

# Blue 'n' White

The Official  
Matchday Magazine of  
Blackburn Rovers F.C.

*Review*



**Blackburn Rovers**

**v**

**Swindon Town**

Ewood Park, Saturday,  
March 26, 1994.  
Kick-off 3.00pm



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# CHEERS



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## WELCOME TO EWOOD PARK

IT'S a particular pleasure for me to welcome Swindon Town to Ewood this afternoon, because at the helm are two men I regard as very good friends, manager John Gorman and his assistant David Hay.

All three of us were players together at Celtic, so you can tell our association goes back a long time!

Seriously, we keep in touch and, with the notable exception of today's result, they will both know that I wish them every success for the future. I am sure the feeling is mutual.

*Although Swindon's position in the table suggests they have had a tough time this season, they have earned a lot of praise for the manner in which they play the game. Their style has prompted many tributes and they will certainly not be underestimated by anyone at Ewood.*

You need only look at last Saturday's result, a 2-2 draw with leaders Manchester United, to appreciate the fact that any team in the Premier League is capable of getting a good result against another - no matter what their respective positions.

Swindon will receive the same respect as our last Ewood visitors Liverpool, and rightly so.

But the attitude of our players has not been a problem. It was very satisfying to continue our excellent home record in the last Ewood game, coming back from the defeat at Highbury, and there were, again, many pleasing aspects in last Sunday's win at Hillsborough.

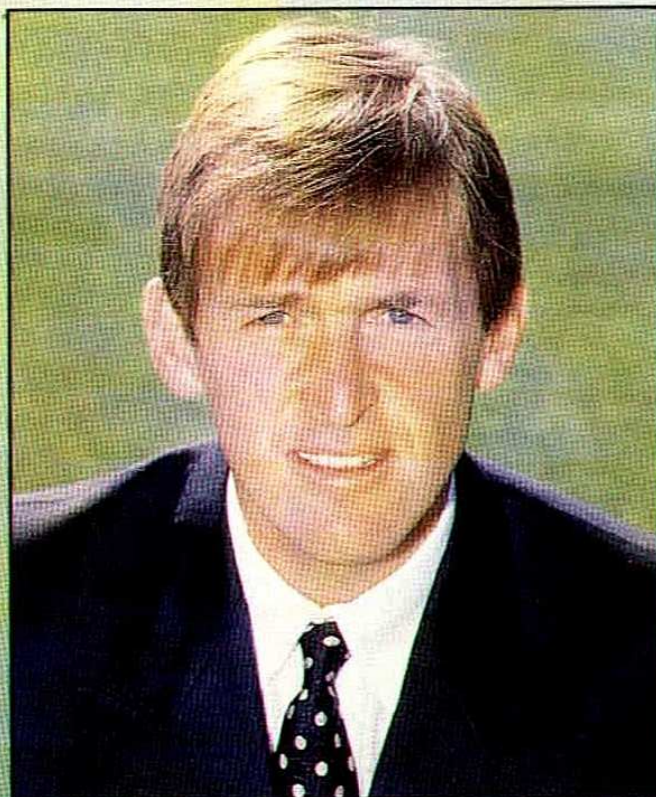
*The lads all take great credit for the manner in which they simply refused to settle for a draw, kept plugging away and eventually got the reward they deserved with a late winner.*

Looking at the game overall, justice was done at the end. They were positive, played good football, created chances and maintained a belief in their ability to win the game. That belief was eventually borne out with Mike Newell's clincher and I don't think anyone would dispute we were the better side on the day.

You could see from the reaction of both players and supporters just how much it meant to everyone and I am sure it was a happy journey home for the thousands who followed the team across the Pennines.

It's a point I have made before but it is worth repeating. Your encouragement helped them keep at it last Sunday when it seemed the second goal just wouldn't come.

*The backing the team has received from our supporters this season has been tremendous, home and away, and no matter what the distance involved.*



I think the way in which the players have responded with their performances shows how much it is appreciated. When we start again at 3pm today, that teamwork on and off the pitch can be an important factor.

It promises to be an open, entertaining game with two sides playing the sort of football most people seem to enjoy. Let's hope we can also claim the result we want.

### COVER PICTURE

**Mike Newell who celebrated his return to first team action by scoring the winning goal against Sheffield Wednesday last Sunday.**

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# ROVING

NEWS.. VIEWS.. INFORMATION.. NEWS...

## Ton-up Jason celebrates in style!

OUR last home game against Liverpool was the highlight of a memorable few days for Jason Wilcox.

The match marked Jason's 100th full League appearance for the club, a fine achievement by a home-grown player who has worked his way up through the junior ranks and earned the right to play with and against the best in the country.

And he celebrated it in style, with the opening goal, before going on to play a part in our second which provided a special moment for Tim Sherwood. It was Tim's first Premiership goal of the season and couldn't have been better timed on his return from a month's absence through injury.

Two days later, Jason represented the club at the Bobby Moore Memorial Match at Upton Park. Paul Warhurst had originally been chosen as our man in the F.A. Premier League squad but a slight injury sustained in training forced him to drop out.

Jason, however, stepped into the

## CHANGING FIXTURES

THERE have been significant changes to our fixture list on the run-in to the end of the season, because of F.A. Cup commitments and TV requirements.

Supporters are asked to note that three games have now been scheduled for "live" screening by Sky.

They are: Manchester United at home next Saturday (kick-off 5pm), Aston Villa at home with a new date and kick-off time of Monday, April 11, at 8pm, and QPR at home which is now scheduled for Sunday, April 24, with a 4pm kick-off time.

In addition, we have now rearranged our outstanding away game against West Ham United for Wednesday, April 27.

breach and was in George Graham's starting line-up. A "new" team took over at half-time to enable every club to be represented during the game, watched by a 20,000 crowd.

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# REPORT



VIEWS.. INFORMATION.. NEWS... VIEWS... INFORMATION..

## Nicky is a Rover with roots

NICKY MARKER will get a reminder of "home" this afternoon, well near enough, with the visit of Swindon from the West Country. For, while Nicky loves playing his football in the North West, there's no doubt which part of the country remains closest to his heart – the South West.

And, as he told Radio Rovers reporter **Wendy Howard**, that's where he'll be heading when he finally hangs up his boots.

"There's no two ways about it, I do miss the South West," he told Wendy. "At the end of my football career, wherever I am, I'll always go back there. I've kept my house just outside Plymouth, my roots are there and the way of life is much quieter."

Not that he wants it to be for some time yet, as he is revelling in playing in the big time at last and readily admitted it took him "all of five seconds" to make up his mind to join Rovers when the call came from Kenny Dalglish.

### Talking

"The South West isn't really a hot-bed of soccer. Up here is what it's all about. Everyone is talking about the game all the time...football, football, football and it doesn't matter which way you go there's another club just 20 or 30 minutes down the road," he said.

"For us in Plymouth, there was Exeter and Torquay and, after that, it was one and a half hours to get to Bristol.

"I had been resigned to playing for Plymouth. I had three years of my contract left to run and I thought I was going to see that out and probably see my career out there. But coming up here has opened my eyes. The football is just great."

Was he apprehensive at all about joining a big club, with star names in the dressing room?



"No, it's very friendly. All the players like a laugh and there are no big-heads in there, everyone is in it together whether they cost £3 million or whatever.

"I don't feel over-awed because they are not that kind of people. When I first came at 27, I didn't know whether I would ever have the chance

to be in the same dressing room as players like these. But when you are up here, doing it and playing alongside them, it's great."

In some ways, Nicky's rise to fame has mirrored the club's emergence. It's less than two years since he was on the opposite side of the fence, heading for the then Third Division with relegated Plymouth, while Rovers were claiming what was to be that historic place in the promotion play-offs and, eventually, a top-flight spot.

Rovers played a significant part in his old club's fall, as he well remembers that final match of the 1991-92 season: "We had to win to stay up and it seemed as if Rovers had to win to get into the play-offs. In the end, Rovers didn't need the win so they could have done us a favour. But on the day, they beat us fair and square. Plymouth were a team lacking in confidence and it showed."

### Invaluable

Nicky's versatility has made him an invaluable member of the squad and he doesn't mind one little bit if others get most of the attention and the headlines.

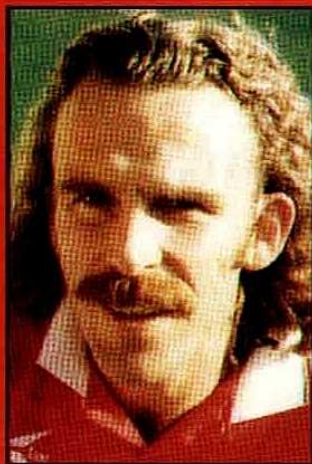
"The game is all about scoring goals and winning and the people who win games for you are the ones who score the goals," he said. "I'm just happy to be playing for the team. There's such a big squad here you just want to be involved every week."

And that's the way Nicky hopes it will stay, with a return "home" the last thing on his mind for some time to come.

● Don't forget to tune in to RADIO ROVERS every matchday here at Ewood – Britain's first football club radio station. You can listen on 1413 medium wave, or why not put your views on "Touchline" by calling 0254-261413.



# ST★R VISITOR



**GRANITE-TOUGH** defender Brian Kilcline was signed by Swindon for £90,000 from Newcastle United in January in the hope that he could add some steel and stability to their fight to retain Premier League status.

