa's Reds.

Itandje insists that this second chance is all we need to end Luton's interest in the Cup.

When we caught up with the former Lens number one he didn't yet know the boss's starting line-up, but he hoped a smart save early on and a faultless display throughout will prove sufficient to keep his place in the team.

"I could not have told you until the manager read out the team sheet whether or not I was going to be involved in tonight's action," he told us late last week.

"I hope that I am, because I enjoy every single minute that I get to play for Liverpool. Despite the fact that maybe it was not the best display of the year, I enjoyed the Luton game and my first taste of the FA Cup.

"They made it exactly the type of game that I expected them to make it. They are a small club playing against one of the most famous clubs in the country, and in the FA Cup competition too.

"I always expected that Luton would produce something fantastic, and that is what they did.

"In France we would say that it was the magic of the cup.

"It was a very small stadium and a very tight and bumpy pitch. They made life difficult for us in that game in Luton, although we did not play as well as we can play.

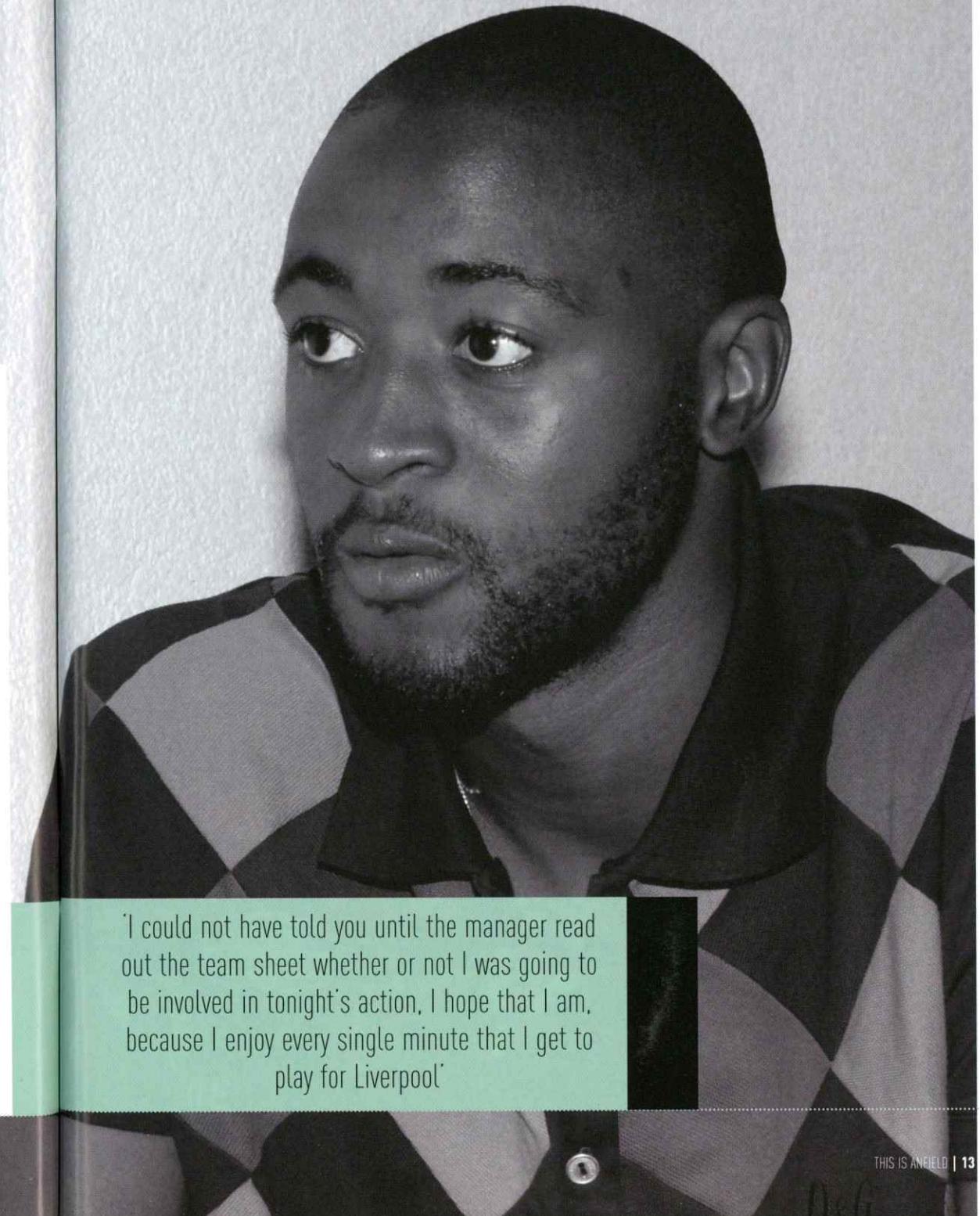
"Those two factors combined to make the 1-1 draw.

"They did play very well, and I am sure that the uncertainty over their footballing future and everything else helped to make them such a difficult opponent."

That was then, and this is now and Itandje – while respecting Luton's chance of an upset – believes that it will be Liverpool who advance into the Fourth Round.

"At Anfield I would expect it to be very different. It is a bigger pitch, which makes life automatically tougher for them, and we must be better than we were in the first game."

The 25-year-old has had his fair share of misfortune in a Liverpool jersey so far, conceding the



'I could not have told you until the manager read out the team sheet whether or not I was going to be involved in tonight's action, I hope that I am, because I enjoy every single minute that I get to play for Liverpool'

own goal last week and a wickedly deflected goal at Chelsea.

"I haven't maybe had a lot of luck when I've made appearances like you say but that is football and there's nothing any of us can do about that."

"I would say though that it's not me who has been unlucky, it is actually the team who have been unlucky."

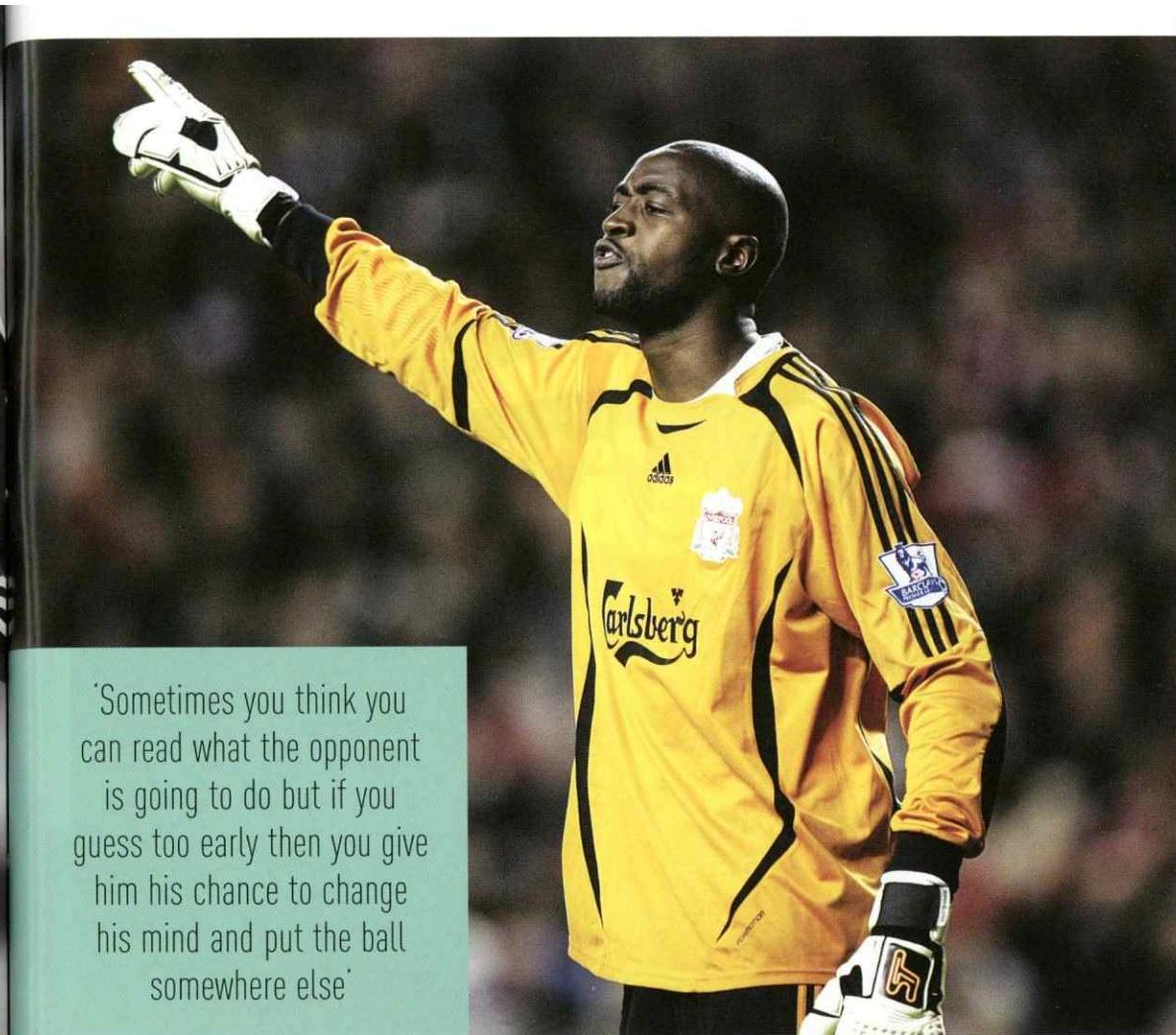
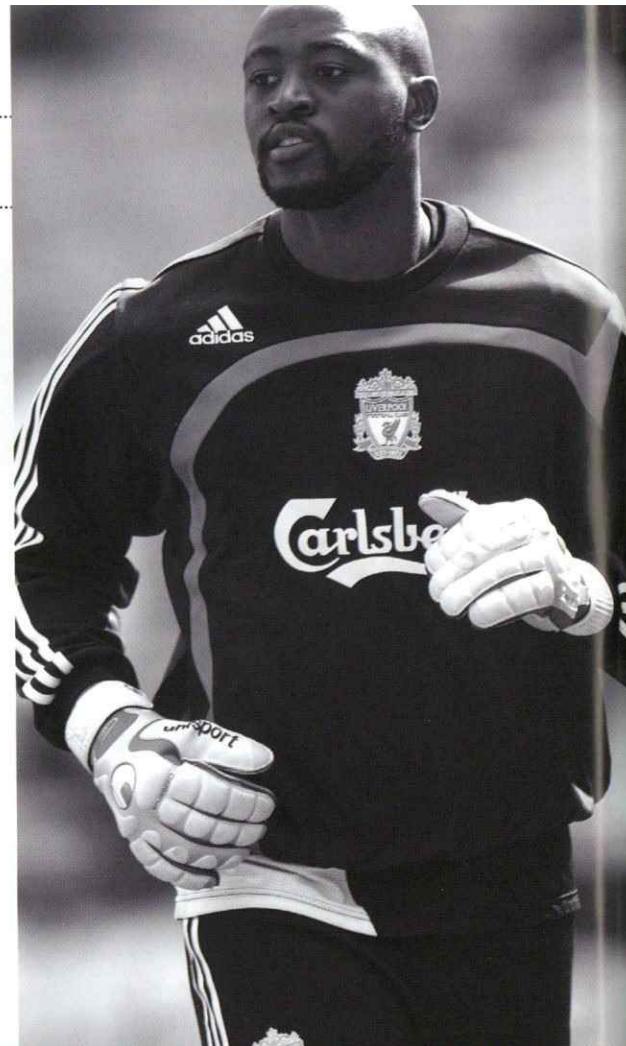
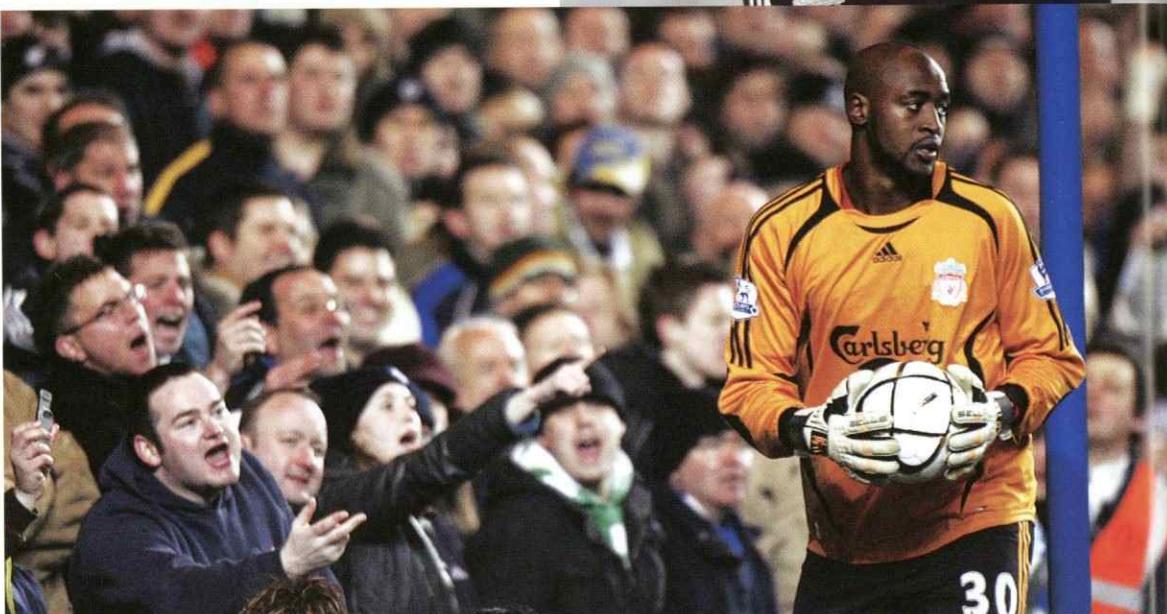
"Against Chelsea we suffered a deflected goal that hit Carra and meant there was nothing I could do."

"And against Luton, John Arne Riise scored an own goal to set-up tonight's game. I knew what 'Ginge' was trying to do and it was an excellent intention. It was a great delivery into the penalty area from the right hand side into an area where I could not go and claim the ball."

"Carra was covering out on the flank and Sami had followed a runner, there was only me and Riise left in the middle."

"All I could do was wait and try and react as quickly as possible to what was happening. I could not do anything else. I have watched it again and my view of it is still the same now as it was then when that happened."

"Their player had missed the ball, I don't know how he managed to do that but he did, and because of that Riise's gone in for a block tackle that at the last minute he's tried to turn into a clearance. He almost got it perfectly but the ball struck his arm and rolled



'Sometimes you think you can read what the opponent is going to do but if you guess too early then you give him his chance to change his mind and put the ball somewhere else'

into the net. I think his face said what we all felt.

"Sometimes in cup football these things happen; it's just not your day at all. Last Sunday was not our day! This one will be better, I can feel it."

Luton would argue that perhaps Liverpool took the lead against the run of play, after spurning several guilt-edged opportunities to put their guests under real pressure.

However, their best chance in 90 minutes came after just five minutes when Dave Edwards was put clean through on goal in a movement which gave Itandje a chance to show why he was recruited in the summer.

"It was a save and it kept the score at 0-0. In those type of one-on-one situations all a keeper can do is stand up for as long as he can and hope that it is enough to put the player off."

"Sometimes you think you can read what the opponent is going to do but if you guess too early then you give him his chance to change his mind and put the ball somewhere else."

"But even if that shot had gone in I still don't think

we would have lost the game. Maybe I'm wrong and things would be different but I believe we would not have gone out."

"It was good for my confidence because I have not played a lot of football lately, but I would not have got too upset if it had gone in. In that situation the keeper is second favourite and I know that there would have been other important saves to make in the game."

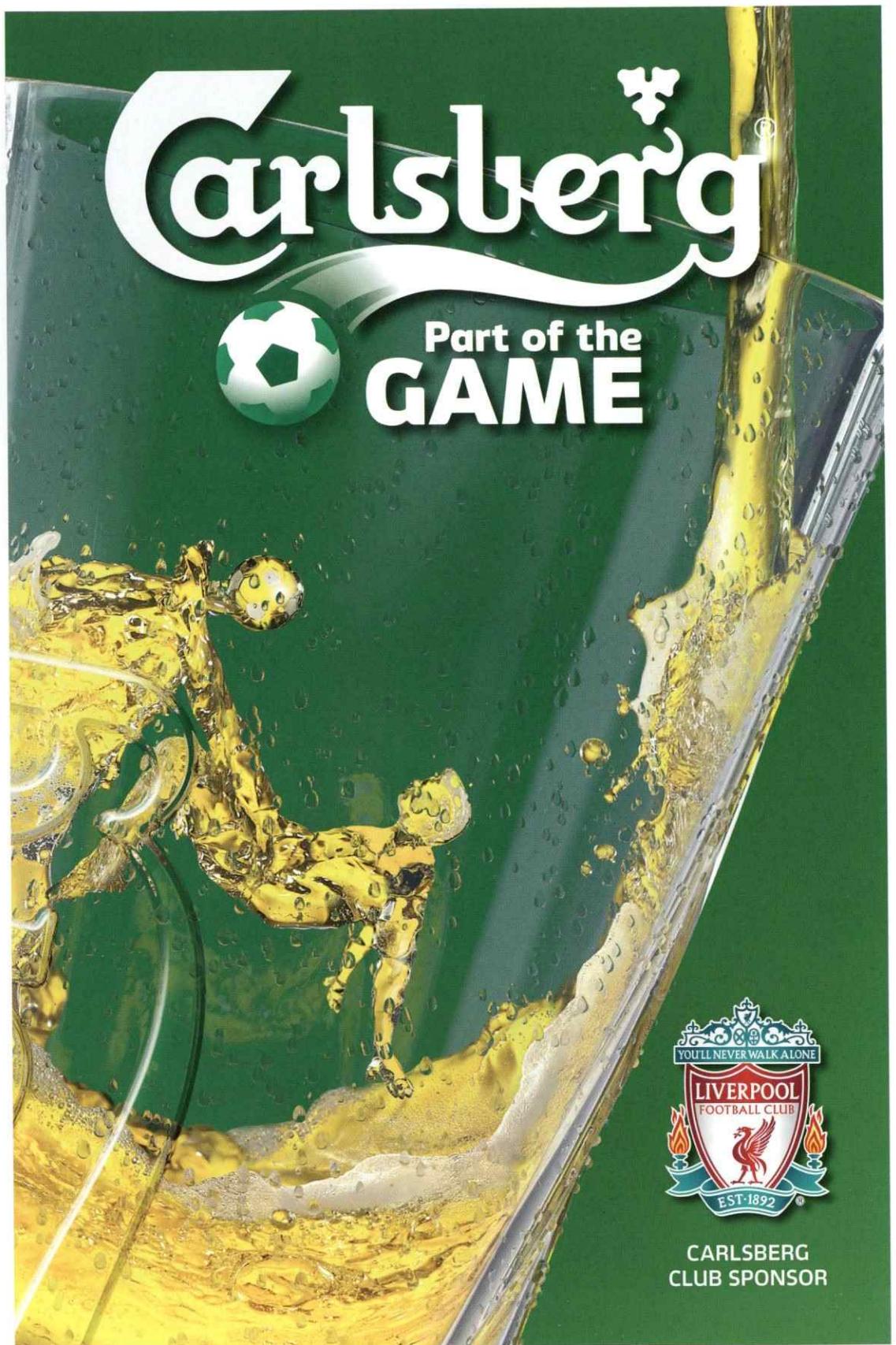
Few expected the former France Under-21 international to play too often when he came to Liverpool, with Pepe Reina a model of consistency both in terms of his form and his fitness.

Charles did.

He didn't come to play second fiddle. He understood that was his starting point but he has designs on the number one slot in the future.

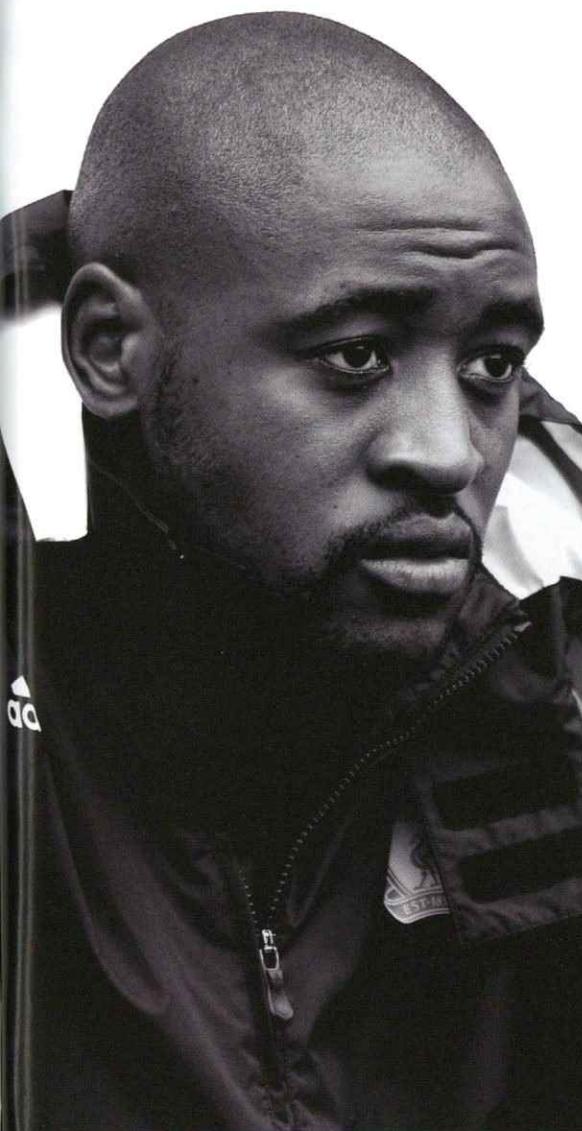
He's not happy cooling his heels on the bench, nor is he ever likely to be.

"I said when I signed for this club in the summer that I felt like I had been honoured by this opportunity. You don't say no to Liverpool when they



L4

CHARLES ITANDJE
INTERVIEW



'I am not happy sitting on the bench, I am a professional footballer and I want to play. Anyone who is happy when they are not playing, well I don't understand that. I know why I am not in the team, and I am not complaining or anything like that. All I can do is keep pressing hard and be ready as and when I am needed. That's the way it is'

come calling for you.

"The six months that I have been here have done nothing to change my mind. The players here are world class, the stadium is amazing and the supporters that fill it every week are fantastic.

"But I'm not happy playing only very occasionally. I knew the size of the task facing me when I came here because Pepe Reina is such a consistent keeper.

"The situation was explained to me by the manager, but when I arrived here it was my intention to play every week.

"I am not happy sitting on the bench, I am a professional footballer and I want to play. Anyone who is happy when they are not playing, well I don't understand that.

"I know why I am not in the team, and I am not complaining or anything like that.

"All I can do is keep pressing hard and be ready as and when I am needed. That's the way it is.

"But you need to play every week to be at your best, to really show what you can do.

"I am a student of our team when I am on the bench. I am not just watching the games, I am watching the players in the back four and trying to understand how they do certain things in certain situations so that if I am playing behind them I can anticipate their moves.

"But it is not the same as playing behind them. You only get the true picture when you are 20 yards away when they act.

"But I will wait for my chance. Pepe is a great guy and a world class goalkeeper and he gets better and better all the time.

"I can only do my best and hope that I get more chances to show that I am at that level also."

If Charles does get the chance to shine tonight, or indeed later in the season, then expect an addition to his on-field wardrobe too.

"I used to wear tracksuit bottoms in Lens when it was very cold, but it was nothing like as cold as it is here.

"I'm going to be getting them out soon if this weather persists! Maybe even tonight, we will see."

What's On



LFC **TV**

Pick Of The Week

Wednesday January 16th 2008

This Is Anfield : Interactive studio-based chat show featuring special guests
Torres : The first 10 goals

Thursday January 17th 2008

Kop 10 Scouse Stars : A countdown of the 10 best local heroes to play for LFC.
Rome '77 : The Incredible Journey

Friday January 18th 2008

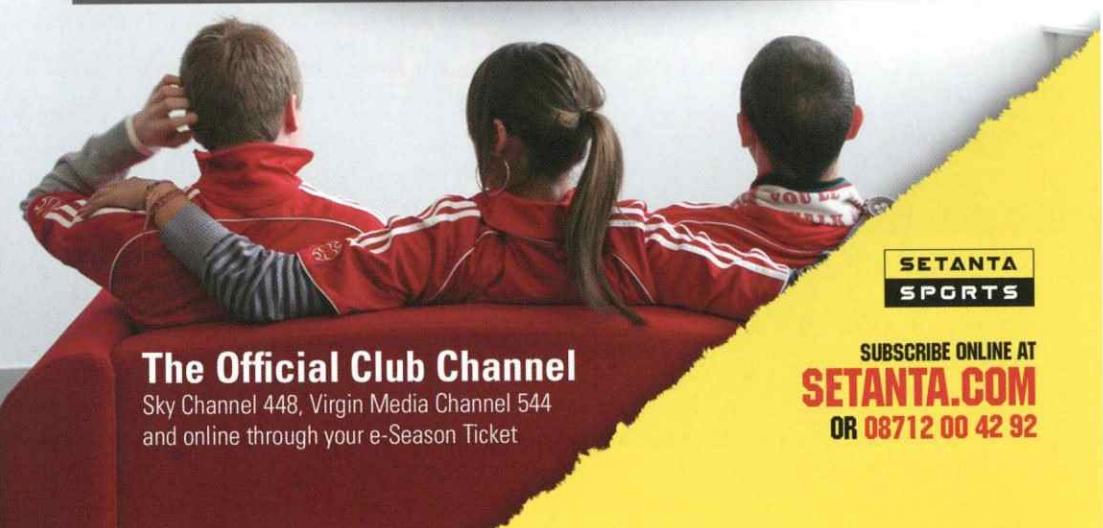
Paisley : A tribute to the greatest British manager ever
Big Match Build Up : Pre-Match analysis and chat ahead of Monday's match

Saturday January 19th 2008

60 Minutes with Steven Gerrard : The Liverpool captain visits the LFC TV studio
Cup Kings '86 : We remember the all-Merseyside FA Cup final triumph from '86

Sunday January 20th 2008

Dream Team with David Fairclough : Who would make your dream team?
Kop 10 Number Nines : The top ten Liverpool players to wear the Number 9 shirt



LIVERPOOL vs LUTON TOWN

FA CUP HEAD TO HEAD: PLAYED 7, LIVERPOOL 3 WINS, LUTON 1 WIN, 3 DRAWS.

LIVERPOOL'S RECORD IN THE FA CUP: PLAYED 396, WON 211, DRAWN 87, LOST 98

(In all rounds including Prelims)

LAST MEETING REMINDER



AWAY: 06/01/08 LUTON 1 - 1 LIVERPOOL
FA Cup Third Round

LIVERPOOL were expected to sweep past a Luton side facing going out of existence without immediate financial assistance, but the League One strugglers gave an excellent account of themselves and were, according to some observers, unlucky not to win in 90 minutes.

Peter Crouch's opener was cancelled out by Riise's own goal and it was the home side who looked most likely to produce a winning goal in the closing stages.

They made the most of the tight and uneven Kenilworth Road pitch to knock Liverpool off their stride in the opening exchanges and never let them settle into a rhythm thereafter.

However, Anfield's wide open spaces and carpet-like playing surface will make repeating that feat a difficult proposition.

FA CUP MEETINGS BETWEEN THE SIDES:

- 31.01.1920: Luton 0 Liverpool 2 Round 2
- 07.01.1939: Liverpool 3 Luton 0 Round 3
- 11.01.1987: Luton 0 Liverpool 0 Round 3
- 26.01.1987: Liverpool 0 Luton 0 Round 3 (Replay)
- 28.01.1987: Luton 3 Liverpool 0 Round 3 (2nd Replay)
- 07.01.2006: Luton 3 Liverpool 5 Round 3
- 06.01.2008: Luton 0 Liverpool 0 Round 3



Luton have reached one FA Cup final. In 1959 they lost 2-1 to Nottingham Forest. Former Everton manager Billy Bingham was in the Luton side that day. Forest's first goal of the game was scored by Roy Dwight, who later in the

match broke his leg. Dwight was the uncle of Elton John.



FORM GUIDE... LUTON TOWN

AS we went to press, a saviour emerged for Luton Town with lifelong fan and TV presenter Nick Owen heading a consortium keen to safeguard the Hatters' future.

Owen's bid is backed by three of the club's biggest supporters groups – including the supporters' trust – and that backing will not have gone unnoticed by the decision makers.

"The people in the consortium are all lifelong Luton fans," Owen told BBC Three Counties Radio.

"These guys have worked so hard over a few weeks now to put together a very impressive application – 64 pages of it."

"They are big Luton fans and have pulled together some very successful businessmen who are Luton fans."

"It blew my mind away when I read the application."

Town administrator Brendan Guilfoyle revealed that the bid received from the group fronted by Owen was not the only one to arrive at his door last week before the deadline he set at 1700 GMT on Monday last.

"We are now in the process of getting one bid to the stage of being the preferred bidder and then entering exclusive negotiations," Guilfoyle admitted.

"The price of that is for one party to start funding the club straight away."

"We are asking for that to test their commitment."

By the time you read this, they may already have reached that stage, bringing to an end months of uncertainty that followed the club's plunge into administration on November 22, costing them a 10-point deduction.

That penalty sent them tumbling down the table, and made relegation to League Two an uncomfortable possibility.

However, they've lost just once since then, suggesting they won't let themselves go down without a fight – believing that the lift they've taken from forcing a replay against the Reds will be enough to carry them to safety.

In the league, they are currently three points from safety and faced table-topping Swansea on Saturday. They still have to face all of the teams around them at the wrong end of the table so can at least claim to have control of their own destiny.

DID YOU KNOW...

- Luton last defeated a Premiership side in 1994 when they beat West Ham 3-2 in a quarter-final replay. All three goals were scored by Scott Oakes, whose father Trevor was a guitarist in the '70s band Showaddywaddy.



- This season Luton beat Brentford 2-0 away in a first round replay after a 1-1 draw and beat Nottingham Forest 1-0 in round two thanks to a Calvin Andrew goal.



- Luton have not lost away in the FA Cup since 2003 when they were beaten 3-0 at Wigan. Since then they have won five and drawn two of their seven games on the road.
- The Hatters captain Chris Coyne has played in a cup final against Liverpool. He was in West Ham's Youth Cup final team against Liverpool in 1996 opposing Jamie Carragher and Michael Owen.

THE MAN WHO MAKES THEM TICK... DARREN CURRIE

DARREN Currie has clocked up more miles than most professional footballers during his playing career, taking in spells at 10 clubs in 15 years.

He'd never played outside the bottom two tiers of the English game until Scotland managerial candidate and current Motherwell boss Mark McGhee gave him a chance at Brighton.

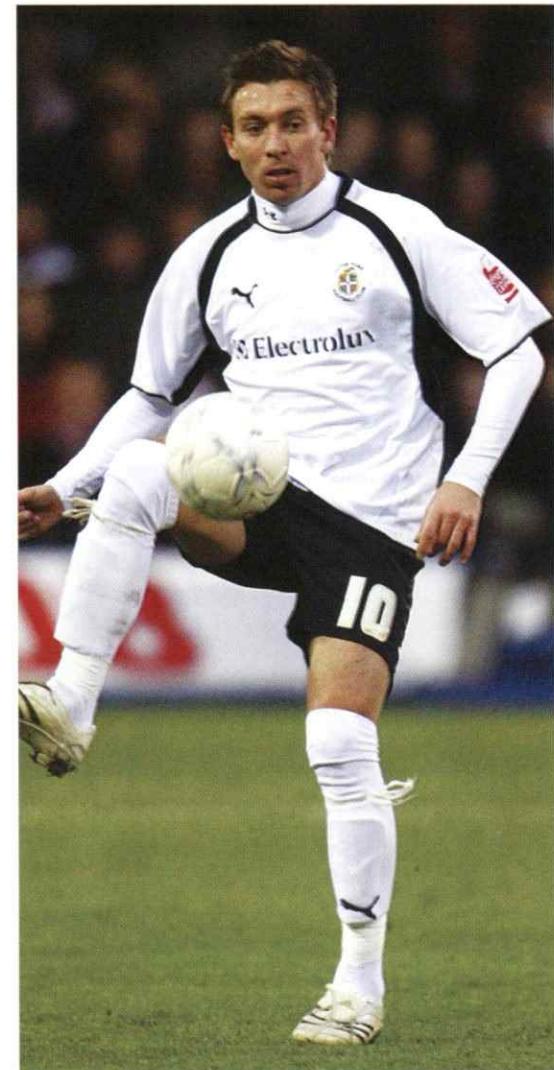
Just as he'd found his feet at the Withdean Stadium Ipswich signed him and at the end of the season Currie appeared in a crucial encounter between his current and previous employers.

A win for Ipswich would send them into the automatic promotion berths and condemn the Seagulls to relegation.

Currie had a quiet game and it ended 1-1, meaning Ipswich made the play-offs and Albion survived.

Currie might now be tagged a veteran, but he was sprightly and inventive against Liverpool. Indeed, his intelligent positioning between attack and midfield made him difficult for Lucas and Alonso to pin down.

Denying him the space that he enjoyed at Kenilworth Road will be important tonight.



CURRIE FACTFILE...

- Currie rivals former Red Djibril Cisse in the tattoo stakes, boasting 12 of various designs.
- Currie is himself a Liverpool supporter.
- He once had a trial with LA Galaxy but chose to sign for Derby instead.

DID YOU KNOW...

- Don Hutchison scored 10 goals in 60 games for Liverpool from 1990-94 and played three times for the club in the FA Cup.
- Chris Perry was in the Wimbledon side knocked out of the FA Cup by Liverpool in 1995.



- In 1961 Luton Town beat Manchester City in the cup despite Denis Law scoring six times. With City leading 6-2 at Kenilworth Road the match was abandoned after 49 minutes. When the game was replayed four days later Luton won 3-1.

- Darren Currie is the nephew of former England international Tony Currie who played for Queens Park Rangers in the 1982 final against Tottenham.

OPPOSITION

THE MAN OF THE MATCH... DREW TALBOT

DREW Talbot was handed that accolade in the first meeting between these two at Kenilworth Road, which was reward for a gutsy performance and 90 minutes of sheer hard work and a consistent threat on Charles Itandje's goal.

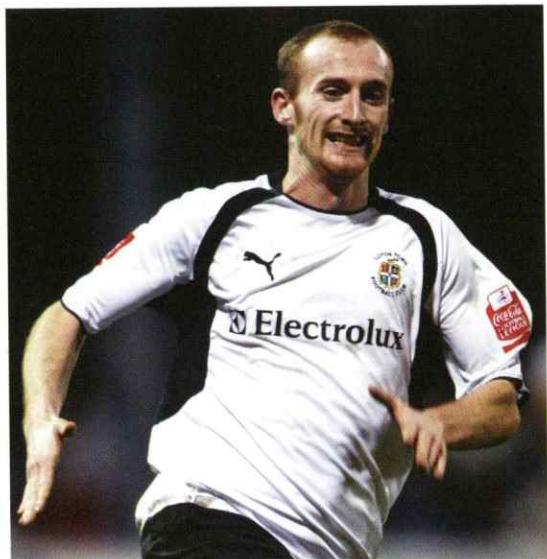
It was former boss Mike Newell who took Talbot to the club, on the recommendation of former Sheffield Wednesday boss Paul Sturrock.

Sturrock was in charge of Talbot's career at Hillsborough and rated him highly, but a back injury meant the Scot was seldom able to call on Talbot.

However, Newell was impressed with his fellow manager's assessment and landed him a year ago. Talbot's first act was to make one and score another in a win over his former employers.

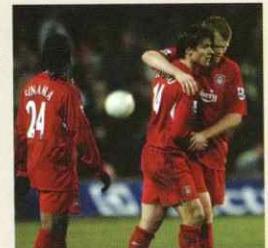
However, he's not a goalscorer – indeed he's yet to score this season – and he will feel he could have done better with a header from six yards in our first meeting.

What he does do is work defences and create chances and space for team-mates.



DID YOU KNOW...

- This was the fifth year out of the last six Liverpool were drawn away in the third round following Manchester City (2003), Yeovil (2004) Burnley (2005) and Luton (2006).



- Xabi Alonso's two goals in this competition came at Luton in 2006.

- This is Liverpool's first third round replay since 1995 when they overcame Birmingham in a penalty shoot-out after a 1-1 draw.



- Peter Crouch's first FA Cup goals came against Luton in 2001 while he was playing for Queens Park Rangers. He has now scored 10 goals in 17 career appearances in the competition.

THE MAN WHO MADE IMPORTANT SAVES... DEAN BRILL



IT'S probably a safe bet to assume that had Ryan Babel opened the scoring for the Reds inside the game's first minute then we probably wouldn't be here for tonight's game.

The fact that we are owes much to a fabulous early save from Dean Brill that denied the Dutchman a goal.

Brill then saved well from a deflected John Arne Riise shot in the second half and made another good stop, at the second attempt, from Crouchie's volley.

Brill is born and bred in Luton and came through the club's ranks quickly. He's now undeniably the number one at Kenilworth Road as the number on his back suggests.

Bigger clubs have had a look at him, and Kevin Blackwell will be a happy man when the window closes and the 22-year-old is still at the club.

Brill will have to be at his brilliant best tonight on an evening when he is likely to be far busier than he was eight days ago.

THE MAN WHO SHOULD HAVE SCORED... DAVE EDWARDS

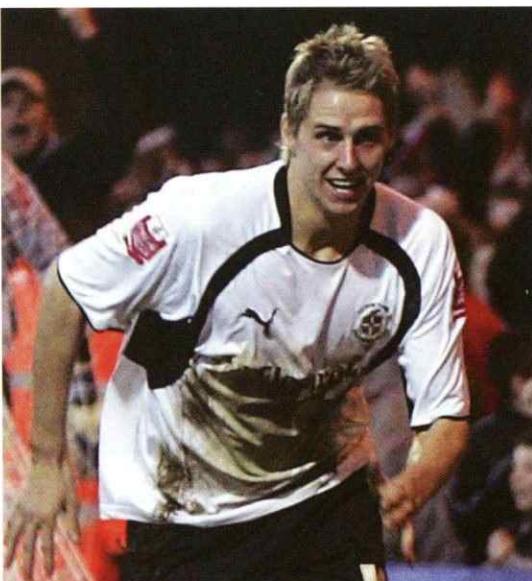
DAVE Edwards should have come off the pitch at Luton last week celebrating the most famous goal of his career. However, he failed to make any sort of contact with Drew Talbot's cross and it was left to the highly unfortunate John Arne Riise to turn the ball into his own net.

Edwards fooled the stadium announcer who, despite having a better view than most, credited his own player and not the Norwegian with the game's leveller.

The Welsh international started his career at his hometown team, Shrewsbury, but moved to the Hatters in July this year before Town fell into financial difficulties.

He is currently being tracked by several of League One's high fliers but Blackwell will not be keen to allow one of his side's key players to depart less than six months into his Town career and while they are battling for their lives.

As we saw for Luton's goal, Edwards knows how to arrive late in the box without being marked – marking him out as a goal threat.



LUTON TOWN



THE MAN WHO CROSSED THE GREAT DIVIDE... DON HUTCHISON



WHEN Don Hutchison was coming through the ranks at Anfield it was around the same time as future Reds skipper Jamie Redknapp.

Although the pair played in slightly different positions, it was actually Hutchison who – experts believed – had the greater natural talent.

Despite a bright beginning to his career on Merseyside, off-field indiscretions meant that he never really fulfilled his potential in a red shirt and he was sold to West Ham after just 45 appearances and seven goals.

He returned to the region four years later when he signed for Everton and although he scored in a derby for the Blues, it was chalked off by the referee so we never got the chance to see whether or not he would have celebrated the moment.

In recent years Hutchison, a former Scottish international, has dropped down the divisions and has made eight appearances for the Hatters – mostly from the bench.

He may well wonder what might have been as he walks up the steps and onto the pitch tonight.

DID YOU KNOW...

- The last Liverpool player to score a hat-trick in the competition was Stan Collymore, whose three-goal haul came against Rochdale in 1996.



- Only two players have ever scored FA Cup hat-tricks against Liverpool: John Boag of Derby County in 1897-98 and Ray Westwood of Bolton in 1945-46.

- The Reds' biggest win against Luton came on this ground in October 1983 when they won 6-0. Ian Rush scored five – the last time the feat has been achieved in the league by a Liverpool player.



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NEWS



Agger is voted 2007's greatest Dane

DANIEL Agger's outstanding contribution in our run to Athens has seen him rewarded with the 2007 Danish Player of the Year title.

The 23-year-old is currently recovering from a metatarsal injury sustained back in September.

Despite that he topped the poll based on the votes of players and coaches from the two major divisions in his native land as well as Danes who play abroad.

"I am extremely proud and honoured to receive this award – not least because it is based on votes from my colleagues," our number five said.

In claiming the honour Agger finished ahead of Seville's Christian Poulsen, who had claimed the title in the previous two seasons.

It also means Agger follows in the footsteps of such prestigious names as Brian and Michael Laudrup and Peter Schmeichel.



Former Danish Player of the Year Brian Laudrup



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BY PHONE

You can apply for a maximum of four tickets, by calling the credit-card hotline, quoting your credit or debit-card number and expiry date. A minimum booking fee of 50p per ticket will be charged. Tickets booked more than three days before the match will be sent out by post, those booked after this must be collected from the credit-card collections window at the ticket office, and you must produce the card used to book the tickets.