A former England Under-21 international, the 31-year-old Kilcline began his career with his hometown club Notts County. A £60,000 move took him to Coventry where he led their F.A. Cup winning team before joining Oldham in August 1991 for £400,000.

Just six months later, however, he had made only eight appearances and left for Newcastle.

Manager John Gorman hopes that Kilcline's vast experience can prove a big asset in the survival struggle along, of course, with his non-sense style of defending.

# Introducing

WHATEVER Swindon Town's position at the end of this their first-ever season in the top flight of English football, The Robins have shown that you do not need to be top of the table to win friends and influence people.

In what has been a difficult debut season in the F.A. Carling Premiership, Swindon have earned themselves a host of admirers the length and breadth of the country by the way they play their football.

Full marks to manager John Gorman and his players for their attitude. Gorman has repeatedly gone on record to stress that Swindon will do it with style – he knows no other way.

It was fairly early in the season when, despite depressing results, Swindon showed just what they were capable of at Old Trafford, where they gave Manchester United a scare.

Beaten 3-2, Gorman made his principles plain when he said: "We didn't realise until after the game how much people enjoyed the way we played. I said to be honest this was just a normal performance for us. We were disappointed not to get something. But 45,000 people went away from Old Trafford talking about how well Swindon played and that, I think, was a great achievement for our club."

The Robins "footballed" their way into the top flight and are determined to try to stay there by the same method.

They have come a long way in a

## HONOURS LIST

CHAMPIONS

DIVISION FOUR

1985-86

LEAGUE CUP WINNERS

1968-69

F.A. CUP BEST

Semi-finals (twice)

short time. For it wasn't until the 1960s that Swindon reached even the heights of the old Second Division.

Most of their League existence has been spent at Third Division level, after being elected to that level in 1920. Swindon's first promotion of any kind, in fact, did not come along until 1963, when they climbed from Division Three to Division Two. They were back down two years later, back up again in four and took the drop once more in 1974.

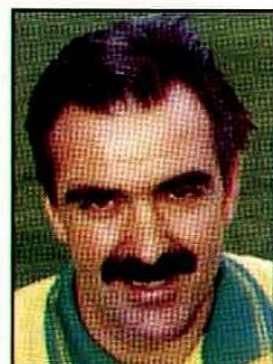
When the club found itself in Division Four in the early Eighties, ambitions must have faded. But Lou Macari got the ball rolling again and rapid progress followed with a rise from Fourth Division to Premier League in just seven years. It might have been even quicker but for special circumstances.

Ossie Ardiles carried on the good work begun by Macari and the play-offs were won, only for financial irregularities to deny the players

## MANAGER: JOHN GORMAN

JOHN GORMAN has earned himself a lot of respect this season for his admirable attitude in the face of adversity and it has no doubt been a big factor in helping his players to keep battling. Thrown in at the deep end for his first managerial appointment when Glenn Hoddle left for Chelsea, Gorman – now 44 – has been a quick learner, through necessity.

A player with Celtic, Carlisle, Spurs, Leyton Orient and Swindon, he was Hoddle's assistant before becoming the boss. He has tried to maintain Swindon's reputation for good football, while also attempting to add some experience to his staff in the fight for Premier League survival.



## TEN YEAR RECORD

Season	Div	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Pos
1983/84	4	15	13	18	58	56	58	17
1984/85	4	21	9	16	62	58	72	8
1985/86	4	32	6	8	82	43	102	1 (P)
1986/87	3	25	12	9	77	47	87	3 (P)
1987/88	2	16	11	17	73	60	59	12
1988/89	2	20	16	10	68	53	76	6
1989/90	2	20	14	12	79	59	74	4 (P*)
1990/91	2	12	14	20	65	73	50	21
1991/92	2	18	15	13	69	55	69	8
1992/93	1 (FL)	21	13	12	74	59	76	5 (P)

P\* – Promoted through play-offs then relegated following payment irregularities.

Please co-operate with the stewards at all times and keep gangways and exits clear.



# SWINDON TOWN



**BACK:** Kevin Morris (Physio), Ross MacLaren, Steve Lane\*, Steve White, Adrian Whitbread, Jan Aage Fjortoft, Adrian Viveash, Fraser Digby, Shaun Taylor, Nicky Hammond, Chris Hamon, Andrew Thomson, Paul Bodin, Kevin Horlock, Craig Maskell, Eddie Buckley (Kit Manager).

**FRONT:** Wayne O'Sullivan, Nicky Summerbee, John Moncur, Luc Nijholt, Micky Hazard\*, John Trollope (Youth Team Manager), John Gorman (Manager), David Hay (Assistant Manager), Andy Rowland (Reserve Team Manager), Austin Berkley, Edwin Murray, Martin Ling, Marcus Phillips, Lee Middleton.

\* - No longer with the club

promotion. Then came Glenn Hoddle and top-flight football was finally achieved, ironically through the play-offs in a blockbuster of a game against Leicester City.

Even more ironically, Hoddle then upped and went himself, joining Chelsea to leave Gorman with his first managerial position as Swindon made their bow among the big boys. But the style and beliefs built at the club by men like Ardiles and Hoddle were to continue.

Wembley last summer was a marvellous moment for Swindon fans, as it had been for Rovers supporters the previous year. But it's fair to say that Swindon's most memorable moments have been in the knockout competitions.

They were still in the Third Division when they went all the way to Wembley, inspired by the wizardry of Don Rogers, and had the nerve to beat Arsenal in the 1968-69 League Cup competition.

And there were two F.A. Cup semi-final appearances to boast of in 1910 and 1912 before Swindon had even joined the

League. They haven't managed to improve on that since.

While European football has yet to beckon the County Ground, Swindon also won the Anglo-Italian Cup in 1970.

The Robins have been welcome visitors at most grounds this season, because of their attitude to the game. If they manage to retain their Premier League status, it would be a popular achievement.

## Roll Call

Player	Birthplace	Birthdate	Position	Signed From
Fraser Digby	Sheffield	23-4-67	Goalkeeper	Manchester U
Nicky Summerbee	Altrincham	26-8-71	Defender	Trainee
Paul Bodin	Cardiff	13-9-64	Defender	Crystal Palace
Luc Nijholt	Zaandam	29-7-61	Defender	Motherwell
Shaun Taylor	Plymouth	26-3-63	Defender	Exeter
Ross MacLaren	Edinburgh	14-4-62	Midfield	Derby
Jan Fjortoft	Norway	10-1-67	Forward	Rapid Vienna
Martin Ling	West Ham	15-7-66	Midfield	Southend Utd
Steve White	C. Sudbury	2-1-59	Forward	Bristol Rovers
Adrian Whitbread	Epping	22-10-71	Defender	Leyton Orient
Adrian Viveash	Swindon	30-9-69	Defender	Trainee
Kevin Horlock	Plumstead	1-11-72	Defender	West Ham
Andy Mutch	Liverpool	28-12-63	Forward	Wolves
Terry Fenwick	Seaham	17-11-59	Defender	Tottenham
Keith Scott	London	10-6-67	Forward	Wycombe
Brian Kilcline	Nottingham	7-5-62	Defender	Newcastle
John Moncur	Stepney	22-9-66	Midfield	Tottenham
Jon Sheffield	Bedworth	1-2-69	Goalkeeper	Cambridge*
Lawrie Sanchez	Lambeth	22-10-59	Midfield	Wimbledon
Nicky Hammond	Hornchurch	7-9-67	Goalkeeper	Arsenal
Edwin Murray	Redbridge	31-8-73	Defender	Trainee
Frank McAvennie	Glasgow	22-11-59	Forward	Celtic

\* on loan

## LEAGUE RECORD AT EWOOD

TODAY'S game is the first-ever top-flight meeting at Ewood between Rovers and Swindon, all the other clashes being in the old Second and Third Divisions.

This is Swindon's 10th League visit to Blackburn and they have yet to win, with the record books showing seven Rovers victories and two draws so far. Co-incidentally, Swindon tend to come out on top in meetings at the County Ground.

Games are usually close and low scoring, like last time they were here in February, 1992, when we won 2-1 with goals from Colin Hendry and David Speedie, with David Mitchell replying for Swindon.



# Robins' Form Guide

DESPITE the summer trauma of losing their manager, along with some of the players who had helped them to win promotion to the top flight for the first time in their history, who would have imagined that Swindon Town would have to wait so long for their first Premiership victory.

It was not until November 24 and their 16th League match of the campaign that the sweet taste of success came Swindon's way. And even then it wasn't plain sailing, Luk Nijholt's dismissal reducing them to 10 men against Queens Park Rangers.

But Keith Scott, signed earlier in the month from Wycombe Wanderers, did the trick with the only goal of the game to break a duck that was threatening to become an embarrassment.

The seeds of Swindon's struggle to retain their newly-won status were sown in those opening three months of the season. Nine defeats and just six draws from their first 15 matches condemned The Robins to a winter-long battle for survival.

They must have feared the worst when they opened their programme with four straight defeats, including two five-goal hammerings at the hands of



IT took Norwegian striker Jan Aage Fjortoft a long time to start scoring in the Premiership. But once he did, it seemed he couldn't stop!

Signed for £650,000 last summer, following the departure of Dave Mitchell, Fjortoft had to endure his own personal nightmare as Swindon struggled and he simply couldn't find the back of the net.

Christmas came and went and still no goals from the international striker until he struck gold at last against Spurs at the County Ground on January 22.