IN PERSON

Any remaining tickets will go on sale at the ticket office, 11 days in advance. However, tickets usually sell out through phone and postal bookings.

AWAY MATCHES

Tickets for away fixtures go on sale first to Liverpool season-ticket holders. Priority will be based on a loyalty system i.e. priority will be given to supporters on the number of away FAPL fixtures attended during season 2006/07 and also may include the number of fixtures attended in the current season. The number of matches attended will be determined from the information held on the ticket office database.

TICKET OFFICE

Open weekdays 8.15am to 5.30pm, weekends 9.15am - 1pm and matchdays 9.15am to kick-off and for 15 minutes after the final whistle.

- Keep ticket stubs as they may be necessary for a further ticket allocation or used again if a match is abandoned.
- Liverpool FC reserve the right to alter ticket-selling arrangements without prior notice. Times and dates of fixtures may change. Watch local press and the matchday programme for details.
- Ticket information for cup matches will be made available as soon as possible after the draw.

FIRST DATE OF SALE:

Fixture date	Opposition	PTS	General	Window*
19.01.08	Aston Villa	27.12.07	02.01.08	08.01.08
02.02.08	Sunderland	10.01.08	15.01.08	22.01.08
23.02.08	Middlesbrough	31.01.08	05.02.08	12.02.08
08.03.08	Newcastle	14.02.08	19.02.08	26.02.08
15.03.08	Reading	21.02.08	26.02.08	04.03.08
29.03.08	Everton	06.03.08	11.03.08	18.03.08
12.04.08	Blackburn	20.03.08	25.03.08	01.04.08
03.05.08	Man City	10.04.08	15.04.08	22.04.08

Please note that all dates of sale are subject to change. *Window sales are subject to availability. **Tickets for the fixtures against Manchester United and Everton are sold based on previous attendance recorded on a Fancard. Details of sale requirements will be announced in advance of the on sale dates.



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TICKET PRICES:

	CAT A*	CAT B	*CATEGORY A MATCHES
Kop	£34 (Over 65s £25.50)	£32 (Over 65s £24)	Arsenal, Aston Villa, Blackburn Rovers, Chelsea, Everton, Manchester City, Manchester United, Newcastle United, Tottenham Hotspur
Main Stand	£36 (Over 65s £27)	£34 (Over 65s £25.50)	
Centenary	£36 (Over 65s £27)	£34 (Over 65s £25.50)	
Paddock	£36 (Over 65s £27)	£34 (Over 65s £25.50)	
Anfield Road	£36 (Over 65s £27)	£34 (Over 65s £25.50)	

FAMILY TICKETS

In the Anfield Road (one adult, up to two children) cost as adult ticket, plus half price for each child aged 16 and under. If more than two children's tickets are required, additional tickets will be charged at the adult rate.

ANFIELD TRAVEL CLUB

DATE	Fixture & K.O (3pm unless stated)	D.TIME	FARE £
29.01.08	West Ham United	8.30am	23.50
10.02.08	Chelsea	10am	23.50
01.03.08	Bolton	12.45pm	8.50
22.03.08	Manchester United (12.00pm)	10.15am	8.50
05.04.08	Arsenal	8.30am	23.50
19.04.08	Fulham	8.30am	23.50
26.04.08	Birmingham City	12.00pm	12.00
11.05.08	Tottenham	8.30am	23.50

Coach tickets should be purchased at the ticket office. If you require any further information please contact the ticket office on 0870 220 2345

SEE THE REDS IN STYLE

Various corporate hospitality packages are available on match days in the Lower Centenary Stand. Reds Bar prices start from just £70 per person. For further details and to check availability: CALL 0151 263 9199, FAX 0151 260 0981 or visit our website www.liverpoolfc.tv click Tickets then Hospitality to download a booking form.

SOCCERBUS

A shuttle bus runs from Sandhills Station on the Merseyrail Northern Line to and from Anfield on matchdays.

Soccerbus tickets can be bought at the same time as your rail ticket. Merseytravel prepaid tickets are also accepted. Call 0871 200 22 33 for further details.



Traveline provides advice on how to travel to any other British destination via public transport, such as away games. Traveline provides route and timetable information.

Anderson relishing Anfield cup return

PAUL Anderson is desperate for Liverpool to beat Luton tonight.

The young Reds winger has been on loan at Swansea since the start of the season and the Welsh club are in FA Cup replay action tomorrow night against Blue Square Conference South side Havant and Waterlooville.

Wins for both Liverpool and the Swans would bring Anderson back to Anfield in the fourth round and the player is relishing the chance of a dream outing in front of a packed Kop.

"I was jumping up and down in my room when I heard the draw," said Anderson.

"Liverpool was the only team I wanted to play against.

"I couldn't believe it. I was so

happy. For it to come out of the hat like that was brilliant. I got straight on the phone to my dad and told him the good news."

Anderson has been in impressive form for Swansea this season where his pace and trickery have been instrumental in their rise to the top of League One.

The fans inside the Liberty Stadium are well aware of Anderson's talents and the 19-year-old now wants to show Liverpool supporters what he can do.

"I'm desperate to play at Anfield," he said.

"I've never played for the first team there, only in youth cup games. So I've played in front of the Kop before, but never in front of so many fans.

"It will be really nice if I can go out and show both the Liverpool and Swansea fans what I can do."

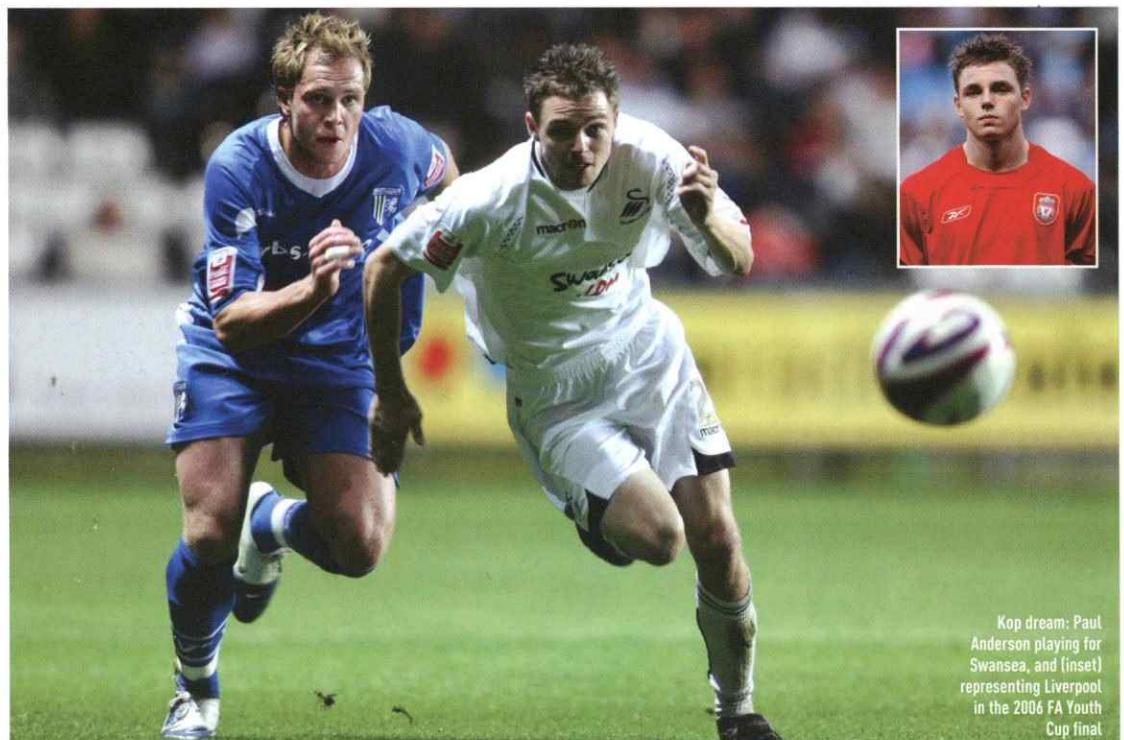
"When you are a young lad at a club like Liverpool, it's easy for people to know nothing about you. But, if I can show the fans that I'm half decent, then perhaps they will start to wonder why I'm not there."

"It might give them a different opinion of me if they can see that I'm a good player."

"Obviously we have to get past Havant and Waterlooville first."

"But you always hope for the big teams in the FA Cup. You look for Premiership teams and obviously one of the big four is a bonus."

"It's a great draw for both myself and the club."





Ireland:



Scotland:



Finland:



Denmark:



Brazil:



Argentina:



Ukraine:



Australia:



Spain:



Mali:



Holland:



Morocco:



Austria:



Norway:



France:



Israel:

Club continental

Keeping you and the players in touch with
their old teams and leagues...

Haifa struggling to match glory days when Yossi ruled the roost

Players Lounge

YOSSI Benayoun first came to European attention while wearing the famous green colours of Maccabi Haifa, and he will be disappointed to see his former employers pass up an opportunity to narrow the gap on league leaders Beitar Jerusalem.

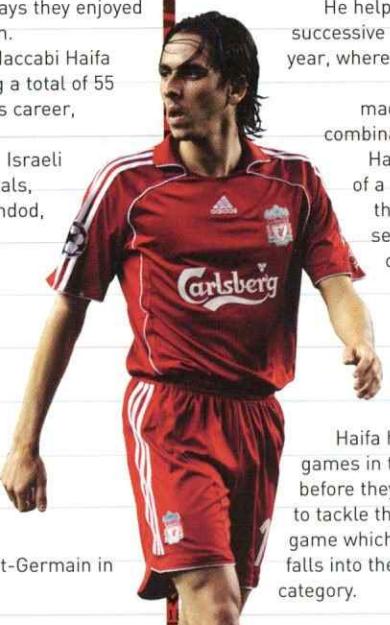
Indeed it took a Yaniv Katan goal to level the score against Maccabi Petach Tikva – leaving Haifa 10 points behind the runaway leaders after 14 rounds of the competition.

It's not like the glory days they enjoyed with Yossi as their fulcrum.

Benayoun played for Maccabi Haifa for three seasons, scoring a total of 55 league goals in his Greens career, including two hat-tricks.

He scored some of the Israeli Premier League's best goals, including one, against Ashdod, which saw Yossi perform keep ups to by-pass an opposing defender and a stranded goalkeeper for what was a magnificent goal.

In 1998, under the guidance of Dusan Uhrin and Daniel Brailovsky, Benayoun and Haifa reached the quarter-finals of the Cup Winners' Cup, and he scored against Paris Saint-Germain in an unforgettable match.



In 1999, he confronted his manager Eli Cohen, when Benayoun refused to be substituted during a match. This incident, plus a bad month for the club, ultimately lost Cohen his job. Such was Yossi's stock with Haifa supporters that the decision to replace their star man was tantamount to signing his resignation.

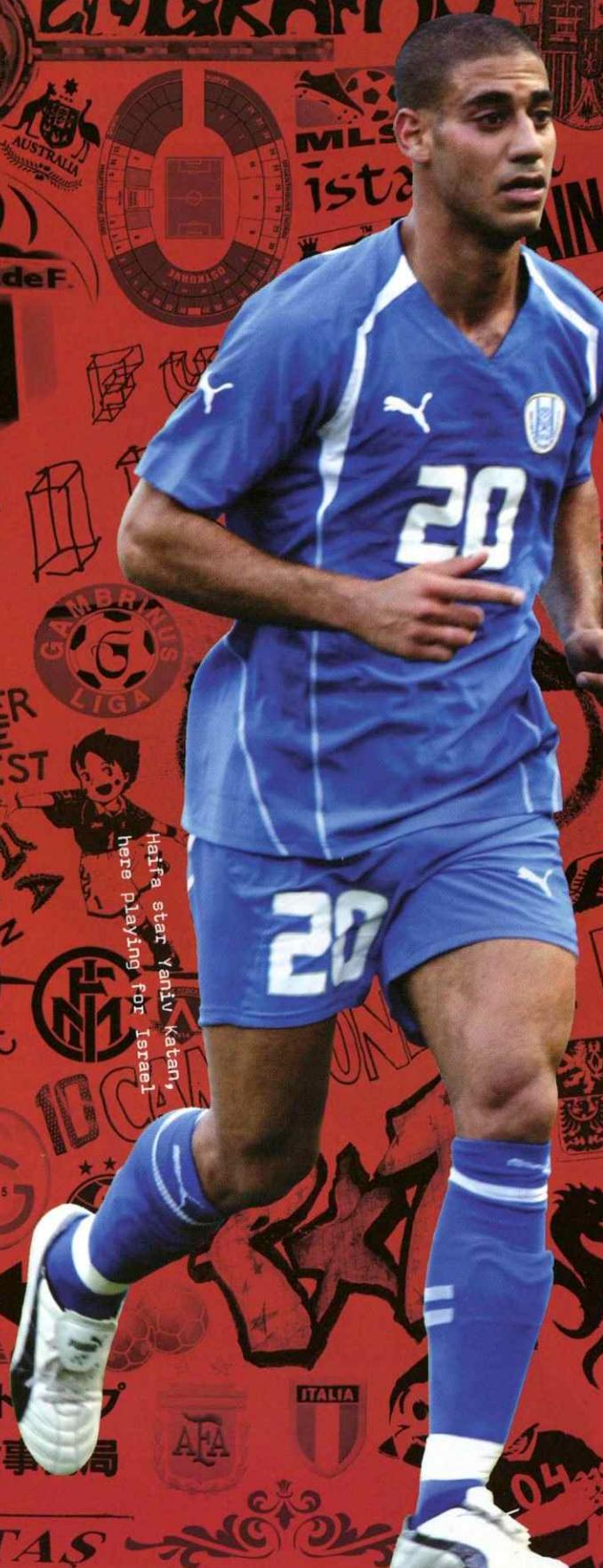
In the 2000/2001 season under the guidance of Avram Grant, Benayoun led Haifa to a first championship in seven years and he himself was the unanimous choice as Player of the Year.

He helped secure a second successive title the following year, where his assists for

Ayegbeni Yakubu made them a lethal combination.

Haifa are in something of a slump of late and if they fail to win this season's championship it will be for the second season in a row and will further infuriate an already disappointed support.

Haifa have three must-win games in the next three weeks before they travel to Jerusalem to tackle the table toppers in a game which unquestionably falls into the 'win or bust' category.



Written by: Gavin Kirk

Cisse not going anywhere, insists Marseille president

Ex-players Lounge

HE may not be enjoying his best season in Le Championnat, but former Liverpool striker Djibril Cisse still finds himself in high demand during the January transfer window.

Man City had a bid rebuffed by L'OM president Pape Diouf last week and there are several other interested parties around Europe watching and waiting to see what happens.

Cisse has been a target for the boo boys at the Stade Velodrome this season and speculation would suggest he'd welcome a return to England – where he still retains a house in Cheshire.

According to his club, the 26-year-old is not for sale at any price.

"I will make myself very clear concerning Djibril Cisse: he will not leave, he will stay at Marseille until the end of the season," said Diouf.

"It is certain many English clubs have shown interest in him. I have been approached very officially by Manchester City, to whom I categorically said no," confirmed Diouf.

Yet, that's a view that differs from that of 'Djib's' representative Ranko Stojic who seemed to suggest that his client would happily leave behind the remainder of his contract with the south of France based club.

"Everybody has forgotten that Djibril has not always been respected in recent times, personally as well as a professionally," Stojic told the French press.

"Not only by the supporters [Cisse is regularly jeered by Marseille fans], but also from within the club.

"It is for that reason, I can't say today that he will leave, but on the other hand I can't say that he won't leave."

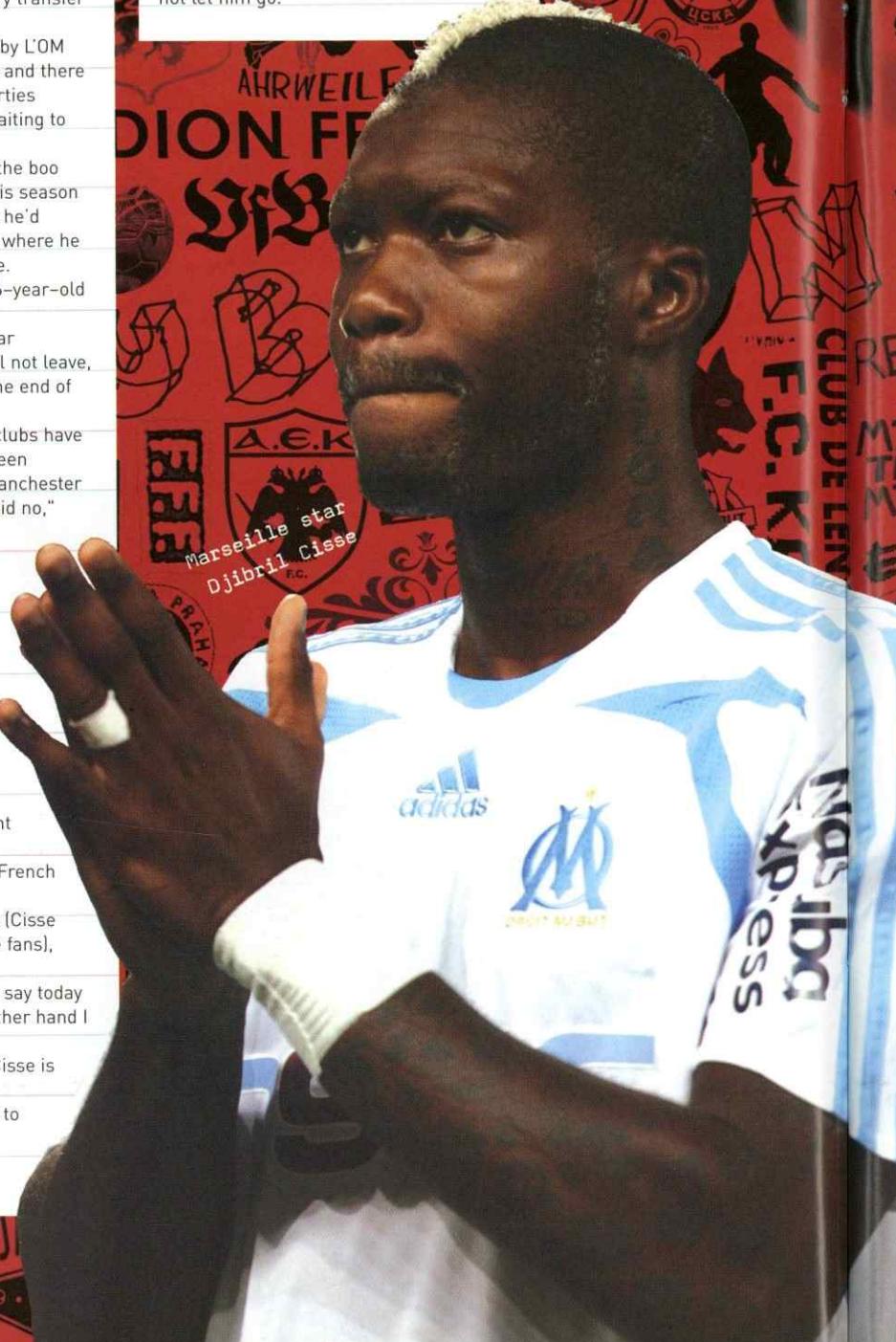
But Diouf is adamant that Cisse is going nowhere, even if he can understand the player's desire to leave.

"With all he has gone through I understand that he

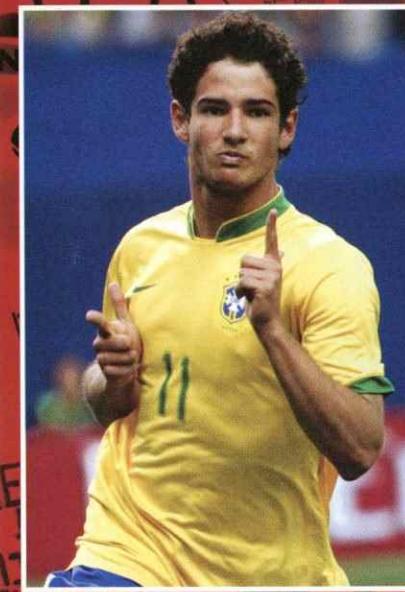
wants to push for a transfer," said Diouf.

"Having heard that a big English club wants him, he could have dug his heels in and said he's going, like certain players do."

"He understood that I would not let him go."



Milan put their faith in young Brazilian



European Lounge

IT perhaps tells you a lot about how far Milan have fallen since they beat Liverpool in the Champions League final in Athens in May that they have placed so much faith in 18-year-old Brazilian striker Alexandre Pato, who made his competitive Milan debut last weekend.

But then this is no ordinary teenager. This is a bona-fide prodigy and speculation from the Milan training camp, where Pato has been based for six months before he was eligible to play in Serie A, suggests he has more talent at his age than Kaka had at the same stage.