Greatly encouraged, Fjortoft then hit a hat-trick against Coventry in his next match, albeit including two penalties, and two more goals followed against Norwich on February 19. There might have been another double to celebrate at Maine Road the following week but only one of his strikes counted, the second being controversially disallowed.

Liverpool (home) and Southampton (away).

But when Swindon did start to pick up points, they were respectable ones, draws away at Norwich and at home to Newcastle helping to get John Gorman's side off the mark.

It was victory, however, that was so desperately needed at the County Ground

to bring an injection of confidence. When it arrived against QPR, hopes of a major revival were raised, only for Swindon to slip again.

Two points came from the next four matches, though fortune was hardly favouring a brave team, who showed plenty of style but continued to fall for sucker punches such as Mark Wright's late equaliser at Anfield.

Revenge proved sweet against Southampton just before Christmas, when Scott and Paul Bodin were the marksmen in a 2-1 win. Yet the turn of the year arrived and Swindon still had just those two victories to show and more than half their matches played.

A low point for the team must have been the 6-2 thrashing handed out to 10 men by goal-shy Everton at Goodison, or perhaps it simply inspired Gorman's men.

For they went out and won the next two games, both at home. Norwegian Jan Aage Fjortoft finally found his shooting boots at the end of January, as Spurs were beaten 2-1 and Coventry fell to his finishing, 3-1, with the aid of a couple of penalties.

But a useful 3-3 draw with Norwich came in between defeats at Aston Villa (0-5) and Manchester City (1-2).

They certainly didn't have the rub of the green at Maine Road at the end of last month but it's those games, against fellow strugglers, that Swindon must win, if they are to retain any hope of escape from their present plight.

## DID YOU KNOW ...

- Swindon were founded in 1881 but did not join the Football League until 1920, becoming members of Division Three, which changed to Division Three South the following year.
- It was 1963 before they climbed as high as the Second Division and they were relegated three times, going as low as the Fourth Division in 1982.
- John Trollope holds Swindon's appearances record with almost 900 senior games between 1960-81.
- Duncan Shearer, who had a brief spell at Ewood in promotion season, was Swindon's leading scorer in four successive seasons from 1988-92. The previous season, another ex-Rover Jimmy Quinn topped their scoring charts!
- Ewood's Commercial Manager Ken Beamish was County Ground boss in 1983-84 when they were in the Fourth Division.
- Youngest player ever to turn out for Swindon is Paul Rideout, the current Everton striker. He was aged 16 years and 107 days when he played against Hull in November 1980.
- In 1926-27, Swindon scored 100 League goals and only two players, Morris (47) and Eddeston (11) hit double figures! A few years later, in 1932-33, they conceded 105 goals in the Third Division South!
- This is Swindon's first season in the top flight and the furthest they have progressed in the F.A. Cup is to the semi-finals - twice. In 1910, they lost to Newcastle and, two years later, they were beaten in a replay by Barnsley.

It is an offence to throw a missile towards the playing area or at other spectators.





# FOOTBALL FOCUS

THIS month has witnessed the start of a new era for English football at international level and Blackburn Rovers seem to have a major role to play in what all supporters hope will be a brighter future.

New England coach Terry Venables put his faith in Ewood with Rovers providing a quarter of the players for his first-ever national selection – four out of 16 named as team and substitutes for the game against Denmark at Wembley.

And for Graeme Le Saux it was a particularly memorable evening as Venables got off to a winning start. For Graeme not only won his first full cap, he also became the first player from the Channel Islands to represent England – a magnificent achievement and one that was well deserved.

In less than a year, following his move to Ewood, Graeme has gone from Chelsea Reserves to the England team. He has already paid tribute to his Rovers team-mates as being a significant factor in the form that earned him international recognition and, after making a sparkling national debut, he had words of thanks for the man he deposed, Nottingham Forest's Stuart Pearce.

"Stuart was brilliant for me," said Graeme. "He kept on giving me little tips and advice during training and when he knew I had been picked he just wished me good luck. It must have been hard for him, losing not only his England position but the captaincy as well. It just shows what a great pro he is."

Rave reviews greeted Graeme's debut, along with that of Darren Anderton, but the full back is keeping his feet firmly on the ground.

"I was very pleased with my first game but I'm taking nothing for granted about replacing Stuart long term. Obviously he has got the experience and ability to challenge again and that can only keep me right on my toes," he added.

Graeme was in good company, with Alan Shearer selected in attack and the two Rovers men combined brilliantly to set up England's goal for David Platt.

David Batty went on in the second half to win his 15th England cap as a

## A dream debut – but Graeme plays it cool

**Graeme Le Saux got rave reviews for his performance at Wembley (right) yet he says he is taking nothing for granted.**

substitute, following his recall, and produced the sort of polished performance he gives week in, week out for Rovers.

Tim Flowers, named as substitute keeper, was the only Ewood man not to get a taste of the action, with David Seaman being retained in goal. But it can be only a matter of time before he adds to the cap he won last summer.

Exciting times for England could be ahead and that means exciting times for Rovers, with others in our squad knocking on the international door.



Venables could well be paying regular visits to our matches.

Meanwhile, Henning Berg was also in international action, as he helped Norway to a 3-1 friendly win over Wales in Cardiff, as John Toshack made an unsuccessful start to his reign as new Welsh boss.

Henning played in defence for Norway but advanced at set pieces and almost got his name on the scoresheet. He looks certain to be an important part of Norway's plans for this summer's World Cup finals in the USA.

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# PREMIER POINTS



With  
**PETER  
WHITE**, Deputy Sports Editor  
Lancashire Evening Telegraph

## Is this the end of numbers game?

AN end, thank goodness, seems as though it could be in sight to the squad numbering system. And, having campaigned for someone to see sense over it, I can only say – about time too.

At the moment, we are still at the experimental stage, with Arsenal having been granted permission to revert to 1-11 for the rest of the season.

Shirts will still bear a player's name but I've no problem with that. If you actually go to a game instead of watching on TV you can't read them anyway!

Among many rumblings of complaint from all sections of the game, Arsenal approached the Premier League with their proposal and their

vice-chairman David Dein said it was an attempt to bring the numbering system down to a manageable level. Mr Dein pointed out that, as names were still involved, extra shirts would be available which could be adjusted at the last minute for late changes.

Premier League Chief Executive Rick Parry stressed that "names" are here to stay but that options on numbers were being examined. "The ideal way, of course, is to have names with traditional numbers and the F.A. Premier League is supporting Arsenal's offer to conduct an experiment to see just how practical it is," he said.

Amen to that. Come in number 26, 33, 37 etc, your time – we hope – is up!

## ENGLAND'S CONSOLATION

THE latest world rankings were issued by FIFA recently and make interesting reading.

England, now under the leadership of Terry Venables, of course, stand a respectable 12th according to the table of the top 30 from the governing body. Respectable considering we haven't qualified for the World Cup finals.

Perhaps somebody's arithmetic is amiss.

We are still the best-placed of the four Home Countries and, one place ahead of the Republic of Ireland. The biggest surprise is Italy's headlong plunge down the table from second place at the end of 1993 to their present 11th position. But I'll have a few lira now that their form will be rather better than that when it comes to summer in America.

Germany lead the way from Brazil and Henning Berg can take pride in the fact that Norway stand third. But, considering Denmark's display at Wembley, it's a surprise to find them in fourth place.

Northern Ireland haven't made the top 30, Wales are in 27th place (two spots better than at the end of the year) but what of Scotland? Sshh, don't tell Colin Hendry and Kevin Gallacher, not to mention the manager, the Scots have just crept in at 30th, having slipped six rungs since the end of '93.

Ahead of them are the likes of the Ivory Coast and...America!

### No joke ...

NOW and again I wonder what Gary Lineker thinks about the progress of Blackburn Rovers.

Remember when Don Mackay made that audacious bid for the then Spurs and England striker? It was one of the early signs that Jack Walker meant business, big business.

But it was foolishly laughed off at the other end as a "publicity gimmick". As I said at the start, I often wonder what Gary thinks now ...

## CARL GETS FIVE-YEAR TICKET BAN

IT'S maybe just as well that Manchester United beat Charlton in the F.A. Cup quarter finals.

Well, if Charlton striker Carl Leaburn had made it all the way to Wembley, he'd have had problems getting final tickets for his family and friends.

Leaburn, you see, was one of four players on a list of individuals who were banned and/or fined by the Football Association in the latest crackdown on black market tickets. He received a five-year ban on receiving tickets after one allocated to him brought three times its worth on the black market.

Mel Sterland, Leeds, Phil King, Sheffield Wednesday, and ex-Rover Mark Grew, Cardiff, also received bans and fines.

### Brian's sweet strike

IT was inevitable really ... Leeds striker Brian Deane hadn't scored for three months when he returned to Bramall Lane to face his old club Sheffield United.

What happened? He scored, of course. Only his seventh Premiership goal of the season, since his big-money move, but I bet it was the sweetest.

### More football please!

JUST a small point but why, if there is too much football being played at the top level, do I keep having these free weekends? I don't want to go to Tesco, Marks, the Arndale – No Nay Never No More!