His displays at Milanello prompted Silvio Berlusconi to gush: "If he continues to do what he does in training he will score 30 goals by June".

He could not play for the San Siro giants before January 1 because of Italian regulations which prevent clubs registering non-EU players before their 18th birthday.

On Saturday the hype and hyperbole stopped and it was left to Pato himself to do his talking on the pitch.

European Leagues Top six tables:

France Ligue 1, 2007/08

Team	HOME					AWAY					GD Pts	
	Pd	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	
1. Lyon	19	7	2	1	21	6	5	1	3	17	10	+22 39
2. AS Nancy	19	7	3	0	16	4	2	5	2	9	7	+14 35
3. Bordeaux	19	5	2	2	18	14	4	4	2	9	9	+4 33
4. SM Caen	19	7	1	2	19	9	2	3	4	4	10	+4 31
5. Le Mans UC 72	19	5	3	1	12	7	4	0	6	14	19	0 30
6. AFC Valenciennes	19	7	2	0	18	3	1	3	6	5	14	+6 29

Germany Bundesliga, 2007/08

Team	HOME					AWAY					GD Pts	
	Pd	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	
1. Bayern München	17	5	3	0	17	2	5	3	1	14	6	+23 36
2. Werder Bremen	17	8	0	1	29	12	3	3	2	13	12	+18 36
3. Hamburger SV	17	5	3	0	13	5	4	2	3	11	8	+11 32
4. Bayer Leverkusen	17	5	2	1	18	4	4	1	4	14	12	+16 30
5. FC Schalke 04	17	5	3	1	14	7	2	5	1	12	10	+9 29
6. Karlsruher SC	17	4	2	2	10	9	4	2	3	9	12	-2 28

Holland Eredivisie, 2007/08

Team	HOME					AWAY					GD Pts	
	Pd	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	
1. PSV Eindhoven	17	7	1	1	25	7	4	2	2	14	7	+25 36
2. Feyenoord	17	7	1	0	22	2	4	2	3	12	11	+21 36
3. Ajax	17	4	3	1	23	12	5	3	1	23	13	+21 33
4. FC Groningen	18	6	1	2	9	7	4	2	3	19	21	0 33
5. FC Twente Enschede	18	4	4	1	13	6	4	4	1	15	8	+14 32
6. Roda JC Kerkrade	18	5	2	2	19	14	4	3	2	16	13	+8 32

Italy Serie A, 2007/08

Team	HOME					AWAY					GD Pts	
	Pd	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	
1. Inter Milan	17	8	1	0	23	5	5	3	0	14	4	+28 43
2. AS Roma	17	5	2	1	19	13	5	4	0	14	5	+15 36
3. Juventus	17	7	1	1	22	3	3	4	1	13	12	+20 35
4. Udinese	17	5	2	1	14	12	3	3	3	8	9	+1 29
5. AC Fiorentina	17	4	3	2	18	11	3	4	1	8	5	+10 28
6. US Palermo	17	3	5	1	11	9	3	2	3	14	18	-2 25

Portugal Liga bwin, 2007/08

Team	HOME					AWAY					GD Pts	
	Pd	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	
1. FC Porto	15	7	1	0	13	1	5	1	1	11	4	+19 38
2. Benfica	15	4	2	1	14	3	4	3	1	12	6	+17 29
3. Sporting CP Lisbon	15	5	2	0	17	6	2	3	3	5	8	+8 26
4. Vitoria Guimaraes	15	5	2	0	8	3	2	2	4	10	15	0 25
5. Vitoria Setubal	15	4	3	0	14	6	1	6	1	8	9	+7 24
6. Maritimo Funchal	15	4	1	3	10	6	3	1	3	9	7	+6 23

Spain La Liga, 2007/08

Team	HOME					AWAY					GD Pts	
	Pd	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	
1. Real Madrid	18	9	0	0	23	7	5	2	2	16	7	+25 44
2. FC Barcelona	18	8	0	1	22	5	3	4	2	12	8	+21 37
3. Espanyol	18	6	2	1	11	4	4	4	1	18	15	+10 36
4. Atletico Madrid	18	6	1	2	24	13	4	3	2	10	6	+15 34
5. Villarreal CF	18	5	2	2	14	11	5	0	4	16	16	+3 32
6. Racing Santander	18	6	2	1	11	4	2	3	4	7	15	-1 29



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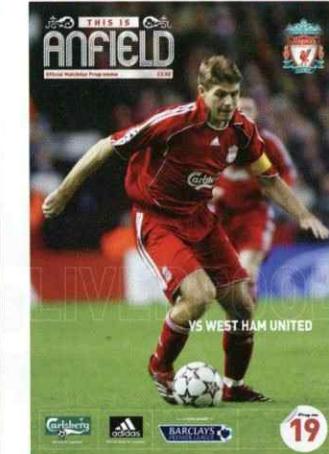


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Issue no: (Maestro only)

Security no: (last 3 digits on sig strip) Expiry date:

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A large image of a soccer ball is partially submerged in a glass of beer, with beer splashing around it. The background is a dark green.

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ANFIELD RD**

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to bring you history and mystery surrounding the men
who gave us dreams and songs to sing...

KOP 'N' GOAL P.45

OH CAMPIONE P.48

ON THIS DAY P.50

LFC UNCUT P.36

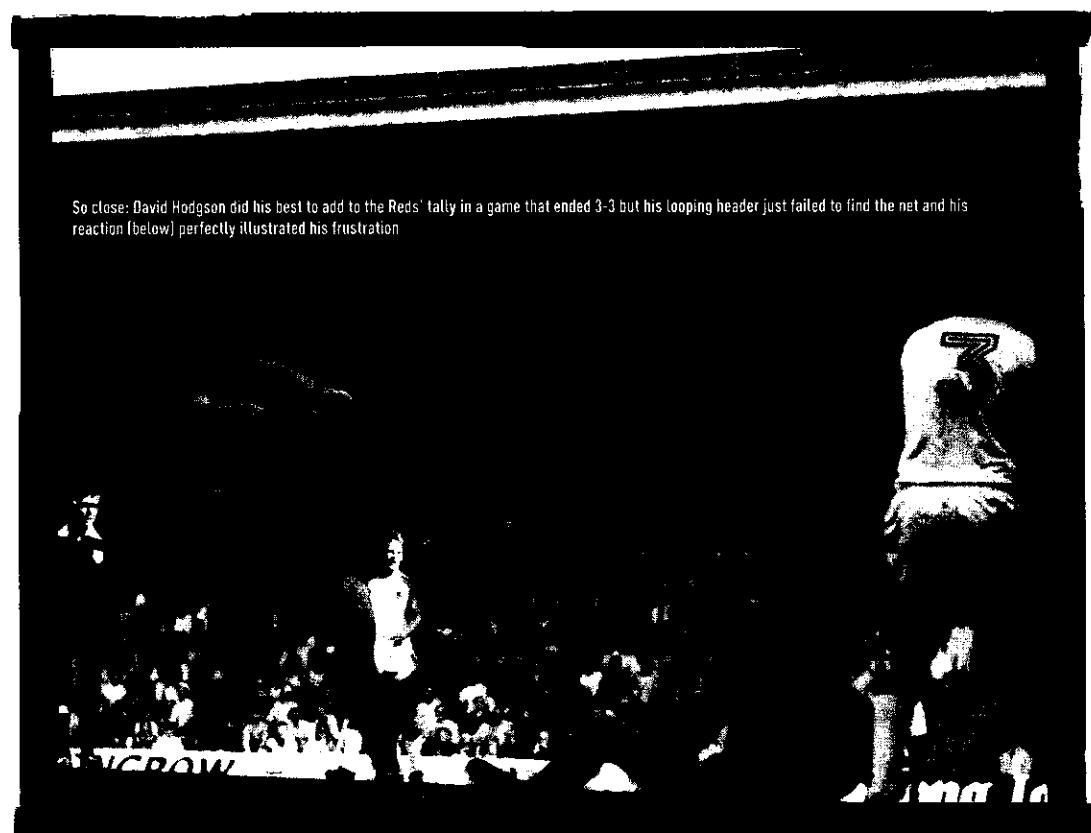
I can't hear you!

Bruce Grobbelaar plays up to the crowd, but there was already enough to keep the fans entertained when Liverpool and Luton met at Anfield in September 1982. This is just one of many images unearthed exclusively for our series called LFC Uncut . . .

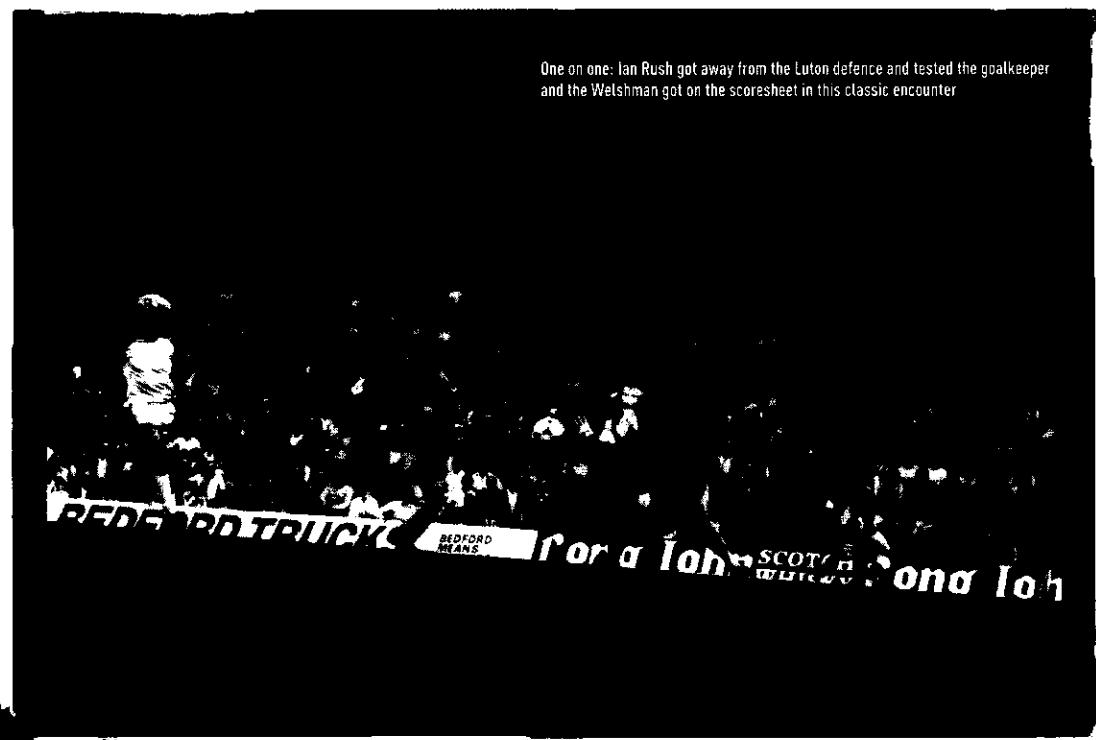
A film strip on the left side of the page. A photo of Bruce Grobbelaar in a Liverpool kit, looking up at the crowd, is shown in a frame. The background is a dark brown.



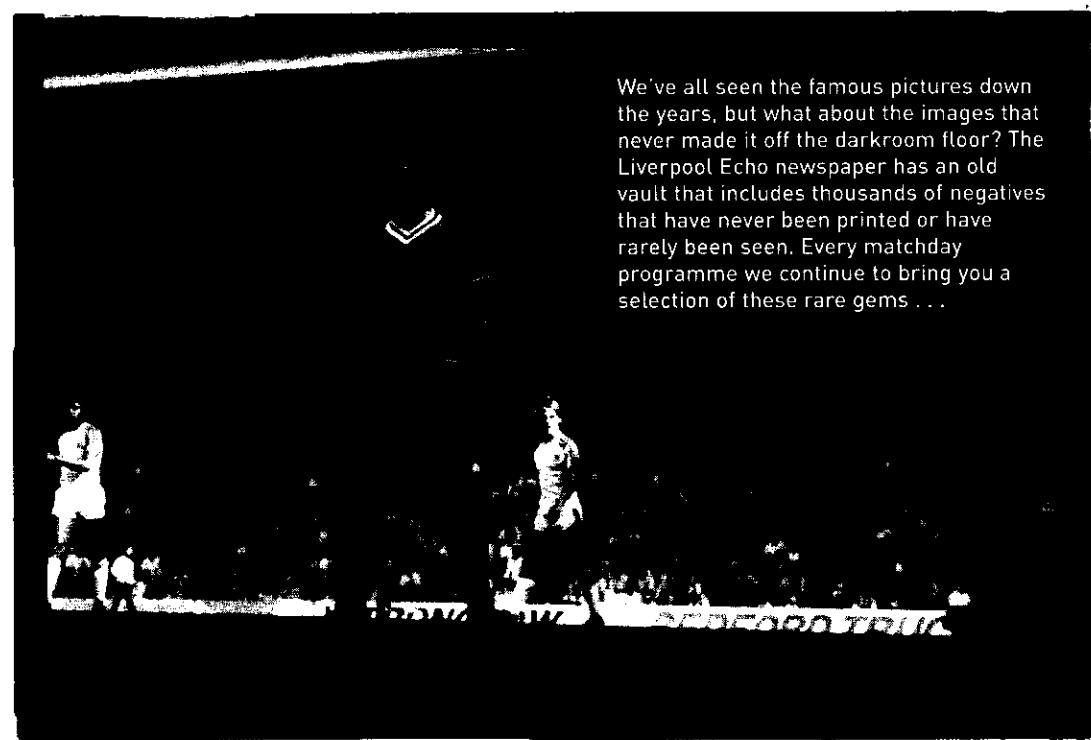
Man of the people: Ian Rush in action during the 1981-82 season when the Reds beat Luton 3-1



So close: David Hodgson did his best to add to the Reds' tally in a game that ended 3-3 but his looping header just failed to find the net and his reaction (below) perfectly illustrated his frustration

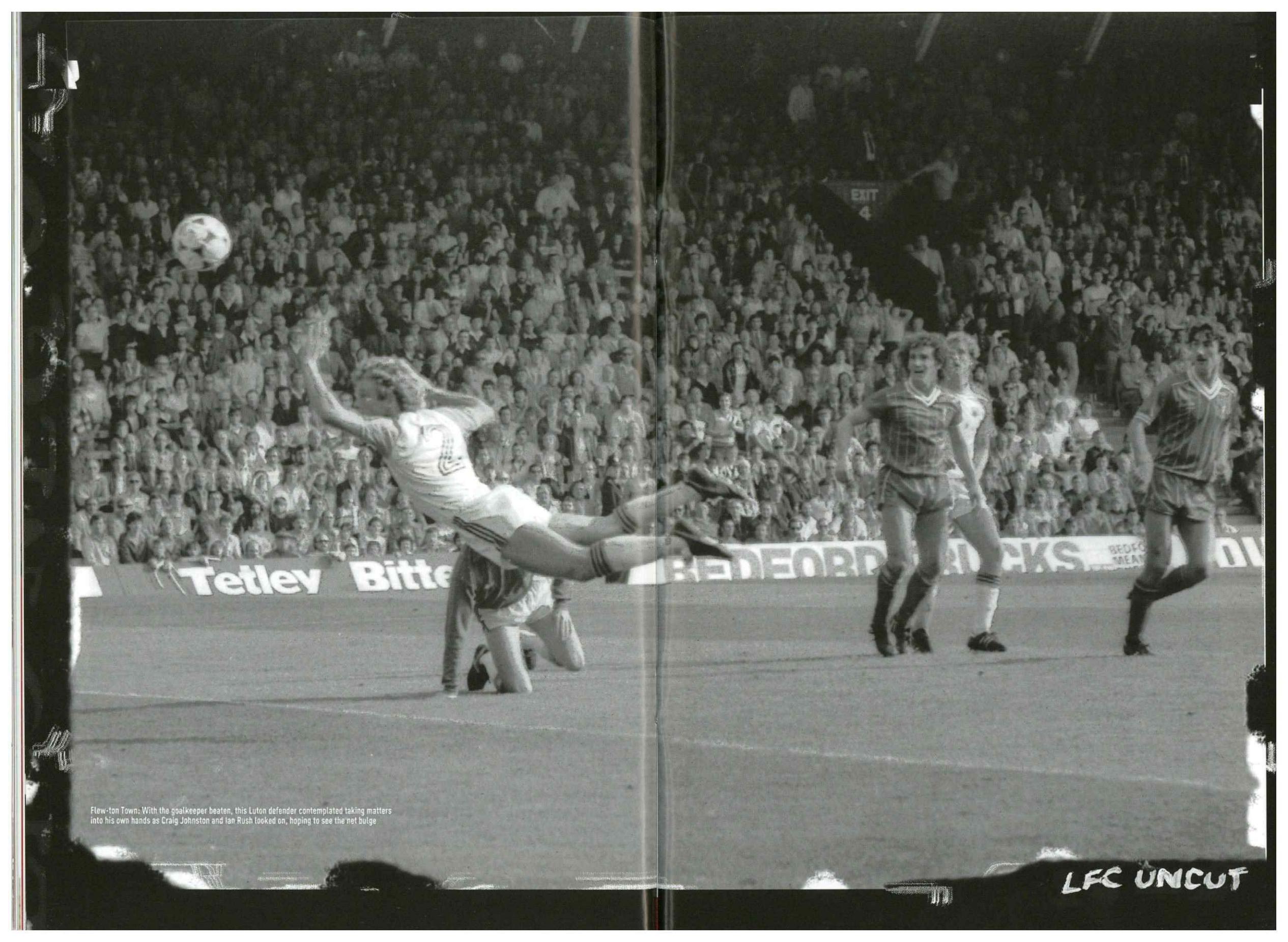


One on one: Ian Rush got away from the Luton defence and tested the goalkeeper and the Welshman got on the scoresheet in this classic encounter



We've all seen the famous pictures down the years, but what about the images that never made it off the darkroom floor? The Liverpool Echo newspaper has an old vault that includes thousands of negatives that have never been printed or have rarely been seen. Every matchday programme we continue to bring you a selection of these rare gems ...

LFC UNICUT



Tetley Bitter

Flew-ton Town: With the goalkeeper beaten, this Luton defender contemplated taking matters into his own hands as Craig Johnston and Ian Rush looked on, hoping to see the net bulge

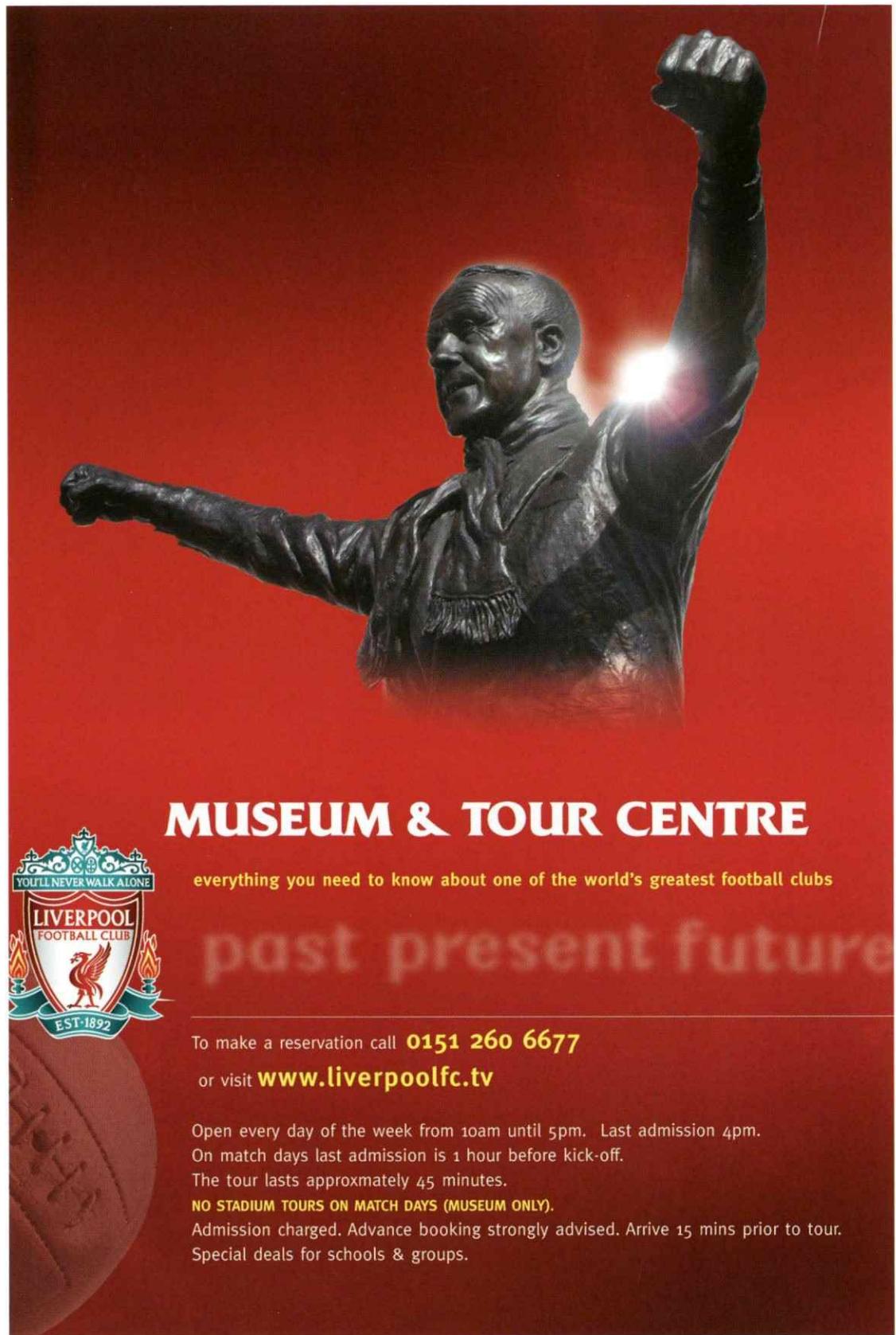
LFC UNCUT



LFC UNCUT

Anyone fancy a game of Twister? After struggling to contain Paul Walsh by fair means, Luton's Mal Donaghy finally finds a way of getting to grips with the Reds striker that will keep him under control





Kop 'n' Goal Years

OTHER NEWS

- Heavy snowfall brought the country to a standstill.
- The New York Giants became Superbowl champions after a 39-20 win over the Denver Broncos.

ON THE BOX

- Timewatch
- World Skiing Championships
- Minder
- This Week
- Equinox



AT THE MOVIES

- Ruthless People
- A Tale of Two Cities
- Romeo and Juliet
- Legal Eagles



Knocking at the door: Paul Walsh and John Wark (right) have efforts on goal but Luton escaped Anfield with a draw

January 26, 1987: Liverpool 0 Luton Town 0

KENNY Dalglish's men should have known it wasn't going to be their night when they lost a pre-game coin toss to decide on the venue of a possible second replay.

Buoyed by that result Luton set out to secure another tie at Kenilworth Road.

Their 'tactics' were obvious right from the start when Mick Harford appeared to walk on Barry Venison, an offence the officials failed to spot.

And it didn't take long for blood to be spilt as Alan Hansen and Mike Newell collided, the defender being left with a nasty head injury.

When some football was eventually played the hosts nearly went ahead through Craig Johnston's shot, which Les Sealey just managed to parry.

On the rare occasions the Hatters did venture forward Brian Stein squandered one opportunity while Mick Harford brought the best from Bruce Grobbelaar.

At the other end a deserved breakthrough looked like it might finally arrive until Sealey denied John Wark and Ian Rush narrowly missed the target from the loose ball.

With just over a quarter of an hour left there was a legitimate appeal for a penalty after Mal Donaghy upended Paul Walsh, an infringement that again went unpunished.

In extra-time it was a similar pattern although only Jan Molby threatened the goal when his curled effort smacked off the post before rebounding to safety.

It all means that Liverpool now



face another test on the dreaded plastic pitch in 48 hours' time.

"If they refuse to have a neutral venue there is nothing at all we can do about it," Dalglish said afterwards. "We would have loved to have won but we are still in it and now back to the original tie.

"They must feel as though they have got out of jail tonight. If we keep on playing like that - which we are capable of doing - the bounce may go for us on Wednesday."

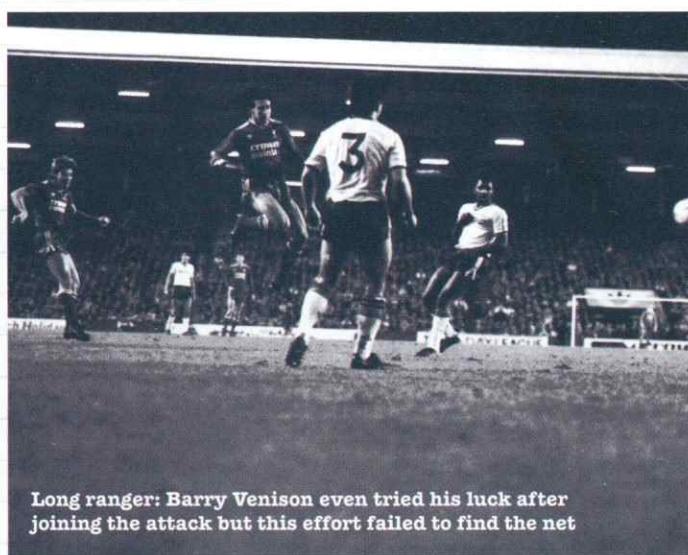
TEAMS

Liverpool: Grobbelaar, Gillespie, Venison, Lawrenson, Whelan, Hansen, Walsh, Johnston, Rush, Molby, Wark. **Subs:** Ablett, Irvine.

Luton Town: Sealey, Breacker, Johnson, Nicholas, Foster, Donaghy, Hill, B. Stein, Newell, Harford, Grimes. **Subs:** M. Stein, McDonough.

Referee: A. Gunn (Burgess Hill)

Attendance: 34,822



Long ranger: Barry Venison even tried his luck after joining the attack but this effort failed to find the net

The Top 10

Monday, January 26, 1987

- 1 C'EST LA VIE Robbie Nevill
- 2 JACK YOUR BODY Steve Silk Hupley
- 3 REET PETITE Jackie Wilson
- 4 IS THIS LOVE Alison Moyet
- 5 SURRENDER Swing Out Sister
- 6 NO MORE THE FOOL Elkie Brooks
- 7 BIG FUN The Gap Band
- 8 HYMN TO HER The Pretenders
- 9 IT DIDN'T MATTER Style Council
- 10 WASTELAND The Mission



Unlucky Lawrenson hits the post

IT wasn't only the Luton team that had travel problems on the night of the first scheduled replay in the FA Cup third round between Liverpool and Luton in 1987.

Following the postponement of the game when Luton failed to arrive on Merseyside because of the weather, this is what happened to Mark Lawrenson's car on his way home from Anfield.

After skidding on ice and hitting a lamp post, the Liverpool defender was forced to abandon the vehicle in a driveway in Barton, near Halsall.

Despite a bang on the head, Lawrenson came out of the scrape unscathed.

"No sense, no feeling," he joked the next day.

"I was on my way back from Liverpool last night and the car went out of control on black ice.

"As I put the brakes on nothing happened. After I crashed the car it wouldn't start again. I think I'd done something to the petrol pump, so I just got a taxi."

ON THIS DAY

15th January

Compiled by Chris McLoughlin

1910

Liverpool were knocked out of the FA Cup first round by Bristol City at Ashton Gate. It was something of a cup shock at the time as, although both sides were in the top flight, Liverpool finished the season as runners-up in the league whereas the Robins were languishing in 16th place and only avoided relegation by three points.

1914

Bill Lacey was on target in the 89th minute to spare Liverpool's blushes by giving them a 1-0 FA Cup first round replay win over Barnsley at Oakwell. The second division side had held Liverpool at Anfield to a 1-1 draw five days earlier but Lacey's goal sent the Reds on a cup run that took them all the way to their first FA Cup final at Crystal Palace where they were beaten 1-0 by Burnley.

1927

The Reds recorded a 1-0 victory over Manchester United at Old Trafford in front of 30,304 thanks to a 57th minute winner from Dick Forshaw. The Preston-born striker scored 124 goals in 288 appearances for Liverpool with his winner against United being the final goal of his career with the club. He joined Everton less than two months later and became the first player to win a league title with both Merseyside clubs.

1949

Nottingham Forest came to Anfield for an FA Cup third round replay and were on the end of a 4-0 thrashing. The initial tie at the City Ground had finished 2-2 but a Jack Balmer double and strikes from Jimmy Payne and Albert Stubbins saw off Forest. Liverpool keeper Cyril Sidlow also saved a penalty from George Wilkins.

1959

Worcester City inflicted the most ignominious defeat on Liverpool in the club's 116-year history when they beat the Reds 2-1 at St George's Lane in an FA Cup third round tie. Geoff Twentyman scored a penalty for Liverpool but it wasn't enough to spare Phil Taylor's second division side the embarrassment of being knocked out by a non-league club.

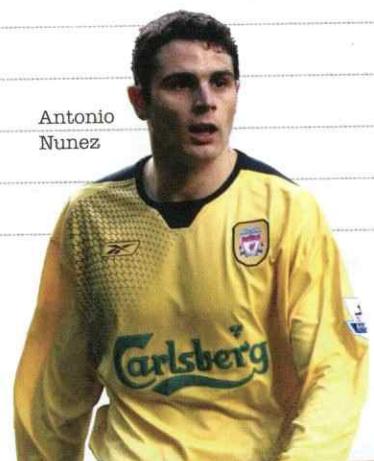
1972

Kevin Keegan scored his first FA Cup goals for Liverpool in a 3-0 win at Oxford United. Keegan netted twice at the Manor Ground and Alec Lindsay added a third as Bill Shankly's team recorded a comfortable victory.

1979

Antonio Nunez was born in Madrid. The Spanish winger joined Liverpool from Real Madrid in the summer of 2004 as part of the deal that took Michael Owen to Spain but his Anfield career was short-lived and he was sold to Celta Vigo in July 2005. Nunez did make history at Liverpool though. He became the only man to have scored his only goal for the club in a cup final when netting in the 3-2 Carling Cup final defeat to Chelsea.

Antonio Nunez



1981

Former Liverpool striker El-Hadji Diouf was born in Daar, Senegal. Diouf made 80 appearances for the club following his arrival from Lens in 2002 but disappointingly scored just six goals in a red shirt, all of which came at Anfield.

1983

Jermaine Pennant was born in Nottingham. The Liverpool winger was denied a return to his home city this month by Luton after they knocked Nottingham Forest out of the FA Cup by winning the second round clash between the two sides.

1983

Ian Rush scored a 90th minute winner to give Bob Paisley's side a 1-0 win at the Hawthorns against West Bromwich Albion. Rush scored a record 346 goals for Liverpool, but this was the first one he ever scored for the club in the 90th minute of a game.

1994

Julian Dicks found the net for the first time in a Liverpool shirt. Dicks opened the scoring in a 3-0 win at Oldham Athletic with Robbie Fowler and Jamie Redknapp also on the scoresheet. The game also marked the return of Michael Thomas, who made his first appearance in over 12 months after being sidelined with a serious Achilles tendon injury.

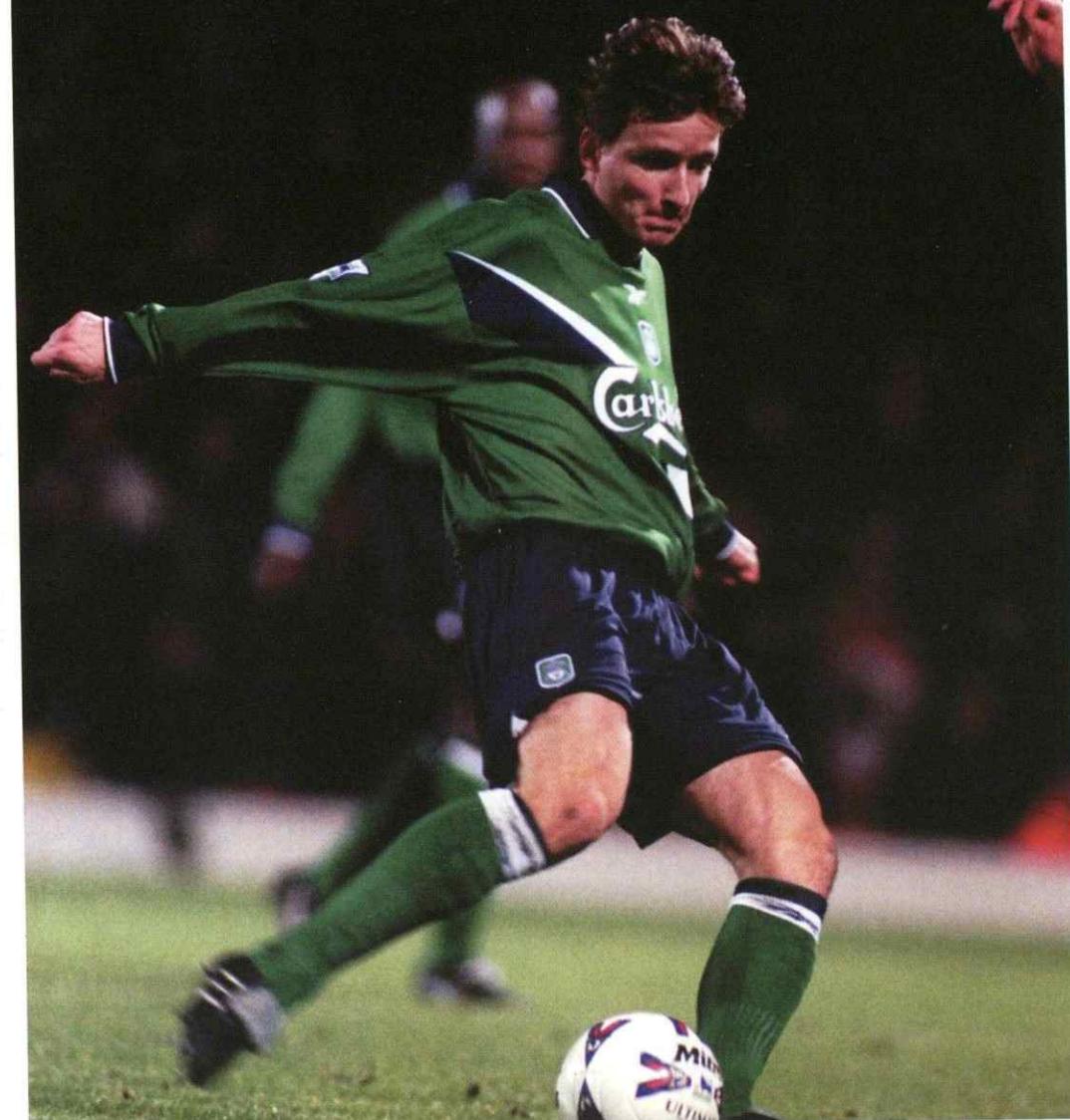
2000

Vladimir Smicer scored his first goal for Liverpool. The Czech international fired home a 71st minute winner against Watford at Vicarage Road to give Gerard Houllier's side a 3-2 victory. Smicer only scored 19 goals for Liverpool but no-one in Istanbul on May 25, 2005, will ever forget his last one!

ON THIS DAY

15th January 2000

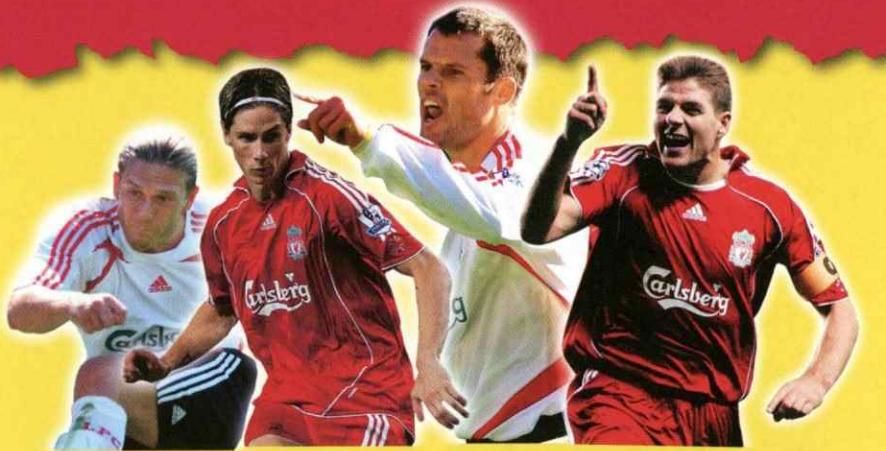
Vladimir Smicer scores his first Liverpool goal against Watford





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ANFIELD QUIZ

1. Which player made his only FA Cup appearance for Liverpool at Luton in 2006?
2. Which club was banished from last season's FA Cup for playing an ineligible player – and which club replaced them?
3. Which current Liverpool player has made an FA Cup final appearance against the Reds?
4. Which team in 2001 played both Liverpool and Everton in the FA Cup?
5. Name the six Spaniards who have appeared in an FA Cup final.
6. Name the six players who lost in an FA Cup final with Liverpool and another club.
7. Which was the last club to reach the FA Cup final for the first time?
8. Which player appeared in his seventh FA Cup final last season?
9. In the history of the FA Cup who are the only two men to score twice in a final (excluding own goals) and still finish on the losing side?
10. How many penalties have Liverpool been awarded in FA Cup finals?



05



10

1. Scott Carson. 2. Bury were expelled and Chester City re-instated. 3. Yossi Benayoun (2006). 4. Tranmere Rovers. 5. Nobby, Jose Antonio Reyes, Fernando Morenhes, Pepe Reina, Xabi Alonso, Cesc Fabregas. 6. Terry McDermott, Ray Kennedy, Ray Clemence, Jimmy Case, John Barnes, David James, 7. Millwall (2004). 8. Ryan Giggs. 9. Stuart McCall (Everton 1989), Ian Wright (Crystal Palace 1990). 10. One John Aldridge (1988).

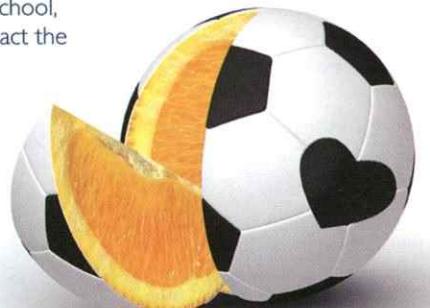
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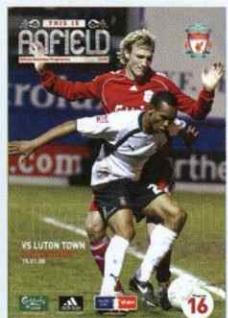
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You can now find your 'This is Anfield' matchday programme converted into other formats. If you would like a large-print version, a Braille version or CD Rom version then send a cheque for £3 to Colin McCall, LFC Community Department, 69 Anfield Road, Liverpool, L4 0TH. Cheques should arrive no later than seven days after the game in question.

Truth 4 Youth: Give bullying the boot

In the latest of our series on the LFC community department's Truth 4 Youth initiative we are looking at another of the messages the department promotes through its special assemblies in schools across Merseyside: Give Bullying The Boot.

There are many reasons why a young person might be bullied. It could be their size or shape; the way they sound or look; their hobbies and interests; the clothes they wear or the way they style their hair. But there is never any justification for bullying; without exception, it is always wrong.

Bullying can take many forms, such as name calling, hitting, spreading rumours and excluding people, some of which are referred to in this poem by a 10-year-old girl:

While you're all off and having fun,
I'm always the lonely one.
I sit in the corner and play on my
own,

Or walk around the playground while
kicking a stone.

When you tell me I'm fat and look a
little odd,
And say, "Look at you, you're always
on your tod."

Well maybe you should help me but
you never ever do,
I wish that I was popular and had
more friends like you.
When you're sniggering behind my
back,

I dream about those friends I lack.
While you're all off and having fun,
I'm always the lonely one.

This young girl has expressed
herself through her poem but many
children do not know where to turn. It
is important that we make sure
children know they can talk to us if
they are being bullied and that they
can trust us to take them seriously.
As adult role models we also need to
do everything we can to discourage



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Ex-Red Welsh enjoying loan spell at Chester

FORMER Liverpool midfielder John Welsh has joined Chester City on a month's loan deal.

The 23-year-old made the switch from Hull on New Year's Day in an attempt to get his career up and running again after eight months out with a broken leg.

Welsh played in Chester's 2-0 defeat to Grimsby and last week's 3-3 draw with Accrington Stanley and hasn't ruled out a longer stay in Cheshire as he looks to boost his fitness.

"The move to Chester has given me a chance to get some games under my belt," he said.

"My fitness isn't at its peak but after a couple of games I will be looking to get my sharpness up.

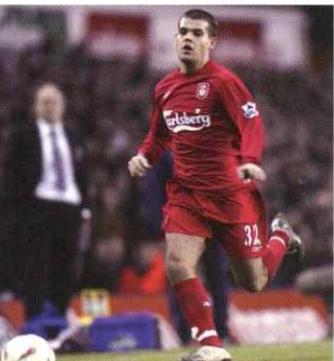
"I will have to wait and see how my loan deal goes but I wouldn't hesitate in staying at Chester and extending the deal a bit longer.

"It's certainly an option."

The boyhood Liverpudlian joined Hull from Liverpool in January 2006 in a deal that saw winger Paul Anderson arrive at Anfield.