**Blackburn Rovers Club Call 0891-121179**

Calls cost 36p per minute cheap; 48p per minute other times





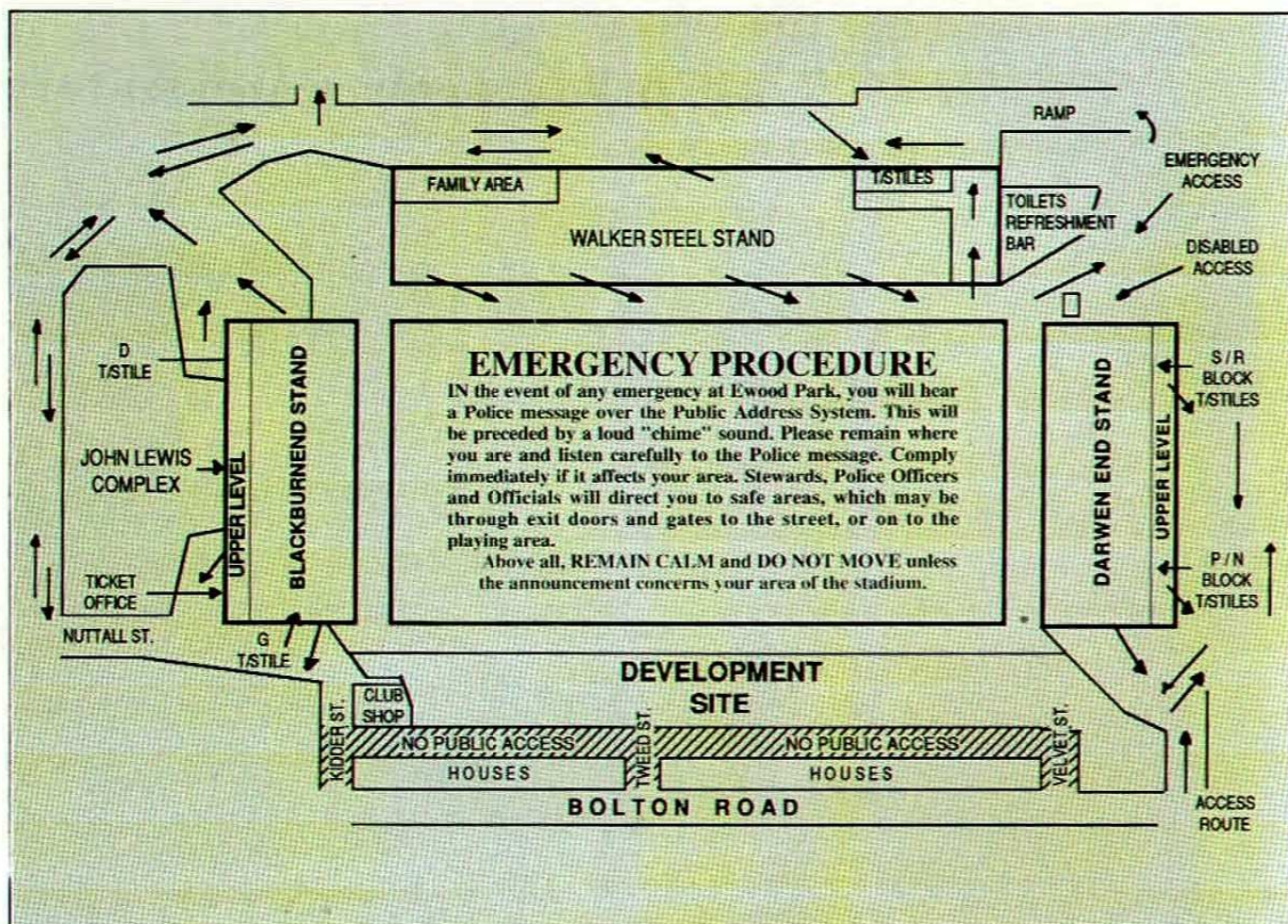
Mid-match team talk! While an injured Liverpool player is receiving treatment, the Rovers players take stock of the situation and, judging by the air of relaxation, they are happy with the way things are going, though perhaps David Batty is emphasising the game plan! Right, flying winger Jason Wilcox gets the breakthrough and (below) captain Tim Sherwood seals a 2-0 victory with this 20-yard strike.











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# NOTICE BOARD

## SUPPORTERS PANELS ...

*... An open letter from F.A. Premier League Chief Executive Rick Parry to all Rovers fans.*

WHO listens to the fans? Well, the F.A. Premier League does. This season about 10,000 supporters from all the clubs have responded to an invitation to fill in a questionnaire concerning their views on the club they support.

And at five clubs - Arsenal, Chelsea, Coventry City, Norwich City and Oldham Athletic - small groups of supporters have been meeting to comment on issues of concern to Premier League supporters as a whole, like facilities for away fans, policing and stewarding and football on TV.

These groups are called "Supporter Panels" and we want more of them at more clubs. We have invited Blackburn Rovers to hold a panel meeting early next season and the club has readily agreed. So we are looking for about 12-15 representative Rovers fans interested in talking to us

about some of the things which matter at all Premier League clubs.

If you would like to have a say and be part of a panel meeting, or if you just want to know a bit more about Supporter Panels, please get in touch.

Write or phone in the first instance to Barbara Magee here at Ewood no later than April 16, 1994. Then we'll send you some more information.

Will anyone listen? Yes, the Premier League clubs are studying the views of supporters on a number of issues now. Look out for more news in the sports press and matchday programmes early next season. In the meantime, if you would like to be part of the action, we'd be pleased to hear from you.

**Rick Parry,**  
Chief Executive,  
F.A. Premier League.

## YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

*RICK Parry answers some of your questions about the revolutionary new "Supporter Panels" being set up by the F.A. Premier League.*

### WHAT ARE THE PANELS FOR?

"IN the F.A. Premier League, we intend to get into the habit of sounding supporters' views on a regular basis. The panels will give supporters the opportunity to comment on things the Premier League is doing now, and things it is thinking about doing in the future. They will provide us with information in a form which will enable us to use it to make decisions."

### WHO'S BEHIND THE IDEA?

"THE panels are being set up by the Premier League in co-operation with your club and other clubs. The two national supporters' organisations - The Football Supporters' Association and the National Federation of Football Supporters' Clubs - are backing the idea and are being consulted about the way the panels work."

### WILL THERE BE PANELS AT EVERY PREMIER LEAGUE CLUB?

"ARSENAL, Chelsea, Coventry, Norwich

and Oldham have volunteered to start the process. They are setting up panels this season. If these are a success, the other Premier League clubs will follow next season."

**WATCH OUT IN NEXT SATURDAY'S MATCHDAY MAGAZINE FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SUPPORTER PANELS.**

## Programme fair

THOUSANDS of football programmes, old and new, will be available at the annual Bolton Spring Football Programme Fair tomorrow. The fair will be held in Bolton Wanderers' Executive Club at Burnden Park from 11.30am-3.30pm.

## COMING NEXT - MANCHESTER UNITED

NO-ONE will need reminding who's next at Ewood Park. It's reigning champions Manchester United, of course, for a Saturday tea-time showdown that is just seven days away.

Sky TV, not suprisingly, selected next Saturday's game for "live" showing, so while supporters of other clubs will be making their way home, we'll just be kicking off at 5pm.

United rescued a point in the Boxing Day clash at Old Trafford with a last-gasp goal, after we had looked set to become the first team to win there in more than a year.

Since then, the chase at the top of the table has been fascinating and the atmosphere will be red-hot next Saturday, as we bid to topple the champs in front of another full house.

## AWAY TRAVEL

### EVERTON

Monday, April 4

Executive coach £6.00

Standard coach £5.00

#### Departures:

Clitheroe	11.45am
Whalley	11.55am
Langho	12.05pm
Darwen Leisure Centre	12 noon
Padiham	11.45am
Boar's Head, Accrington	12 noon
Rishton Cricket Club	12.10pm
Bridge Street, Blackburn	12.20pm
Albion Hotel, Ewood	12.30pm
Railway Station bus pull-in, Chorley	12.45pm

### SOUTHAMPTON

Saturday, April 16

Executive coach £16.50

Standard coach £14.00

#### Departures:

Clitheroe	6.45am
Whalley	6.55am
Langho	7.05am
Darwen Leisure Centre	7.15am
Padiham	6.45am
Boar's Head, Accrington	7.00am
Rishton Cricket Club	7.10am
Bridge Street, Blackburn	7.20am
Albion Hotel, Ewood	7.30am
Railway Station bus pull-in, Chorley	7.45am

Executive coach, Ewood only.

## VOUCHERS

THE Official Away Travel Club operate a voucher scheme to give supporters who travel regularly a better opportunity of obtaining tickets for major games.

Coach tickets act as vouchers and should be saved from every match to which you travel on the official transport. Whenever the voucher scheme is to be implemented, details will appear in the matchday magazine.

Remember the more you travel with the OATC, the better chance you have of obtaining big-match tickets.



# Centre Stage

## Andy Morrison

**Birthdate:** 30-7-70

**Birthplace:** Inverness.

**Signed from:** Plymouth Argyle.

**Previous clubs:** None.

**Rovers League debut:**

As substitute, February 5, 1994,  
v Wimbledon, home, won 3-0.

**League record for Rovers:**

Two appearances as substitute.





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EUROPEAN**





# UPDATE



## Battle of Germany!

AC MILAN are ahead of schedule to retain their title in Italy and Ajax (Holland) and Paris SG (France) are also red-hot favourites for next season's European Cup.

But the battle for UEFA Cup places is coming to a climax all over the continent, with Germany the most competitive of the lot. Bayern Munich have got their noses in front but, in theory, you can go as low as 13th – in the 18-strong Bundesliga – and Dynamo Dresden, with a mere point a match after 25 games, were still not out of the UEFA running!

It's interesting how new forces are springing up around Europe and threatening to become a permanent feature, on the lines of Rovers' emergence in England.

Parma, having tasted European success, are now established in the Italian elite and, while Deportivo La Coruna have slipped once or twice of late, no-one's ignoring their challenge to Spain's old guard.

**ITALY:** Englishmen David Platt and Paul Gascoigne, with Sampdoria and Lazio respectively, have excellent chances of playing in the European competitions next season, as the top five in Serie A have broken away.

Milan, of course, are way out in front, with Parma and Juventus making up the pack with Sampdoria and Lazio. Former European campaigners Atlanta look destined for the drop into Serie B.



**SPAIN:** The revival is under way at Real Madrid but has it come soon enough? La Coruna have been showing signs of feeling the pressure at the top of the table, allowing Real, having sacked their latest coach Benito Floro, and Barcelona, with Romario still scoring to order, to step up their title challenges.

There are still a number of clubs in the chase for UEFA Cup places, however, including Seville, Tenerife and Howard Kendall's old club Athletic Bilbao.

**GERMANY:** The sheer volume of challengers in the Bundesliga is making life tough for some of the more famous names such as Hamburg and Werder Bremen.

Bayern are everyone's favourite to claim the championship. They have scored more goals than anyone else and conceded fewer than most. But the honours chase resembles a cavalry charge.

**PORTUGAL:** The big three, Benfica, Sporting and Porto, continue to lead the way – surprise, surprise – in Portugal's top flight, with Bobby Robson's old club Sporting and new club Porto in pursuit of the leaders.

Once-strong Vittoria Setubal are struggling but Boavista are making a push for Europe. Benfica are averaging well over two goals a game, while Porto, noted for their defensive meanness, have been producing flair and goals under Robson.

**HOLLAND:** Vitesse Arnhem, knocked out of this season's UEFA Cup by Norwich, are in the running to qualify for next winter's campaign. But Ajax look set for the title, with Feyenoord runners-up.

PSV are battling with the likes of Roda, NAC Breda and Vitesse for the consolation crumbs.

## 'DIVING' BACK TO FITNESS

**FOOTBALLERS** often used to go swimming to help their rehabilitation from long-term injuries – nowadays they simply have oxygen!

Swindon's Brian Kilcline is the latest to benefit from the revolutionary treatment that is helping a number of players. Having broken a bone in his foot on February 19, he faced a two-month absence.

But a recommendation to use the treatment applied to QPR duo Les Ferdinand and Ray Wilkins seems to have worked wonders. Kilcline spent an hour a day in an oxygen tank – a diving capsule at Swindon hydrotherapy centre – and it cut his recovery time in half.

Swindon boss John Gorman was delighted and he also banked on more experience by making a pre-transfer deadline move to sign Lawrie Sanchez from Wimbledon on a free transfer.

## Kevin looks ahead ...

**KEVIN GALLACHER** is now back at his Blackburn home and looking forward to the time when he can start work again.

Many supporters have sent "Get well" messages to Kevin at the club, following the broken leg he suffered at Highbury.

He faces a lengthy absence but was quick to point out that much of it will be during the summer months. He is already looking forward to next season when he is aiming to play a major role both for Rovers and Scotland, in their European Championship qualifying campaign.

No doubt there will be a few words of comfort and advice from team-mate Paul Warhurst who has battled back himself from a broken leg sustained at Swindon last October.

The best wishes of everyone at Ewood go to Kevin as he starts out on the recovery road.

## EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

### Latest positions

#### GROUP A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barcelona .....	4	2	2	0	9	3	6
Monaco .....	4	3	0	1	9	3	6
Galatasaray .....	4	0	2	2	0	5	2
Spartak Moscow ..	4	0	2	2	4	11	2

#### GROUP B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AC Milan .....	4	2	2	0	6	2	6
Porto .....	4	2	0	2	5	6	4
Werder Bremen ..	4	1	1	2	9	9	3
Anderlecht .....	4	1	1	2	4	7	3

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# SIMPLY THE BEST!

## FANS, REFS AND PLAYERS ARE ALL NO. 1's



The Carling No. 1 Award has proved that players aren't the games' only heroes.

Each month this prestigious award goes to the people who make the greatest contribution to the Carling Premiership.

Newcastle's Toon Army were honoured for their passionate support as the Magpies returned to the big time.

Everton's fans won it because of their magnificent behaviour at Old Trafford during the one minute silence for Sir Matt Busby.

Crowdpleasers Efan Ekoru and Matthew Le Tissier grabbed the glory for some spectacular scoring.

## CARLING NO. 1 AWARD WINNERS

Month	Winner	What for?
August	Ref David Elleray	Expert handling of the thrilling Villa and Man Utd game
September	Efan Ekoru	Four goals at Everton
October	Matthew Le Tissier	Brilliant double strike in his comeback game against Newcastle
November	Newcastle supporters	Fantastic support home and away
December	Gary Mabbutt	His dignified reaction to a serious injury
January	Everton Supporters (see picture right)	Superb sporting behaviour at Old Trafford



Pictured left to right: Dave Carruthers, Bass Director of Brands, Frank Kelly, Chairman of Everton Supporters Club and Dr. David Marsh, Chairman of Everton Football Club.

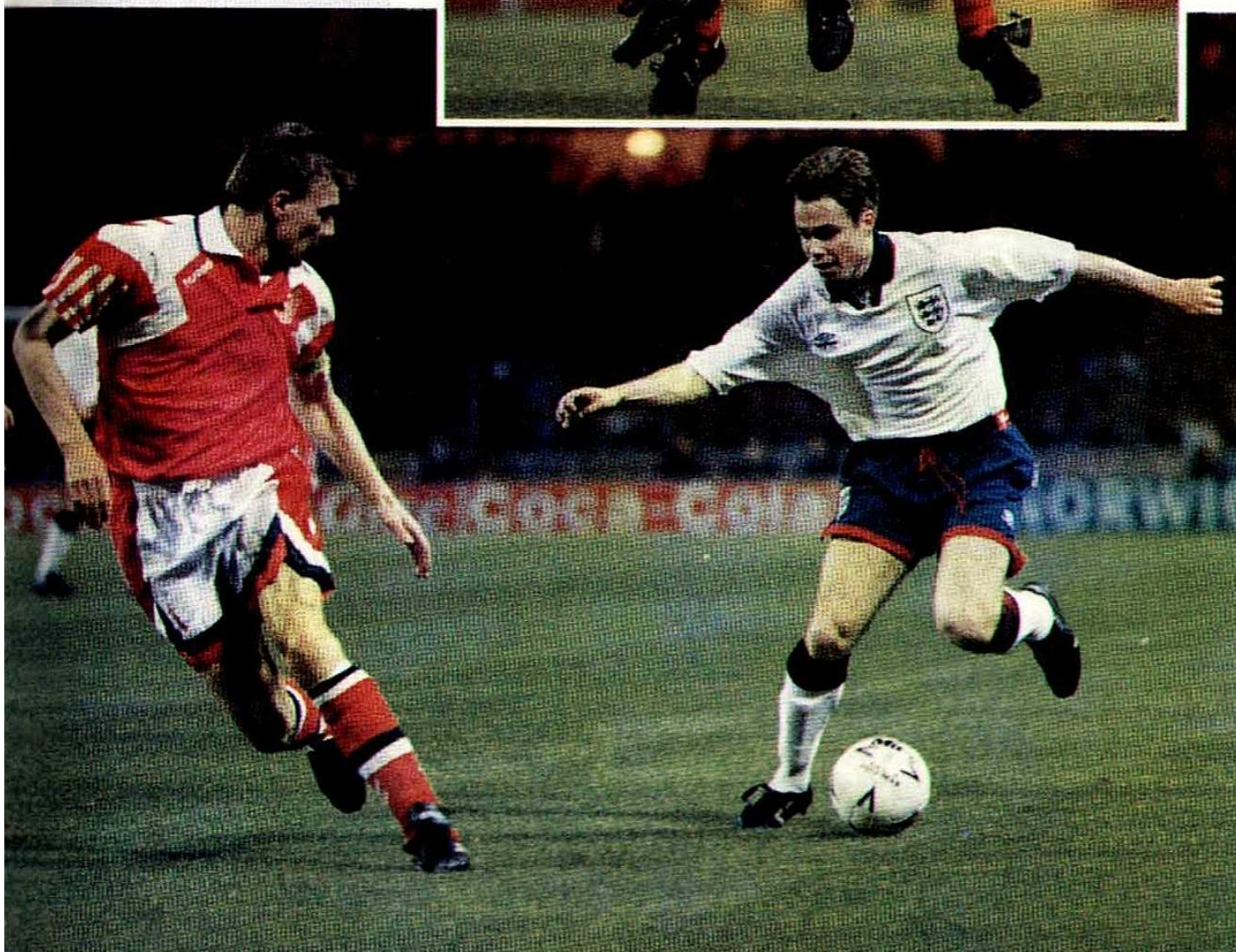


**THE Ewood Connection** paved the way for England's victory over Denmark to give Terry Venables a flying start in his new role as coach of the national side.

Graeme Le Saux, making an outstanding debut at left-back, found Alan Shearer with a long searching ball and England's leader beautifully set up skipper David Platt for the match-winner.

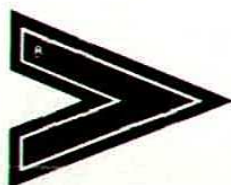
Le Saux, pictured below taking on the Danish defence, staked a claim to the No. 3 shirt with a supremely confident display and Shearer (right), back in the team after his long injury lay-off, underlined why England missed him so much in the World Cup qualifying games.