A former Liverpool reserve and England U21 captain, Welsh is the latest in a line of departed Reds who have turned out for Chester.

Despite three defeats since Christmas, the League Two side are within touching distance of the play-



off places and Welsh is hoping to do his bit to help the Blues' push for promotion.

"As I'm from Liverpool I always try and keep an eye out for the local clubs and I've noticed Chester have been doing really well," he adds.

"Chester have suffered a few defeats since Christmas but the lads here are willing to work hard and I

think they will soon turn things around.

"I already knew a few of the lads here like Ritchie Partridge from our time at Liverpool and I used to play alongside Stephen Vaughan at The Academy when we were younger.

"If we can get everyone fit I'm sure this club will be pushing for promotion."



John Welsh, now on loan at Chester City, and left, playing for Liverpool



ACADEMY

PLAYER PROFILE

Dean ready to grab his chance

NAME: **DEAN BOUZANIS**

DOB: **02/10/90**

PLACE OF BIRTH: **Australia**

NATIONALITY: **Australian Greek**

SIGNED FOR LIVERPOOL: **Summer 2007**

NICKNAME: **Deano**

POSITION: **Goalkeeper**

TEAM SUPPORTED BEFORE LIVERPOOL:
Sydney

STRENGTHS: **Catching high balls and distribution**

WEAKNESSES: **Positioning**

CAREER HIGH: **Playing for Sydney FC in the Asian Champions League against Urawa Red Diamonds in front of 80,000 people.**

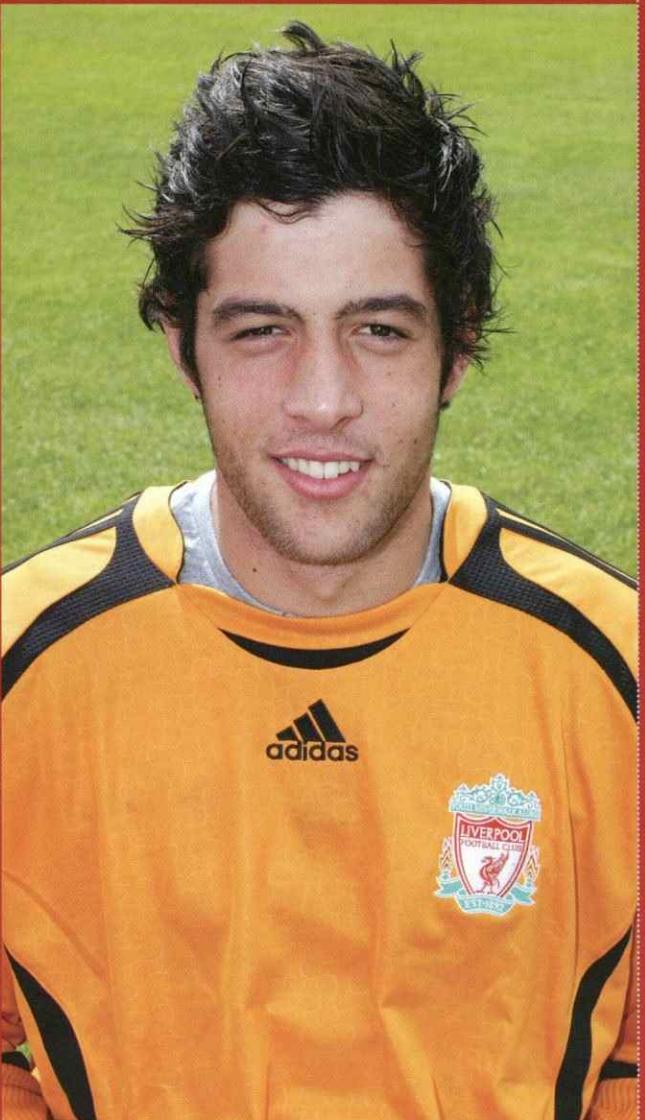
CAREER LOW: **Breaking a finger when playing for New South Wales.**

MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: **Losing a final after being 5-0 up.**

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON MY CAREER: **My parents. I wouldn't be here without them.**

IF I WASN'T PLAYING FOOTBALL I'D BE: **A physiotherapist.**

IN 3 YEARS' TIME I HOPE I'LL BE: **Establishing myself in the first team.**

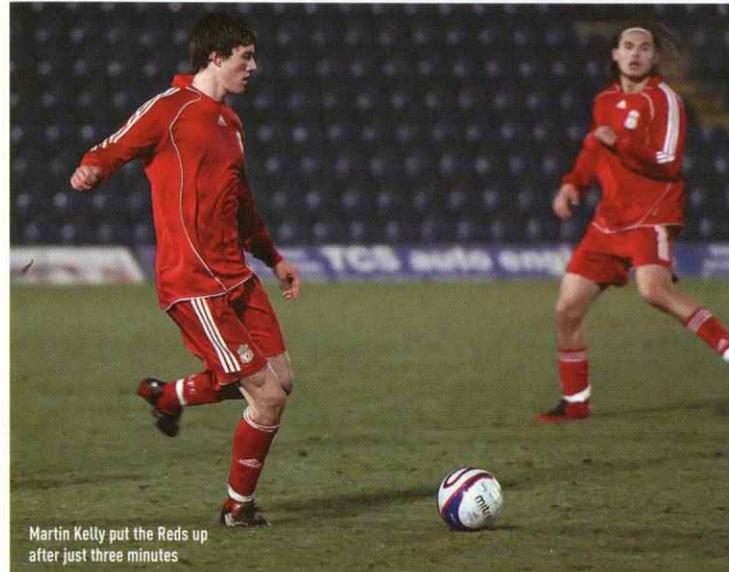


FA Premier Academy League Fixtures 2007/08

DATE	OPPONENTS	RES
Sat 18 Aug	Aston Villa	A 0-5
Sat 1 Sept	Huddersfield	H PP
Sat 8 Sept	Notts Forest	A 3-0
Sat 15 Sept	Sheff Wed	H 2-0
Sat 22 Sept	Middlesbrough	A 2-4
Sat 29 Sept	Stoke City	A 3-2
Sat 6 Oct	Blackburn	H 2-0
Sat 13 Oct	Wolves	A 4-1
Sat 20 Oct	Crewe	H 2-2
Sat 24 Oct	Sunderland	H 3-0
Sat 27 Oct	West Brom	H 0-0
Sat 3 Nov	Everton	H 1-1
Sat 10 Nov	Bolton	H 5-2
Sat 17 Nov	Man City	H 0-3
Sat 1 Dec	Man Utd	A 2-2
Sat 8 Dec	Crewe	A 3-1
Wed 12 Dec	Wycombe W	A 5-0
Sat 15 Dec	West Brom	H 5-0
Sat 5 Jan	Bolton	A 1-1
Fri 11 Jan	Everton	A -
Sat 19 Jan	Man Utd	H -
Sat 26 Jan	Man City	A -
Sat 9 Feb	Stoke City	H -
Sat 16 Feb	Blackburn	A -
Sat 1 Mar	Wolves	H -
Sat 15 Mar	Barnsley	H -
Sat 29 Mar	Newcastle	A -

All matches KO 11.00 unless stated
(Liverpool score shown first)
PP = postponed

Reds pay the price for not taking chances



Martin Kelly put the Reds up after just three minutes

BOLTON 1, LIVERPOOL 1

@ Euxton Lane, 05.01.08

DESPITE taking an early lead the U-18s had to settle for a point against Bolton Wanderers.

Centre-half Martin Kelly put Hughie McAuley's men in front and at that stage a repeat of November's 5-2 win over the same opposition seemed likely.

However, despite dominating possession the youngsters couldn't add to the opener and eventually paid the price when the hosts drew level.

"We started the game very well and we took the lead after three minutes when Martin headed home from a corner," McAuley said afterwards.

"We then had good chances to increase our lead through Nathan Eccleston, Marvin Pourie, David

Amoo and Sean Highdale but we didn't take them.

"I felt for the first 20 minutes of the game we were really good but in the second half we were poor. We didn't get our passing going and I was disappointed with the way we played.

"Bolton equalised in the second half and we could have lost the game in the end but Chris Oldfield made a good save from a penalty. Overall a draw was probably a fair result."

Team: Oldfield, Irwin, O'Connor, Kelly, Kennedy, Highdale, Amoo, Ajdarevic, Pourie (Scott 80), Eccleston (Collins 60), Mackay- Steven (Kacaniklic 45). Unused subs: Hansen, Awang.

Appearances & Goals 2007/08

	Appearances	Goals
Astrit Ajdarevic	17	2
David Amoo	18	8
Matton Awang	10	0
Daniel Ayala	4	0
Charlie Barnett	1	0
Dean Bouzanis	10	0
Gerardo Bruna	3	0
Michael Collins	10	2
Ryan Crowther	2	1
Nathan Eccleston	18	15
Martin Hansen	5	0
Sean Highdale	17	0
Steven Irwin	18	0
Alex Kacaniklic	10	0
Martin Kelly	7	1
Joe Kennedy	18	1
Gary Mackay- Steven	9	3
Matt McGivern	1	0
Krisztian Nemeth	1	0
Shane O'Connor	16	0
Chris Oldfield	3	0
Ben Parsonage	4	0
Daniel Pacheco	1	0
Adam Pepper	1	0
Marvin Pourie	14	10
Michael Roberts	1	0
Michael Scott	6	0
Robbie Threlfall	1	0
Adam Wilson	1	0
Scott Wootton	5	0

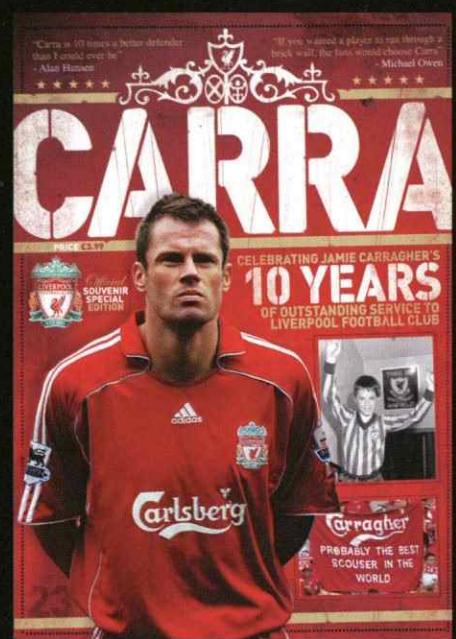
UP TO AND INCLUDING GAME AGAINST BOLTON 05/01/08

'I KNOW HOW
SCOTT CARSON
FEELS'

PEPE REINA

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INTERVIEW IN
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During February boys can take part in a three-day soccer school for 6-11 year olds and also a two-day goalkeeping camp for 6-14 year olds.

All courses take place with the Academy's expert training staff,

responsible for developing such stars as Michael Owen, Steven Gerrard and Robbie Fowler. And who knows? If our coaches spot your talent you could be the next Academy protégé to make it through to the first team.

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So what are you waiting for?

- The LFC Academy soccer school will be held at the Kirkby complex on 11/12/13 February from 10am - 1pm. Price: £45

- The LFC Academy goalkeeping camp will also be held at the Kirkby complex on 14/15 February from 10am - 1pm: Price: £30

Application Form

If you wish to attend the Academy soccer school and/or goalkeeping camp you can obtain an application form to print out and post back to us from our website at www.liverpoolfc.tv, then go to 'The Club' and click on 'Soccer School.'

Alternatively you can contact The Academy on 0151 477 1201.

Please send completed application forms and fees to [Heather Maguire] Academy Soccer School, The Academy, Liverpool Football Club, The Liverpool Way, Knowsley, L33 7ED.

All applications must be returned AS SOON AS POSSIBLE as places are limited.

Fees must be paid in full at the time of booking.

OUNCILLOR URGES SUPPORT FOR SHIELDS



COUNCILLOR Joe Anderson has encouraged all Reds to sign a petition supporting the early release of Michael Shields.

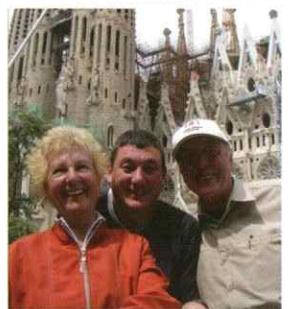
The Liverpool fan – originally jailed in Bulgaria – was moved to HMP Garth recently having reached the age of 21, and has just spent another Christmas away from his family and home.

"Liverpool supporters have already provided fantastic help by paying the fine that allowed him to return to the UK," the Councillor said. "Now I would urge you all to add your name to this list and ensure he doesn't become the forgotten fan."

"Over 16,000 people have already signed up and with your help we can reach 50,000. On behalf of Michael, thank you all for your continued support."

You can sign the petition at the following link:
<http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/michaelcshields>

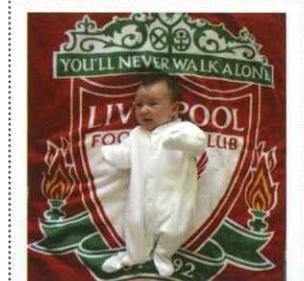




Happy birthday Dad! We hope you enjoy your birthday celebrations! Love you lots, Laura, Sarah, Anna, Tom, Jake & Gina x x x



Pictured here is Nerise, aged 6, who recently attended her first game at Anfield and her sister Deanna, aged 9, who attended her third Liverpool match. Deanna plays for Liverpool Ladies under 10s and Nerise is not quite as mad on football as Deanna but was still in high spirits and voice.



This is new supporter Laura Elizabeth Hampson who loves Liverpool and has decided she wants to be the new Liverbird to bring the team good luck!



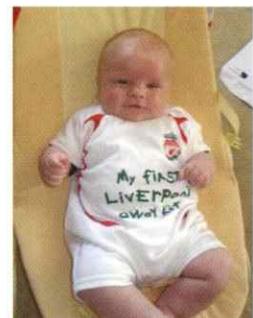
This is one-year-old future Liverpool player Cristen Corran, son of Graeme and Jo, from the Isle of Man.



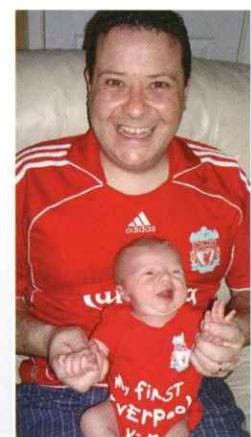
Happy eighth birthday Lucy. We hope you have a great day. Lots of love from Dad, Rebecca & Mum.



This is Gavin Marsh being photographed with the LFC Legends at September's charity match in Guernsey. Have a great day, from The Guernsey LFC Supporters Club.



Charlie Harding is six month old and he wishes he could be at Anfield today with his Grandad Ashton!



This is Charlie Ellis Bankier, who was born on December 12, watching his first match with his dad Phil, a season ticket holder in the Main Stand.



Congratulations to my son Harry Willett, who celebrated his 12th birthday on December 8.



We Reds get everywhere. This is an awesome place, just like Liverpool. From Dev Bayram in Peru.



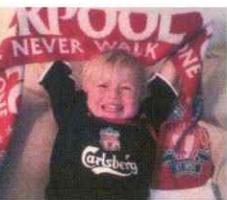
If you would like to be a part of Born 'n' Bred please send your photos to....

This Is Anfield, c/o Sport Media, PO Box 48, Old Hall Street, Liverpool, L69 3EB or email [thisisanfield@sportmedia-tm.com](mailto>thisisanfield@sportmedia-tm.com)

NB. No more than 25 words to accompany your picture please



My name is Jake Fisher. I can't wait until I am old enough to go and watch Liverpool with my daddy and Uncle David.



This is my little grand daughter Charli Stubbs, aged two-and-a-half, singing 'You'll Never Walk Alone'. Love Grandad Joe.



Happy 7th birthday Declan Preston, love Dad and Rachael. xx



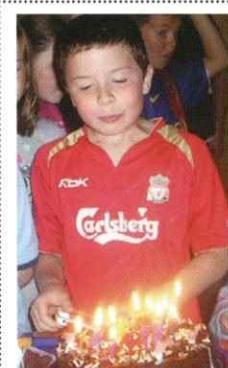
This is Daisy Lili-Rose Mellors, Liverpool's latest fan, following in the footsteps of parents Sandra & Danny, & big brother Sam.



Hi, I'm Luke John Yard and I was born on 05/11/2007. I can't wait to go to a match with my daddy x x



This is Lewis Markey, aged 6 hours old, born on October 5 2007, weighing 6lb 13.



This is a picture of my son Cian Cullinan, aged 10 from Co. Wexford, who attended his first game at Anfield on December 2 against Bolton. Hope you had a great day, love Mom & Dad x



Born in Athens back on June 27 2007, our names are Artemis and Danae. We have already worn our first LFC kits & someday we dream of visiting the New Anfield.



Here's 10-year-old Sam Mellors waiting to watch the Reds warm up before the Arsenal game on October 28. He's a massive LFC supporter!



This is 2-year-old Alfie Mawdsley from Marchside in Southport. Alfie will soon be going to Anfield with his dad and grandad.



Hi, I'm 3-week-old Eifion Williams and this is my teddy 'Carragold'. I can't wait to go to my first game with my Daddy.

FANATICAL REDS

it's a part of life

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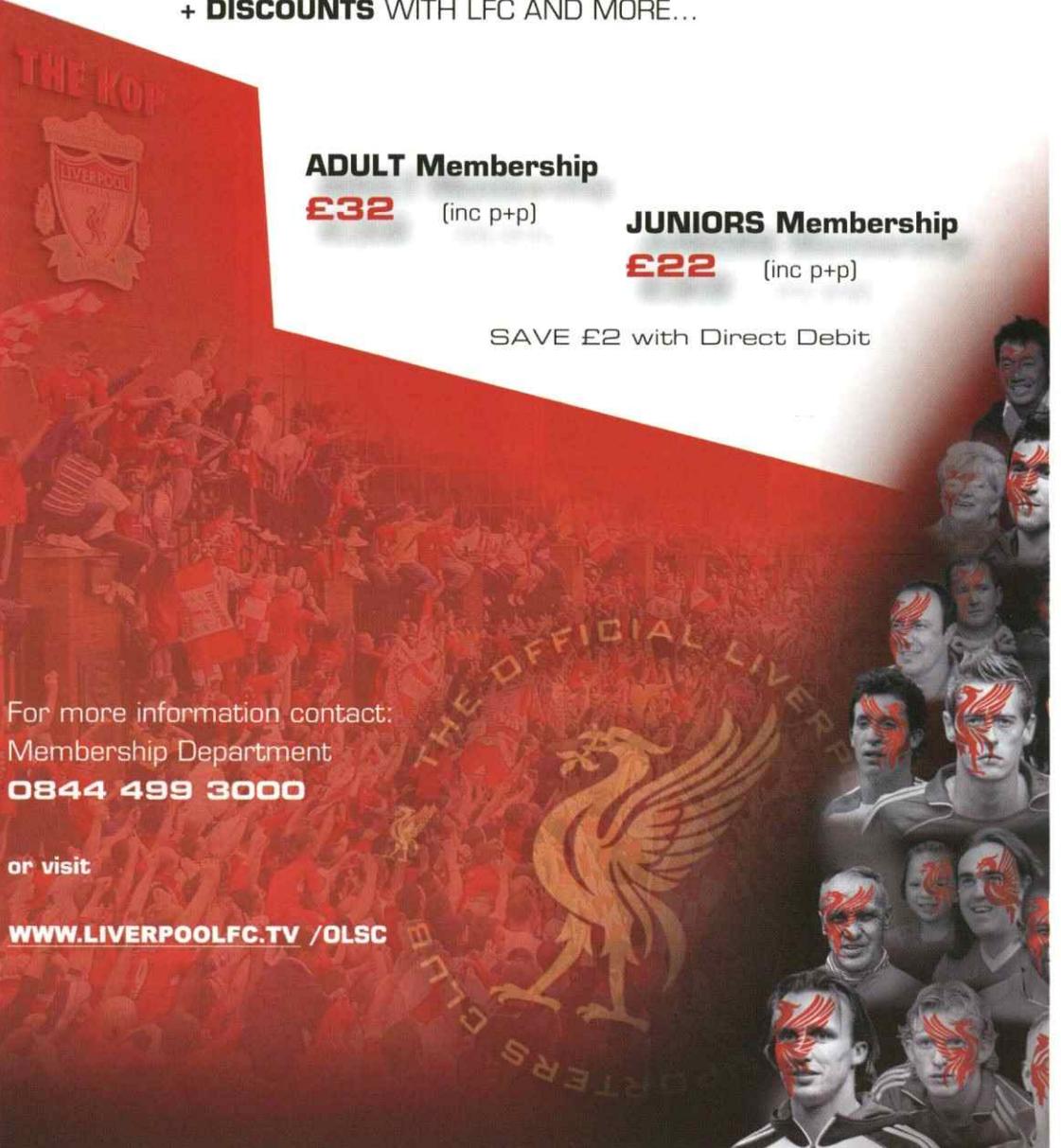
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We are the famous Kopites



Name: Shaun Brookes

Age: 19

First Liverpool game:

January 2002 vs Birmingham City in the FA Cup third round at Anfield.