The recalled David Batty, who went on midway through the second half, and Tim Flowers made up the four Rovers players in Venables' first squad.





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# SHOOTING STARS

It was certainly not Eddie Crossan's fault that his first season, or rather part-season, as a member of Rovers' senior side should prove to be the campaign in which they lost their First Division status for the second time.

And the mercurial Irishman could also count himself unlucky that he should be a prominent member of the side which then, in the fighting Fifties as they were once termed, knocked continually on the top-flight door. By the time it finally opened Crossan had gone.

While the immensely talented, yet so often frustrating, inside forward had no actual honours to reward his 10 seasons in the blue and white shirt, however, he did have the memories of playing in the wonderful attack-minded team of the mid-Fifties.

## Dazzle

It was a side that was perfect for a man who loved to go forward and dazzle opponents and spectators alike with his skills.

If he had been able to add a shade more consistency, or even steadiness in front of goal, Crossan may well have gone on to greater things and his goal tally would certainly have been greater – respectable though it remains.

He was undoubtedly at his peak in that record-breaking 1954-55 season when every member of the fabulous five-man forward line hit double figures and Rovers finished with their highest-ever seasonal goal tally of 114.

## LOOKING BACK

**10 YEARS AGO:** Rovers bounced back from a lean spell to beat Carlisle 4-1 at Ewood and complete the "double" over the Cumbrians. Garner, Barker, Hamilton and Fazackerley (pen) scored, watched by a crowd of 6,191.

**20 YEARS AGO:** A rare good run in the second half of the season saw a third successive win, 1-0 at home to Huddersfield. Kenyon got the winner to cheer Rovers fans in the 6,671 crowd.

**30 YEARS AGO:** We were sliding out of the leading group very quickly and a 2-1 home defeat by Blackpool didn't help matters. England scored but the 23,039 crowd saw the visitors take the points.

**40 YEARS AGO:** After the first defeat in 10 matches, Rovers bounced back to beat Luton at home 2-0. Briggs and Quigley cheered the 24,331 Ewood crowd with the goals.

**50 YEARS AGO:** A 2-2 draw away to Burnley in the Northern Section of the League also counted towards the Lancashire Cup and we went through to the next round, with goals from Stephan and Rogers.



## FACT FILE

**From 1947-48 until 1956-57, Eddie Crossan made 287 League appearances for Rovers, scoring 73 goals.**

Tommy Briggs, of course, led the way and Eddie Quigley was not far behind but Crossan gave more than a few reminders that he too didn't always miss the easy ones (!) as he contributed 18 goals to that tremendous total.

They included two in the 9-0 romp against Middlesbrough, more famous for the fact that a certain T. Briggs DIDN'T score than anything else, a hat-trick at home to Rotherham and the "other goal" when Briggs atoned and scored seven of the eight against Bristol Rovers in February, 1955.

Crossan excelled himself in that campaign, his delightful skills a joy to watch. The snag, of course, was – as with all ball players – that when things weren't going right a more direct, positive approach rather than an over-elaborate one was needed.

But he had other good years too, reaching double figures in the two seasons prior to 1954-55. That was when he was at his peak. Crossan's last two seasons saw his League appearances limited to 39 and his goals to a dozen.

Yet there is no doubt that he had made his mark, forging a partnership at inside forward with Eddie Quigley that, at times, flourished quite spectacularly. With Briggs in between, no wonder goals were the order of the day.

## Talents

A native of Derry, from where he was signed for a small fee, Crossan's talents were also recognised by the Irish selectors. If he had been able to channel them a little more consistently he would surely have picked up more than the three caps which came his way.

He went on to have a season with Tranmere, leaving Ewood just as they were about to realise the dream of regaining their coveted First Division place. On his day, Eddie Crossan would have enjoyed playing in that team too.

But he still made his mark at Ewood during a decade which, despite the misses that are still talked about by older supporters, saw him score goals at an average of one every four matches.





**Barbara Magee**  
Family Club



**Peter Devine**  
Football In The  
Community



**Terry Gennoe**  
Learning Through  
Football

## Shirt's high profile

**YOUNG**  
Thomas West  
risked freezing  
temperatures  
while ski-ing in  
Norway to  
show the  
colours at  
5,000 feet!  
Could Thomas,  
of  
Chorley, be a  
future Olympic  
hope perhaps?



WE are continuing to receive an excellent response and constructive reaction to our day visits on the "Learning Through Football" programme writes **Terry Gennoe**.

Typical of the comments from teachers who bring the youngsters along to Ewood are contained in a letter from one of our recent visitors.

She writes: "I would like to thank you for making our visit to Ewood Park so interesting and enjoyable. As you will see from the children's letters (to be published in a future magazine) they endorse our feelings and have a few suggestions for further visits.

"Learning Through Football offers many avenues down which to go, be it Maths, English, Geography, History or Art; all of which can be done in lessons without being contrived and can fulfil some aspects of the national curriculum. The new booklet is excellent and provides plenty of ideas and information to stimulate the children.

"Please convey our thanks to others who were involved in our visit for the way in which we were received. This was our second visit to Ewood Park and hope you will allow us to visit again next year. It was an experience the children will not forget."

That response from a local teacher was typical of the reaction to our programme.

Another teacher wrote: "Every one of the class had an enjoyable and stimulating day which we have used as a basis for a good deal of useful work in the classroom. I look forward to visiting the ground again in the future with another class. Please contact us if we can be of any help with your work."

It is very encouraging to know that things are working so well. We have our own ideas and impressions of the success of the scheme which is now well established. But the most important reactions come from those who participate - the "customers" so to speak.

## THE MASCOTS

**TODAY'S**  
**Blackburn**  
**Rovers mascot**  
is **Matthew**  
**Pilkington, of**  
**Key View,**  
**Darwen, who is**  
**four years old**  
**and attends St.**  
**Joseph's School,**  
**Darwen. His**  
**hobbies are**  
**playing football**  
**and swimming**  
**and his**  
**favourite**  
**Rovers players**  
**are Mark**  
**Atkins, Alan**  
**Shearer, Tim**  
**Flowers and**  
**David Batty.**



**Matthew**



**Chris**

### SWINDON

**TOWN'S** mascot is **Chris Cork** and today is his 32nd birthday. **Chris** lives in **Kidlington, Oxford** and plays on the left wing for **Wootton Bassett**. His hobbies are football, football and more football, and his favourite **Swindon** players are **John Moncur** and **Jan Aage Fjortoft**. **Chris** and his wife are visiting **Ewood** for the first time and he hopes **Kenny Dalglish** and the lads can overhaul **Manchester United**, preferably without the aid of three points today.

With this academic year having been fully booked for some time, the "Learning Through Football" project is obviously gaining in popularity, a fact emphasised by the number of repeat bookings from many schools.

Once the ground redevelopment is completed, it will be even better.

Reactions from the children coming soon ... Don't miss them!

## Busy time

THE month of March seems to be the busiest on the "Learning Through Football" schedule, from the point of view of day visits by local schools. Almost 400 pupils, from 10 schools, were booked in this month. These are our visitors (number of pupils attending in brackets):

**St Oswald's Knuzden (30)**, **Mount Pleasant Clayton-le-Moors (33)**, **Hippings Methodist (30)**, **St Peter's RC (60, two visits)**, **Anderton St Joseph's Chorley (30)**, **St Barnabas and St Paul's (40)**, **St James CE (34)**, **St Matthew's CE (35)**, **Our Lady of Perpetual Succour (27)**, **Haslingden CP (74, two visits)**.



# COMMUNITY • LEARNING THROUGH FOOTBALL

IN the near future we will be opening our new Family Room on the Blackburn End and we are throwing down a challenge to all our junior members to come up with a name for the room writes **Barbara Magee**.

The idea is to give the room a theme, which should incorporate the name. We also plan to change the name of the Family Club accordingly, so this also needs to be considered.

We wouldn't expect you to do all that thinking without the prospect of some reward, so, rest assured, we will come up with a terrific prize for the member whose idea is the winner.

Send your entries along to me, Barbara Magee, at the Commercial Department on a postcard, or back of a sealed envelope. Don't forget to include your name, address, age and membership number. You can send in as many entries as you like and closing date is not until the final game of the season.

★ ★ ★ ★

LATEST lucky mascots on our travels were: Martyn Race (at Norwich), Sam

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY EVERYONE!

Everyone at Ewood Park sends best wishes to the following junior members who are celebrating their birthdays during March:

Linda Margaret Abbott  
Michelle Brennan  
Christopher Bloomer  
Christopher Bruce  
Louise Bromiley  
David Baron  
Gary Cotton  
Sarah Clarke  
Karen Frangleton  
Neil Stephen Grunshaw  
Matthew T. Hatton

Gary Howard  
Philip Mann  
Matthew Marsh  
Dominic O'Neil  
Sarita Pellowe  
Paul James Shepherd  
Johnathan Taylor  
Emma Wilson  
Steven Watson  
N.P. Yates  
Julie Barton  
Patrick Noone

Graeme Holt  
Amy Kerr  
M. Bellusci  
Gareth Ascough  
Steven Blackburn  
Steven Campbell  
Peter Cox  
Martin Hunter  
Matthew Pollitt  
Paul Seery  
Matthew Stemp

Carter (Arsenal) and Matthew Hatton (Sheffield Wednesday).