What do you remember from the game?

I remember everything about it like it was yesterday. Owen scored two and Anelka, who was on loan at the time, scored as well. The atmosphere that day was class and my first You'll Never Walk Alone was special.

Best game you've ever been to:

I haven't been to many games because I live in South Africa but the best would have to be my first one as anyone's first time at Anfield is unbelievable.

Best moment of your Liverpool supporting life:

That one's easy - Istanbul. Unbelievable; I get goosebumps just thinking about it.

First idol in a Reds shirt and why:

Michael Owen. He was class when I started supporting Liverpool.

Best current player and why:

Jamie Carragher. His contribution for Liverpool is

irreplaceable. He has everything you want in a central defender; guts, determination, leadership, you name it - he has it all.

Favourite Liverpool goal:

John Arne Riise's free-kick against Man United. It was quality and because it was against Man United it was even better.

Best ground apart from Anfield and why:

I'll have to go with Fratton Park simply because Portsmouth's atmosphere is always quality and for me atmosphere is the most important aspect of a stadium.

Favourite part of Anfield:

The Kop, Liverpool's 12th man for years and for many more to come.

Shankly or Paisley?

I'm still young so my opinion is based on what I have heard or read, but I'll have to go with Shankly because everything I have seen about him is class.

First person you text after a Liverpool game:

Any one of my friends Robbie, Brad or Stefano. They're all big Liverpool fans.

If you could guarantee one victory over the course of the season, what would it be?

Man United away. It would be great to get one over on them in their back yard and it would give the players confidence to go on and win the league.

If you were given the keys to Anfield and could go anywhere and do whatever you want, what would you do first?

I would go into the dressing room, put on my number three "Brookes" shirt, walk down the tunnel, touch the famous "This is Anfield" sign, run out onto the glorious Anfield turf and slot home a penalty in front of the Kop

and do a sliding celebration across the slick grass.

Which opposition player would you like to see sign for the club and why?

Cristiano Ronaldo. I know he isn't everyone's favourite but there is no doubting his quality and he could change a game instantly in your favour. Torres, Ronaldo and Gerrard bursting forward would be amazing.

Have you ever met any Liverpool players?

Yes, just recently I met Gerrard, Carragher, Arbeloa, Aurelio, Lucas, Agger, Voronin, Crouch, Benayoun and Itandje outside Melwood training ground. It was a great experience.

Favourite Reds shirt down the years:

Gold shirt during the 2000/01 season. I had the name 'Owen' on the back.

Worst Reds shirt down the years:

Probably the yellow one a few years ago with the black trim. It wasn't the greatest.

Another European Cup or another league title?

A league title as I have never seen us win one yet. But I wouldn't mind both this season.

If you could have a conversation with any player or manager from the club's past, who would it be and what would you ask them?

I would ask Rafa Benitez if every time we score a goal he gets the urge to celebrate in style.

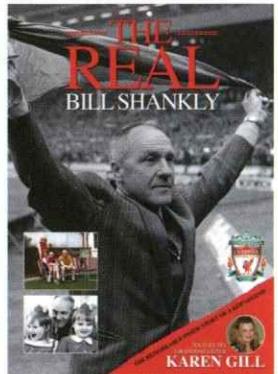
You could have a million pounds or score a winner for the Reds at Anfield - which would you choose?

Winner at Anfield any day of the week.

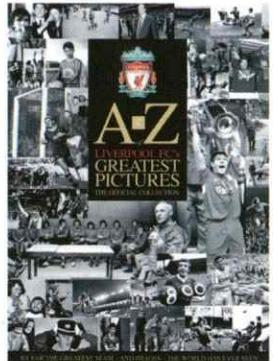
If you would like to be a famous Kopite email thisisanfield@sportmedia-tm.com to request a list of questions



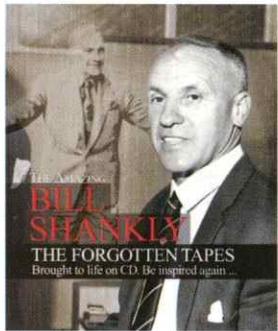
Are you Well Red?



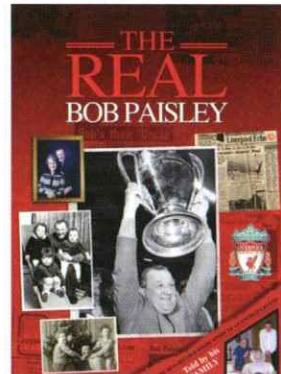
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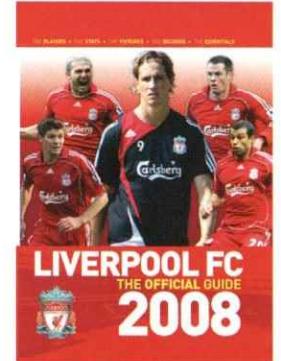
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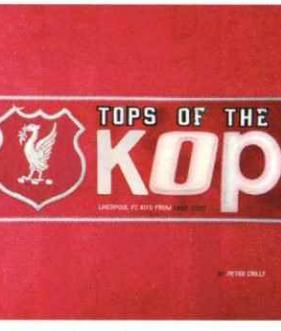
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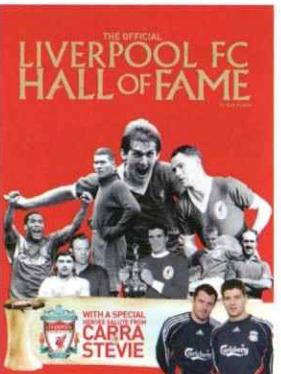
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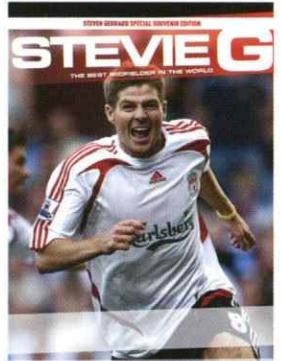
Everything you need to know about the Reds in one book - £14.99, free p&p (UK only)



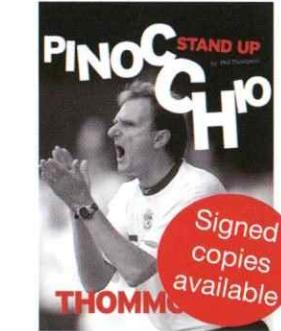
Unique book charting the famous - and infamous - kits worn by the Reds down the years - £8.99, free p&p (UK only)



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Superb autobiography of the man who made it from the Kop to the pitch - hardback, £17.99, free p&p (UK only)

Search is on for stars of Anfield schools classic

THE search is on to find the Liverpool Boys side that played Stockport almost 60 years ago in the most famous school football game ever played at Anfield.

The occasion was the second leg of the English Schools' Trophy final, Liverpool Boys v Stockport Boys, on Whit Monday (May 17th) 1948, which attracted an astonishing 40,667.

The score was level at 0-0 following the first leg at Edgeley Park and the second game clearly caught the imagination of the public.

The attraction was the visitors' centre-forward, Bryan "Boy" Brennan, who had already notched 100 goals that season and appears to have been the football prodigy of his day.

Brennan had a fine game, scoring

one and helping his side into a 3-2 lead in extra-time, before Arthur Rowley tied the scores up at 3-3 and the title was shared.

Rowley was the only youngster to advance to play for the Reds' first team, which he did 11 times in 1952. The inside forward was last heard of living in the Aintree area in the 1990s and is not registered with the Former Players Association.

In recent years the 1948 Stockport side have held regular reunions.

In 2008 this will be on April 5 when Stockport County play Bradford at Edgeley Park. This time County wish to reunite all those who played in the final by extending an invitation to the Liverpool team.

The 1948 Liverpool team (the asterisk denotes those already found and the school they attended is in brackets): 1 Ken Atherton (Arnott Street)*, 2 RJ Harvey (Wellington Road), 3 Ken Mawson (Evered Avenue), 4. George Langshaw (Birchfield Road), 5 Harry Jones (Earle), 6 Joe Maloney (St Edward's)*, 7 J Devine (Toxteth Tech), 8 Arthur Rowley (Florence Melly), Gerry Tansey (St Sylvester's)*, 10 Bill Pemberton (Ellergreen Rd)*, 11 D Threlfall (Rose Lane). Reserves: Harvey (Mt Carmel), Parry (Barlow's Lane), Bretland (St Teresa's).

Anyone with information on these players should contact Tim Johnson on 07940 751774 or email tim@splendidmedia.co.uk

MAN OF THE MATCH



Xabi Alonso receives the Carlsberg Man of the Match award for the Wigan game at Anfield

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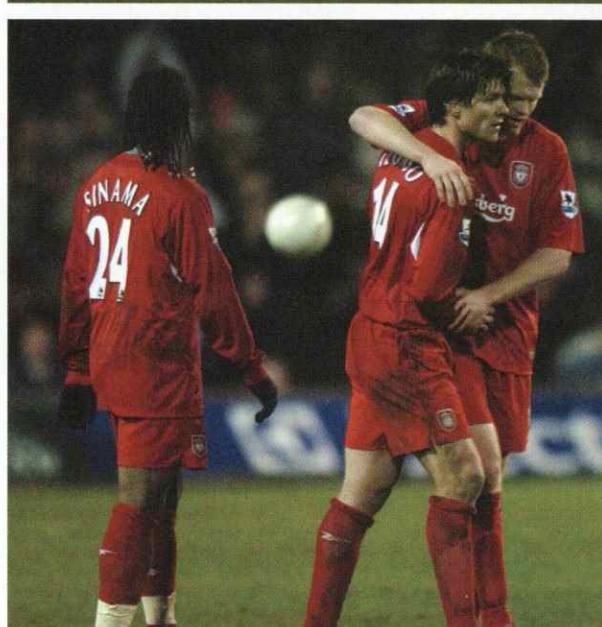
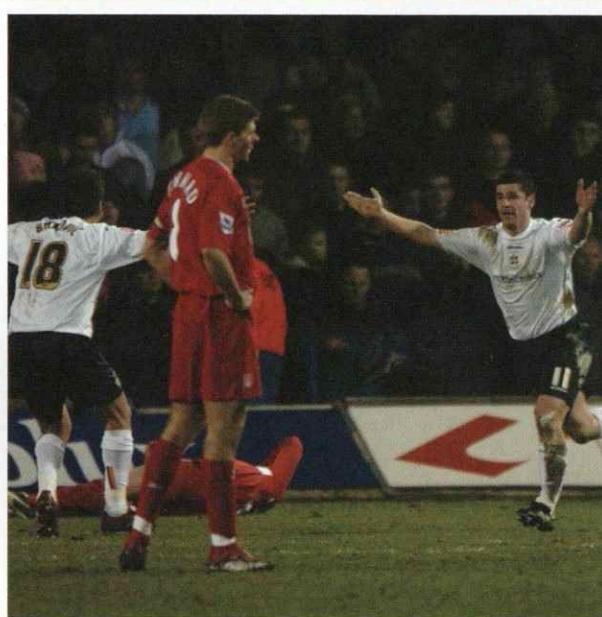
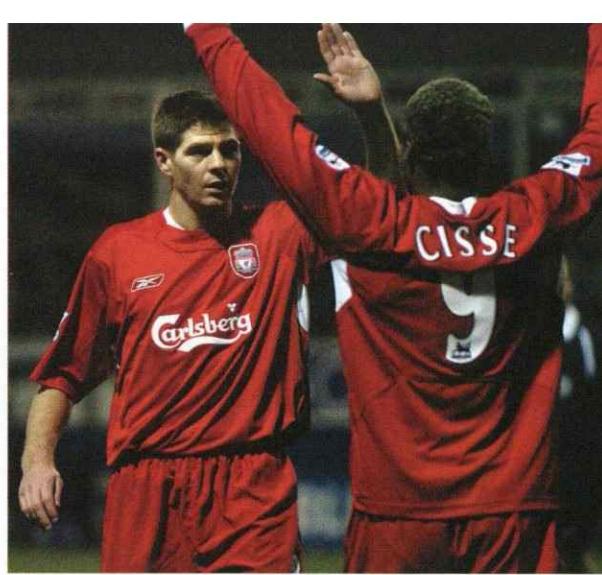
NEWS





LUTON v LIVERPOOL FA CUP THIRD ROUND, JANUARY 2006

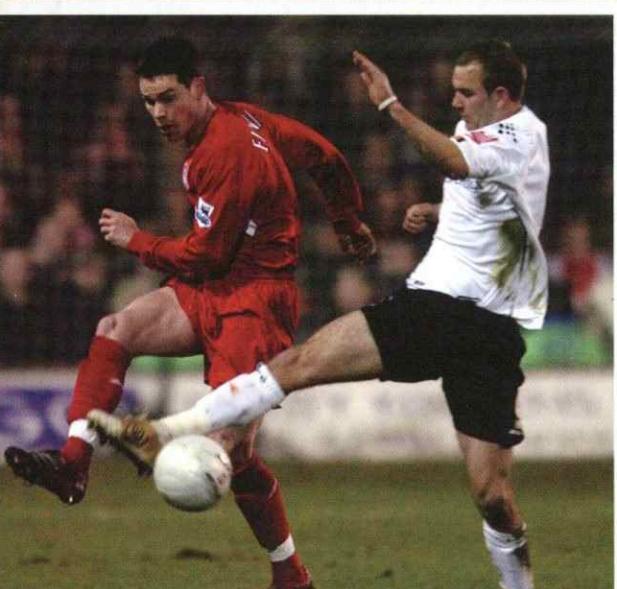
CUP CLASSIC: Djibril Cisse was a key player but failed to get on the scoresheet himself when the Reds went to Kenilworth Road in the third round of the FA Cup in 2006. Steven Gerrard (top right) got things off to a positive start for the visitors, but Luton soon came fighting back



LUTON v LIVERPOOL FA CUP THIRD ROUND, JANUARY 2006

HALFWAY HOUSE: Luton stormed into a 3-1 lead to leave the eventual cup winners' hopes hanging by a thread, but once the Reds had fought their way back into the lead, Xabi Alonso produced a rare feat as he rounded Hatters keeper Marlon Beresford to score from his own half



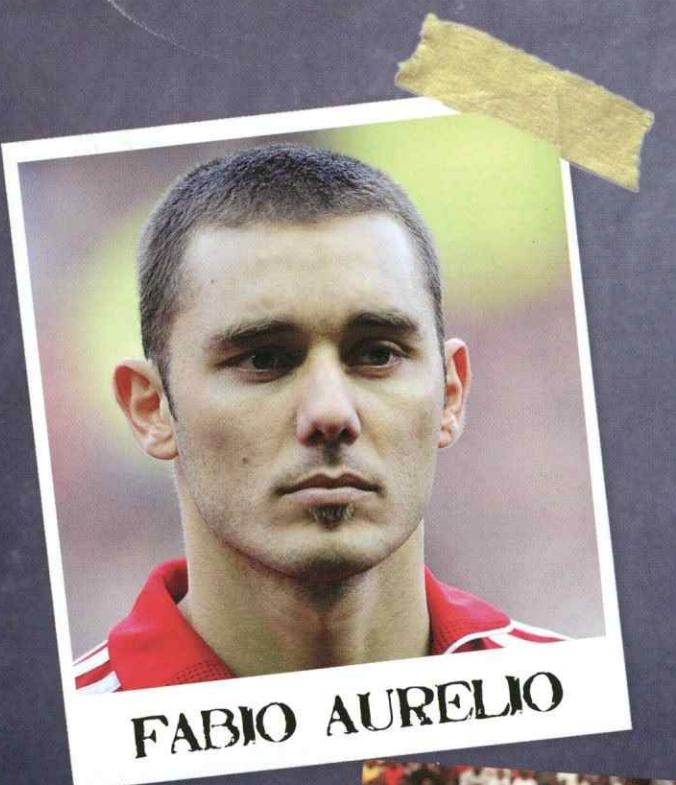


LUTON v LIVERPOOL FA CUP THIRD ROUND, JANUARY 2006

UPS AND DOWNS: It was a rollercoaster night for the Reds as they battled past a spirited Luton side but the 5-3 final scoreline reflected the excitement enjoyed by a viewing TV audience. Peter Crouch, Scott Carson, Steve Finnan and Harry Kewell certainly knew they'd been in a match



Class of 07/08



FABIO AURELIO

FINDING YOUR BEST FORM

HOW DO YOU FEEL YOUR LIVERPOOL CAREER HAS GONE AS A WHOLE?

I'm in my second season at Liverpool but I honestly feel like I have not yet been able to show everyone why I was brought to the club from Spain.

The fans have not seen me at my best. I have missed a lot of football and I want to make up for it by playing as much as I can. I don't want tiredness to cost me a single minute.

I've had a little problem around New Year but I hope that from now until the end of the season I can show my best.

ASPIRATIONS

GROWING UP DID YOU EVER THINK OF PURSUING A CAREER IN ANYTHING OTHER THAN FOOTBALL?

I don't think that I ever did. It is such a long time ago now that I don't remember but I was always playing with a ball when I was a young child and I think watching the great players that Brazil have produced over the years made it the only dream I chased.

I did okay at school. I always tried to learn but I really just couldn't wait to get my hands on a ball and play with my friends.

I don't think it's any different whether you grow up in England, Spain or Brazil - all we want to do is kick the ball about.

BRAZIL

THE WORLD CUP IS COMING TO BRAZIL IN 2014. IS THAT GOOD NEWS FOR THE NATION?

It is magnificent news; I was really pleased when I heard that we would host our first finals since 1950. It will ensure that the stadiums which have grown old and tired in some cases will see

real investment and bring them hopefully on to the same level as the stadiums in Europe.

Some grounds are good but there are not enough stadiums ready to host it at the moment.

There is a lot of work to come and to be done in the next six years.

Also Brazil has been in the news for negative reasons in the last few years. There have been films and documentaries highlighting the social problems. I am not saying they do not exist but there is much more to Brazil than that.

It is a beautiful country, with great beaches, fantastic art and architecture, and brilliant weather. The World Cup will bring millions of new visitors to Brazil and that will be good for everyone.

INTERNATIONALS

YOU AND CARRA ARE TWO OF THE REGULARS LEFT BEHIND AT MELWOOD WHEN CLUB FOOTBALL IS INTERRUPTED. CAN YOU BELIEVE HE WAS NEVER A REGULAR?

No. There are a lot of good players in his position in the centre of defence but he would be one of the first players I picked if I was the manager of that team.

He has everything you need to play at that level. He is experienced, a leader, and his positional sense is excellent.

But if it means he is fresher for Liverpool then that is good news for us.

OUTSTANDING TEAM-MATES

YOU'VE BEEN LUCKY TO PLAY ALONGSIDE SOME WONDERFUL PLAYERS IN YOUR CAREER.

What does a name say about a player's personality. Gavin Kirk asks the questions...

WHO STANDS OUT AS THE BEST OF THE BEST?

(Looks worried, and exhales loudly) That's a really, really tough question! I look back at Valencia and I think of Pablo Aimar - an absolute magician with the ball at his feet. Under Rafa he played his best football and he was outstanding. Some of the passes he could play took your breath away, and it did not matter how tight a space he was in he could get away from two, three, even four markers.

But honestly, if you pushed me I would say Steven Gerrard every time. I say that not just because I am a team-mate of his here because I would say the same even I had never been on the same pitch.

People talk about Kaka and he is a great player too but for me Steven can do things that Kaka can't. For example he can defend as a holding player, he can play in Kaka's position in attacking areas and you could ask him to play on the left or on the right and he would still be world class.

For me, he is the complete player.

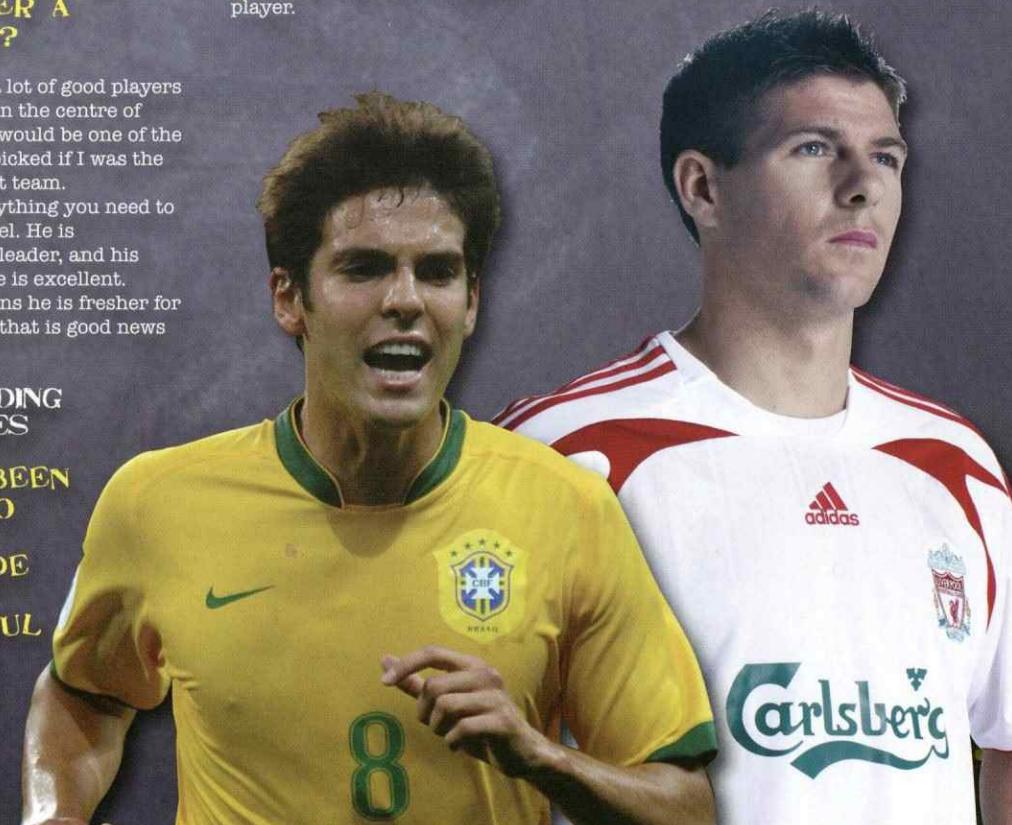
AURELIO JUNIOR IS HE STARTING TO FOLLOW IN HIS FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS YET?

Yes, he has started to play football and it is hard to get the ball from him now. He loves Liverpool, my whole family enjoy it, and he is totally happy. He is doing really well at school and speaks better English than me or my wife.

It's funny watching young children play football, the way they are all drawn towards the ball all the time.

WOULD YOU ENCOURAGE HIM TO PURSUE A CAREER IN THE GAME?

Of course I would, but only if it was what he wanted to do. I will not push him to play; that would be wrong. I would be just as happy if he became a doctor, a teacher or whatever he wanted, so long as he is happy.





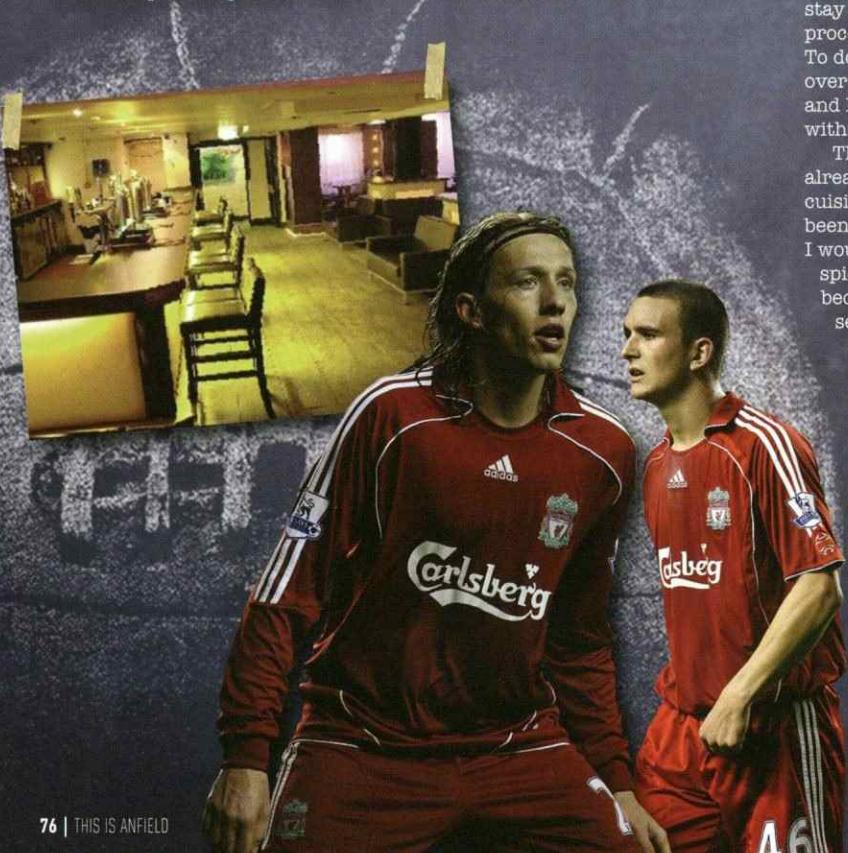
Class of 07/08

UNDER PRESSURE

A COUPLE OF SLIPS OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD HAVE SEEN US WRITTEN OFF IN THE MEDIA AS TITLE CONTENDERS. WHAT'S THE DRESSING ROOM VIEW?

We have been unlucky that maybe we have not picked up a few more points against our rivals this season that would have kept us closer to the top of the table but I do not think we are too far away from mounting a real challenge.

If we are still in a good position at the end of January, then who knows what might happen? We have an important game in hand.



We have the management and players to go a long way but we must do our talking on the pitch. We believe we can win the title.

RATE YOUR MATE

AS THE FIRST BRAZILIAN TO PLAY FOR LIVERPOOL, HOW HIGHLY DO YOU REGARD LUCAS WHO IS FOLLOWING IN YOUR FOOTSTEPS?

He will be a fantastic player for this club for many years to come. I got to know him quite well when he first came over because we are countrymen and we share a common language, but already his English is excellent.

He is growing in confidence on the pitch with every game he plays and will get better and better.

He is a star of the future for sure.

EATERIES

WE'VE SEEN CARRA AND AGGER OPEN RESTAURANTS IN THE PAST SIX MONTHS. ARE YOU NOT TEMPTED TO OPEN A BRAZILIAN THEMED PLACE OF YOUR OWN?

My wife and I have talked with our families about doing this, and we have had a look at the possibilities but I am not sure whether or not I will pursue it. I would worry that the red tape would make it too complicated.

If I was going to do it I would have to do it properly. It would have to be entirely authentic and stay true to the cooking procedures and recipes from home. To do that I would have to bring over chefs and staff from Brazil, and I think that might be difficult with the employment officials.

There is one place in Liverpool already that specialises in this cuisine, and it's very nice. We've been there to eat. But it's not what I would call authentic. The meat is spiced for the British pallet because everything here is seasoned.

Back home we like our meat quite plain. You would probably not enjoy it but it is the flavour of the meat which we enjoy rather than the flavours on the meat.

My wife would like to do it but we both understand how difficult it might be to get it up and running and to have it become a success.

I would say it is more likely to remain a nice dream than to become a reality.



LIVERPOOL DERBY

HOW DO THE MERSEYSIDE DERBIES COMPARE TO RIVALRIES IN BRAZIL?

They are different games in different countries and not so easy to compare. The people come into the stadiums hours and hours before the game begins to start the singing and the party.

There are flares and fireworks too and the games are much slower affairs. The pace is not as fast as a derby in our city.

I would say that if you are a fan of football the Liverpool derby is one of the games you have to see in your life, along with a Sao Paolo derby between Sao Paulo and Santos. Boca v River Plate would be another along with the Milan rivalry.

All are unique experiences. I haven't been to all of those but I will try.

IN RESERVE

DO YOU TAKE AN INTEREST IN THE YOUNGSTERS COMING THROUGH THE RANKS?

Yeah, I do as much as I can. Because I don't play for Brazil at international

level I get to train with the young talent we have at the club for a couple of weeks at a time and some of them are looking really good.

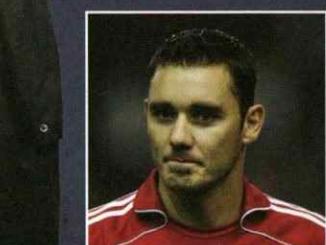
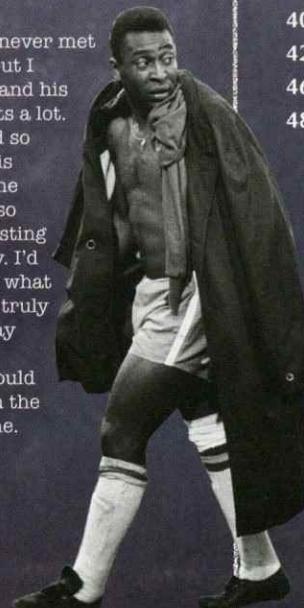
Jack Hobbs has come into the team a couple of times recently and I am sure we will see more following his example in the years to come.

It's important that it is not just at first-team level that we have good teams; it must be all the way through the club.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF AN INTERVIEW

IF YOU COULD REVERSE THE ROLES AND ASK THE QUESTIONS IN AN INTERVIEW WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO QUIZ?

Pele. I have never met him before but I admire him and his achievements a lot. He crammed so much into his career that he would have so many interesting things to say. I'd like to know what football was truly like in his day and how he thinks he would have done in the modern game.



Class of 2007/08 Register

- 3 Steve Finnigan
- 4 Sami Hyypia
- 5 Daniel Agger
- 6 John Arne Riise
- 7 Harry Kewell
- 8 Steven Gerrard
- 9 Fernando Torres
- 10 Andriy Voronin
- 11 Yossi Benayoun
- 12 Fabio Aurelio
- 14 Xabi Alonso
- 15 Peter Crouch
- 16 Jermaine Pennant
- 17 Alvaro Arbeloa
- 18 Dirk Kuyt
- 19 Ryan Babel
- 20 Javier Mascherano
- 21 Lucas Leiva
- 22 Momo Sissoko
- 23 Jamie Carragher
- 25 Pepe Reina
- 30 Charles Itandje
- 33 Sebastian Leto
- 34 Jay Spearing
- 35 Ray Putterill
- 36 Ryan Flynn
- 39 Stephen Darby
- 40 David Martin
- 42 Nabil El Zhar
- 46 Jack Hobbs
- 48 Emiliano Insua

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STATS



Carra ready for career landmark

JAMIE Carragher will join an elite band of Liverpool players when he clocks up his 500th appearance for the Reds.

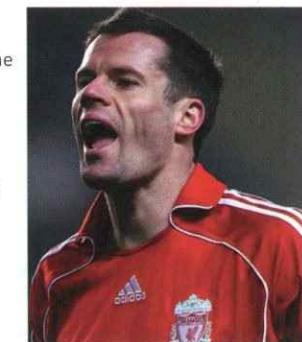
Going into Saturday's FA Barclays Premier League clash at Middlesbrough, Carra was on 498 appearances and, if selected as expected, tonight will see him reach that amazing fifth century.

If he does make his 500th appearance tonight it will come exactly 11 years and one week after his debut at Middlesbrough's

Riverside Stadium. He will also become the 12th man on an illustrious list to have achieved the feat.

Carragher can also surpass Kenny Dalglish's 515 appearances for Liverpool this season but he's still got a long way to go to get to the top five:

1. Ian Callaghan 857
2. Ray Clemence 665
3. Emlyn Hughes 665
4. Ian Rush 660
5. Phil Neal 650



LIVERPOOL FC PLAYER CAREER STATS

(players in green out on loan) (does not include Boro (a) due to print deadlines)

PLAYERS BIRTHPLACE D.O.B	LEAGUE	FA CUP	LEAGUE CUP	EUROPEAN GAMES	LIVERPOOL	CAREER
Daniel Agger Hvidovre, Denmark 12.12.84	36	2	1	0	2	1
Xabi Alonso Tolosa, Spain 25.11.81	99	11	7	2	3	0
Toni Anderson Leicester 27.7.85	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alvaro Arbeloa Salamanca, Spain 17.1.83	26	1	0	0	3	0
Fabio Aurelio Sao Carlos, Brazil 24.9.79	24	0	1	0	4	0
Ryan Babel Amsterdam 19.12.86	17	3	1	0	2	0
Yossi Benayoun Dimona, Israel 5.5.80	14	2	1	0	3	1
Jamie Carragher Liverpool 28.1.78	344	3	26	0	25	0
Scott Carson Whitehaven 4.9.85	4	0	1	0	1	0
Peter Crouch Macclesfield 30.1.81	75	17	8	4	5	1
Stephen Darby Liverpool 6.10.88	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nabil El Zhar Ales, France 27.8.86	3	0	1	0	2	1
Steve Finnan Limerick, Ireland 20.4.76	136	1	11	0	6	0
Ryan Flynn Falkirk, Scotland 4.9.88	0	0	0	0	0	0
Steven Gerrard Liverpool 30.5.80	286	51	20	5	19	7
Danny Guthrie Shrewsbury 18.4.87	3	0	0	0	3	0
Adam Hammill Liverpool 25.1.88	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jack Hobbs Portsmouth 18.8.88	2	0	0	0	3	0
Sami Hypia Porvoo, Finland 7.10.73	289	21	25	1	17	2
Beslan Idrizaj Baden bei Wien, Austria 12.10.87	0	0	0	0	0	0
Emiliano Insua Bueno Aires, Argentina 7.1.89	2	0	0	0	0	0
Charles Itandje Bobigny, France 2.11.82	0	0	1	0	3	0
Harry Kewell Smithfield, Australia 22.9.78	91	12	9	0	5	1
Dirk Kuyt Katwijk aan Zee, Holland 22.7.80	51	15	2	1	2	0
Lucas Dourados , Brazil 9.1.87	6	0	1	0	3	0
Anthony Le Tallec Hennebont, France 3.10.84	17	0	4	0	2	0
Sebastian Leto Buenos Aires, Argentina 30.8.86	0	0	0	0	2	0
Craig Lindfield Wirral 7.9.88	0	0	0	0	0	0
David Martin Romford 22.1.86	0	0	0	0	0	0
Javier Mascherano San Lorenzo, Argentina 8.6.84	20	0	1	0	0	0
Lee Peltier Liverpool 11.12.86	0	0	0	0	3	0
Jermaine Pennant Nottingham 15.1.83	44	1	1	0	2	0
Ray Putterill Liverpool 2.3.89	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pepe Reina Madrid, Spain 31.8.82	88	0	5	0	1	0
John Arne Riise Molde, Norway 24.9.80	222	21	14	3	13	2
Miki Roque Treny, Catalonia, Spain 8.7.88	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mohamed Sissoko Mont Saint Aignan, France 22.1.85	51	1	6	0	4	0
Jay Spearing Wirral 25.11.88	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbie Threlfall Liverpool 25.11.88	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fernando Torres Madrid, Spain 28.3.84	18	10	0	0	1	3
Andriy Veronin Odessa, Ukraine 21.7.79	12	3	1	0	1	0
	12	3	1	0	6	1
	12	3	1	0	20	4
	12	3	1	0	215	69

European games and goals include European Super Cup finals. Liverpool games and goals include 2001 Charity Shield, 2002 & 2006 Community Shields and FIFA Club World Championship 2005. Career appearances and goals include other clubs, but not internationals, and may be incomplete in some instances where players have played abroad.

THE LAST WORD

with...

PEPE REINA

WHAT was going through your mind **LAST** season when Jerzy Dudek conceded nine goals in just four days as Arsenal knocked Liverpool out of both domestic cups?

"IT is always going to be difficult to see a goalkeeper and fellow teammate concede so many goals like that, especially as they [Arsenal] only had 12 or 13 shots.

It wasn't all Jerzy's fault though. The team could have done more to prevent some of the goals. Obviously it wasn't Jerzy's best moment, which I'm sure he will agree.

He had not been playing for a long time and that can make it more difficult to come back in to the team when you are maybe not at the level you would like to be.

But we cannot blame Jerzy for all those goals. It was disappointing for everyone."

The **LAST** domestic cup game you played in was the 4-3 Carling Cup win over Reading last season. Does it bother you that you don't figure much in our FA and League Cup games? "No, because it means that Charles [Itandje] can have his chance to play.

He deserves that and has been working really hard to stay switched on and keep his levels up for when these chances arrive.

It is good to know there is someone behind me pushing me all the way. It helps keep the team level high.

Charles has played well in the cups. Hopefully we can reach the final again this year.

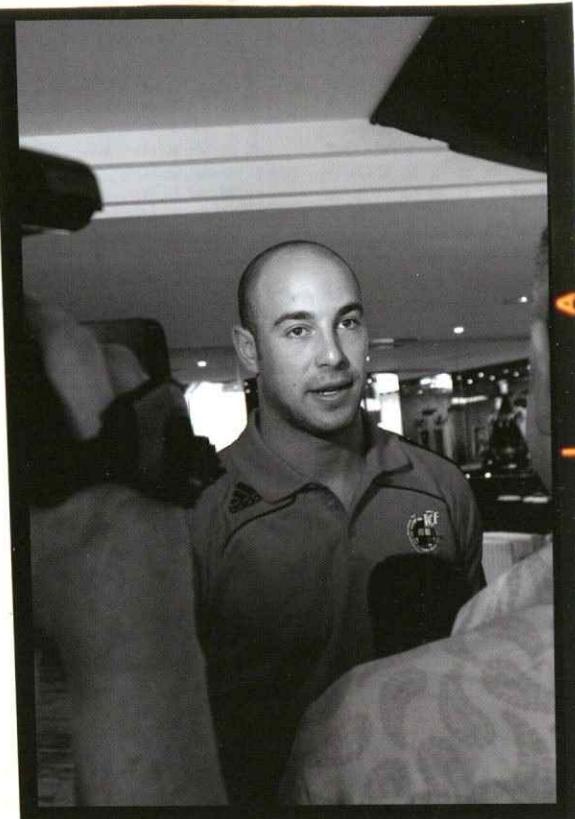
The FA Cup is special. We have won it once during my time here. It would be nice to do so again."

When was the **LAST** time you took part in a cup replay?

"I don't recall ever playing in one.

This kind of game does not exist in Spain, not in the Copa del Rey anyway.

The last time I played in the Copa del Rey the system was that if a game was a draw after 90 minutes of the second leg, it would go to extra time and then penalties. There were no replays and I am sure the system is still the same now."



Famous LAST WORDS

'Sometimes I feel I'm hardly wanted in this Liverpool team.

If I get two or three saves to make I've had a busy day'

- RAY CLEMENCE

Introducing
Liverpool FC's latest signing

► UNIBET .com

NEW GAMING PARTNER OF LFC



LIVERPOOL vs LUTON TOWN

Steve Finnan	3	■	1	Dean Brill
Sami Hyypia	4	■	2	Alan Goodall
Daniel Agger	5	■	3	Don Hutchison
John Arne Riise	6	■	4	Chris Perry
Harry Kewell	7	■	5	Chris Coyne
Steven Gerrard	8	■	6	Dean Morgan
Fernando Torres	9	■	7	David Bell
Andriy Voronin	10	■	8	Sam Parkin
Yossi Benayoun	11	■	9	Darren Currie
Fabio Aurelio	12	■	10	Paul Peschisolido
Xabi Alonso	14	■	11	Richard Jackson
Peter Crouch	15	■	12	Steve Robinson
Jermaine Pennant	16	■	13	Stephen O'Leary
Alvaro Arbeloa	17	■	14	David Edwards
Dirk Kuyt	18	■	15	Lewis Emanuel
Ryan Babel	19	■	16	Drew Talbot
Javier Mascherano	20	■	17	Calvin Andrew
Lucas	21	■	18	Keith Keane
Mohamed Sissoko	22	■	19	Richard Langley
Jamie Carragher	23	■	20	Paul Underwood
Pepe Reina	25	■	21	Matthew Spring
Charles Itandje	30	■	22	Sol Davis
Sebastian Leto	33	■	23	Paul McVeigh
Jay Spearing	34	■	24	Paul Furlong
Ray Putterill	35	■	25	Ryan Charles
Craig Lindfield	38	■		
Stephen Darby	39	■		
David Martin	40	■		
Nabil El Zhar	42	■		
Jack Hobbs	46	■		
Emiliano Insua	48	■		



Kick out racism

Liverpool Football Club fully supports the Kick It Out anti racism campaign and will not tolerate racism in any form. Anyone who witnesses behaviour which is likely to cause offence is encouraged to report such on the club's dedicated Anti Racism Incident Reporting Line - 0800 298 4999. The club is committed to investigating all reported incidents as we are determined to make Anfield a place that is accessible to supporters from all sections of the community because we believe that in today's multi-cultural society there is no place for racism.

Emergency procedures

In the event of an emergency at Anfield you will hear a police message over the public address system. It will be preceded by a loud 'bing-bong' sound. Please remain where you are, listen to the message and, if it affects your area of the stadium, comply with the instructions immediately. These will direct you to a safe area, through exit gates and doors into car parks, roads or the pitch area. If you are disabled or feel unsafe in a large crowd, remain where you are until the stewards assist you to leave. Above all, REMAIN CALM and DO NOT MOVE unless the announcement concerns your area of the stadium.



Official team kit supplier