★ ★ ★ ★

THERE are Family Club trips to tell you about with the first a half-term away-day special to Wimbledon next Tuesday, March 29. Cost of the trip including coach and match ticket is just £12.

We also have a Family away-day trip to

Everton on Easter Monday (3pm kick-off). Cost of coach and match ticket combined is £12.50.

★ ★ ★ ★

A WARM welcome to the Junior Reds from Swindon, who have been spending the day with us. We hope you all enjoy your visit to Ewood Park.

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**Darwen.**



# OFF THE PARK



With **KEN BEAMISH**  
Commercial Manager

THERE has already been great demand for the new executive and hospitality facilities here at Ewood, with some of them programmed to be ready for the start of next season and others coming into operation partway through.

On the third floor of the Blackburn End, for example, we are developing two x 20-seater executive boxes, 14 x 10-seater "enclosed" executive boxes and six x 10-seater "open-plan" boxes. At the time of writing we had only one "enclosed" and three "open-plan" boxes available.

That is a fair indication of how much interest has already been shown.

As well as the boxes, we have two executive lounges planned for the first floor of the Jack Walker Stand, now under construction. Each lounge can seat 250 people and it is hoped they will be operational from January, 1995. To date, more than 50 per cent of the accommodation has been reserved.

Assuming the lounges are operational on schedule, the package we have available includes a four-course meal for all first team games from January to the end of the season, with seats either inside or outside in the upper tier.

As the lounges will not be open for the first half of the season, the normal price of the package has been reduced to cater for a seat-only basis between August and December, with corporate hospitality available between January and May.

Should any companies or individuals be interested in our corporate facilities, do not delay, contact me at the Commercial Office to discuss your needs.

## David closes the gap

DAVID Batty is putting the pressure on Graeme Le Saux and Alan Shearer, the joint leaders in the

## TICKET NEWS

ALL available tickets for next Saturday's home game against Manchester United were snapped up within hours of going on sale. We hope that, by using our voucher system, it helped ensure tickets went to regular supporters.

Ticket details for our next few matches, with the exception of United, are:

**WIMBLEDON**, away, Tuesday, March 29 (8pm): Tickets currently on open sale, price £12 seats, £7 standing.

**EVERTON**, away, Monday, April 4 (3pm): Tickets now on open sale, seats only prices £13 and £11.

**ASTON VILLA**, home, Monday, April 11 (8pm): Tickets on open sale from today, limited to two adult tickets per person. Blackburn End upper tier and Darwen End lower tier available.

## EWOOD'S THE PLACE FOR ENTERTAINMENT

McEwan's Man of the Match awards.

The England midfielder won a close contest with Tim Sherwood for the prize in the last home match against Liverpool.

Competition is fierce with only five home games remaining. No fewer than nine players have featured so far as recipients of the home match award, with McEwan's providing the prize in Premiership matches, supported by Coca-Cola in the League Cup competition.

Here's how they stand so far – **FOUR** nominations: Alan Shearer (v Sheffield Wednesday, Southampton, Coventry City, Everton), Graeme Le Saux (Bournemouth, Manchester City, Wimbledon, Newcastle United). **THREE** nominations: Kevin Gallacher (Arsenal, Tottenham Hotspur, Portsmouth), David Batty (Chelsea, Leeds United, Liverpool). **TWO** nominations: Stuart Ripley (Shrewsbury Town, Charlton Athletic). **ONE** nomination: Jason Wilcox (Norwich City), Kevin Moran (Oldham Athletic), Tim Sherwood (West Ham United), David May (Sheffield United).

## PLAYER OF THE YEAR

IT'S time to vote for your Player of the Year for the 1993/94 season. You can use this coupon or send your nomination on a postcard, together with your name and address to: Commercial Department, Blackburn Rovers F.C., Ewood Park, Nuttall Street, Blackburn BB2 4JF. All votes must be received by Saturday, April 30.

My nomination for the Player of the Year is:

Name .....

Address .....

Signed .....

For details of sponsorship packages and all Blackburn Rovers' commercial activities contact the Commercial Department.

Tel: 0254 698888. Fax: 0254 673525



# NEW SPRING LINES AT ROVERS SOCCER SHOP



## Top row – left to right:

Breakout T-Shirt M + XL .....	£15.00
LB (grey only) .....	£12.00
Changing Room 'T' M + XL .....	£15.00
LB .....	£12.00
Kit T-Shirt grey S-XL (also in black) ...	£15.00
Home & Away Sweat M + XL .....	£25.00

## Middle row – left to right:

Rainbow Sweat 26-32 .....	£20.00
S-XL .....	£25.00
Denim Jacket red/black S-XL .....	£35.00
Editorial Sweat M + XL (navy) .....	£25.00

## Bottom row – left to right:

Home from Home B/B Top (grey) LB .	£20.00
M + XL .....	£28.00
Jeans – Youths 24-30 .....	£15.00
Ladies 8-16 .....	£20.00
Mens 30"-36" .....	£20.00
Embossed Sweat with roll neck (also in royal) S-XL .....	£25.00
Kit Sweats (also in navy) 26-32 .....	£20.00
S-XXL .....	£25.00

**Shop opening hours:** Monday-Friday 9am to 5.30pm

**Non-match Saturday** 9.30am to 1.30pm.

**Match Saturday** 9.30am to 3.00pm and 20 minutes after the game.

**Rovers Soccer Shop, Ewood Park, Blackburn BB2 4JF.**

**Mail order ring 0254-672137 (24 hours).**

**All credit cards accepted. Free customer parking.**





**Jim Funnell**  
Youth Development  
Manager

## Paul is on target as Reserves notch up two victories

A CROWD of about 5,000 turned up at Filbert Street to see us play Leicester City Reserves and they have had even more for some matches this season, as the club have been promoting their Pontin's League matches.

But we collected the points, thanks to a Simon Ireland goal. Though it wasn't all plain sailing for Simon who had to be substituted later with a hamstring injury.

We changed the tactics to cope with what we anticipated would be a strong Leicester side and the team worked tremendously hard to keep our advantage. Alan Wright did particularly well in a midfield role and Peter Thorne also shone up front and could easily have had a couple of goals.

**TEAM (4-5-1):** Mimms; Grassby, Morrison, Pearce, Scott, Ireland, Harford, Warhurst, Metcalf, Wright, Thorne. Subs: Grunshaw (for Ireland), Goodall.

While a number of the lads were away on international duty, we enjoyed another Pontin's League win over Aston Villa at Springfield Park.

Andy Morrison and Paul Warhurst gave us an early two-goal lead, both scoring following

corners, but Villa were a very strong side and began to dominate, pulling a goal back from a free kick before half time.

We switched the team around in the last half-hour to combat them, playing five men in midfield, and it worked quite well. A good performance all round and an excellent result.

**TEAM (4-4-2):** Mimms, Atkins, Morrison, Hendry, Scott, Metcalf, Makel, Harford, Warhurst, Pearce, Thorne. Subs: Goodall (for Pearce), Grassby.

The "A" team, despite a lack of "experienced" players, got back to winning ways again with victories against two Reserve sides, writes **Jim Funnell**.

The first win was away at Chester whose side contained a couple of our ex-players, Darren Donnelly and Jon Pickup. It turned out to be a competitive game and very even in the first half, with scoring chances kept down to the bare minimum, hence the blank scoreline at the interval. It was not until midway in the second half that we finally broke the deadlock. It was a tremendous strike from the edge of the penalty area by Chris Malone that found

## LANCASHIRE FOOTBALL LEAGUE

### Division One 1993-94

**Appearances:** P. Ainscough 11 (1), C. Bardsley 13 (5), J. Beattie 6 (5), R. Dewhurst 6, M. Dickins 10, K. Gaston 3, A. Gifford 7, W. Gill 2, D. Goodall 18 (1), D. Grassby 17 (1), S. Grunshaw 17, P. Harford 8, C. Hendry 1, S. Hewitt 0 (1), S. Hitchen 5, C. Holland 1, M. Holt 4 (1), S. Ireland 10, M. Lynch 1, C. McCrone 11, L. Makel 3, C. Malone 6, J. Metcalf 18 (1), T. Morgan 2, A. Morrison 5, K. Morron 0 (1), B. Ormerod 2 (2), I. Pearce 2, A. Scott 16, P. Sherrington 0 (1), R. Stimpson 0 (2), D. Sweeney 1 (1), F. Talia 1, G. Tallon 13 (1), P. Taylor 0 (2), P. Thorne 5 (2), S. Thornton 14, D. Tierney 0 (3), P. Warhurst 1, J. Wilcox 1, Whealing 1 (2).

**Goals:** Beattie 6, Harford 4, Ireland 4, Morrison 3, Grunshaw 3, Holt 3, Thorne 3, Ainscough 1, Thornton 1, Malone 1, Makel 1, Metcalf 1, Tallon 1.

### Division Two 1993-94

**Appearances:** P. Ainscough 1, C. Bardsley 1, J. Beattie 4, G. Cassin 1, M. Cuniff 4, P. Davidson 3 (8), K. Gaston 18, T. Gennoe 1, A. Gifford 14, W. Gill 13 (1), D. Goodall 3, D. Grassby 4, S. Hewitt 1, S. Hitchen 15, M. Holt 17, R. Hope 2, A. Irvine 0 (1), L. Jones 0 (1), C. McCrone 9, D. McLean 1, L. McLean 5 (1), C. Malone 16, T. Morgan 19, B. Ormerod 13 (2), P. Sherrington 0 (4), R. Peebles 1, A. Sinnott 19 (2), D. Sloane 2, R. Stimpson 1 (2), D. Sweeney 17 (2), P. Taylor 1 (1), I. Thompson 1, S. Thornton 8, D. Tierney 1 (5), A. Whealing 19 (1), A. Williams 6, D. Worrall 1.

**Goals:** Holt 14, Morgan 7, Gill 4, Malone 3, Ormerod 3, Beattie 2, Thornton 2, Gaston 1, Sinnott 1, Tierney 1, Davidson 1.

(Up to and including March 12)

## PONTINS LEAGUE

### FIRST DIVISION 1993-94

**Appearances:** Ainscough 3 (1), Andersson 7, Atkins 14, Brown 10, Dewhurst 9 (1), Dickins 1, Dobson 4, Gill 1 (1), Goodall 0 (2), Grassby 5, Grunshaw 2 (2), Harford 21, Hendry 6, Ireland 11 (1), Irvine 7, Lambert 4, Love 1, Makel 19, Marker 2, Metcalf 2 (2), Mimms 7, Moran 1, Morrison 12, Newell 1, Pearce 15, Scott 16, Shearer 4, Talia 15, Tallon 12 (3), Thorne 20, Warhurst 5, Whittington 2, Wilcox 2, Wright 12.

**Goals:** Thorne 6, Morrison 3, Pearce 3, Shearer 2, Grunshaw 2, Atkins 2, Ireland 2, Harford 1, Lambert 1, Makel 1, Newell 1, Warhurst 1, Wilcox 1, Wright 1.

(Up to and including March 15)



# WINGS

the far top corner of the net. Spurred on by this success we scored a second soon after. This time it was Michael Holt who hit the ball high into the net after Steve Grunshaw had allowed a cross to go through his legs, dummying the defenders in the process. With our defence in defiant mood this was the final scoreline and an excellent result for the youngsters.

TEAM: Dickens, Hitchen, Goodall, Metcalf, Grassby, Gifford, Malone, Thornton, Grunshaw, Holt, Whealing. Subs: Bardsley (for Goodall) and Hewitt (for Malone).

The most recent victory was against Bury Reserves at Pleasington where, once again, we played in gale-force wind conditions. We kicked off with the wind at our backs and soon started to create chances. Chris Malone hit a superb free kick against the crossbar only for Michael Holt to hit the keeper with the rebound.

Chris Bardsley missed a chance and Michael Holt missed another couple before Michael, chasing a lost cause, made the keeper miskick and he scored with a cross shot in off a defender.

Playing against the wind in the second half, Matt Dickens was equal to anything the Bury team threw at him, and the goal scored by Michael proved to be the winner.

TEAM: Dickens, Grassby, Goodall, Morgan, Gaston, Gifford, Bardsley, Malone, Holt, Thornton, Lynch. Subs: Metcalf and Scott (not used).

The "B" team playing Liverpool away and containing six schoolboys, found the home team too strong for them. Playing against the wind we did well to contain the lively Liverpool side and had hopes of, perhaps, a victory. But it was not to be. Playing good passing football they hit the back of our net three times without reply. A gutsy performance by the lads, but no points to show for it.

TEAM: McCrone, Hitchen, Whealing, Sinnott, McLean, Hope, Ormerod, Taylor, Beattie, Hewitt, Davidson. Subs: Irvine and McMinn.

The Youth team's performance against Burnley in the Lancashire Youth Cup was an absolute disgrace. Some of the players, as well as letting themselves down, embarrassed the club and everyone connected with it. We gifted them four of the five goals they scored and deserved everything we got. Enough said!

TEAM: McCrone, Hitchen, Goodall, Grassby, Gifford, Malone, Morgan, Thornton, Sweeney, Holt, Beattie. Subs: Whealing (for Sweeney) and Bardsley (for Thornton).

## PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE

(All home games will be played at Wigan Athletic's ground with a 7pm kick-off unless otherwise stated).

August F A

19 MANCHESTER UTD 0 1

25 SHEFFIELD UNITED 1 4

September

2 LEICESTER CITY 3 0

8 WOLVERHAMPTON 3 1

14 Derby County 3 1

23 Sheffield Wednesday 0 0

29 NOTTINGHAM FOR 0 0

October

6 YORK CITY 2 1

12 Notts County 1 0

20 LEEDS UNITED 1 1

27 Everton 1 3

November

2 Coventry City 1 0

10 SUNDERLAND 0 0

17 BOLTON WAND. 4 2

22 Liverpool P P

December

1 Aston Villa 0 1

14 Sheffield United P P

January

5 Newcastle United P P

12 NOTTS COUNTY P P

19 York City 0 1

26 EVERTON 1 1

February

2 Leeds United 2 1

9 DERBY COUNTY 0 3

16 Wolverhampton 0 2

28 Leicester City 1 0

March

9 ASTON VILLA 2 1

14 SHEFFIELD WED 1 1

23 Nottingham Forest

April

6 Manchester United

13 COVENTRY CITY

20 Sunderland

27 LIVERPOOL

May

4 Bolton Wanderers

11 NEWCASTLE UNITED

## LANCASHIRE FOOTBALL LEAGUE

### Rovers "A"

August F A

21 Blackpool 2 0

28 Burnley 0 4

September

4 CREWE ALEXANDRA 1 4

11 ROCHDALE 3 5

18 Manchester City 0 4

25 LIVERPOOL 0 1

October

2 Oldham Athletic 0 7

9 TRANMERE ROVERS 1 0

16 Crewe Alexandra 0 1

23 OLDHAM ATHLETIC 2 2

30 CHESTER CITY 2 1

November

6 MANCHESTER UNITED 1 4

13 Morecambe Reserves P P

27 Burnley P P

December

4 Liverpool 1 0

11 Marine Reserves 2 1

18 Manchester United 2 1

January

8 Rochdale P P

15 MARINE RESERVES P P

22 Tranmere Rovers 1 0

29 EVERTON 5 1

February

5 Bury 2 2

12 MORECAMBE RES P P

19 BLACKPOOL 3 0

26 MANCHESTER CITY 1 3

March

5 Chester City 2 0

12 BURY 1 0

19 Everton

### Rovers "B"

August F A

21 Oldham Athletic 4 1

28 Stockport County 5 0

September

4 CREWE ALEXANDRA 3 3

11 Bury 3 1

18 BURY 2 1

25 Manchester City 0 0

October

2 LIVERPOOL 4 5

9 Manchester United 2 2

16 MANCHESTER CITY 0 0

23 Tranmere Rovers 0 3

30 Marine Youth 5 0

November

6 Wigan Athletic 0 1

13 WIGAN ATHLETIC P P

20 PRESTON NORTH END P P

27 BLACKPOOL P P

December

4 BOLTON WANDERERS 0 0

11 CARLISLE UNITED 2 3

18 OLDHAM ATHLETIC 1 3

January

8 EVERTON 1 1

15 Burnley 0 0

22 ROCHDALE UNITED 3 0

29 Rochdale United P P

February

5 STOCKPORT COUNTY 3 0

12 Bolton Wanderers P P

19 Blackpool 1 0

26 Crewe Alexandra 0 3

March

5 BURNLEY P P

12 Liverpool 0 3

19 MARINE YOUTH

26 Carlisle United

April

2 Preston North End

9 Everton

16 MANCHESTER UNITED

23 TRANMERE ROVERS



# FOR THE RECORD ...

## F.A. CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester Utd	33	10	5	1	31	11	11	5	1	37	21	73
<b>Blackburn</b> .....	<b>32</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>67</b>
Arsenal .....	33	8	6	2	21	11	7	7	3	24	8	58
Newcastle Utd ..	32	9	3	3	36	11	8	3	6	27	22	57
Leeds United ...	33	11	4	1	29	13	3	9	5	18	19	55
Liverpool .....	33	11	4	2	31	18	4	4	8	22	26	53
Aston Villa .....	33	7	3	7	20	15	6	7	3	19	18	49
Norwich City ...	33	4	8	5	20	20	7	6	3	36	26	47
QPR .....	31	7	4	4	27	19	6	4	6	22	22	47
Sheffield Wed ...	33	6	6	4	31	20	5	6	6	24	27	45
Wimbledon .....	32	7	4	4	23	18	4	5	8	12	25	42
Ipswich Town ...	32	5	6	5	16	22	4	7	5	13	16	40
Coventry City ...	33	6	6	4	16	12	3	5	9	16	27	38
West Ham Utd ..	31	5	6	5	19	22	4	5	6	11	20	38
Everton .....	33	7	3	7	23	24	3	3	10	13	23	36
Chelsea .....	31	7	4	4	20	15	2	4	10	14	26	35
Tottenham .....	33	3	8	7	24	27	4	4	7	19	20	33
Southampton ...	32	7	2	8	22	25	2	3	10	11	21	32
Manchester C ...	33	4	8	5	16	18	2	5	9	10	22	31
Oldham Athletic	31	4	5	6	18	27	3	4	9	10	24	30
Sheffield United	33	4	8	4	17	18	0	7	10	12	32	27
Swindon Town ..	34	4	7	7	23	35	0	6	10	16	47	25

(Up to and including March 22, 1994)

## APPEARANCES & GOALS

Player	1993-94 Season						Total App.
	PL	Goals	CC Cup	Goals	FAC	Goals	
Mimms	13	—	5	—	—	—	18
May	30	1	4	1	2	1	36
Le Saux	30 (1)	1	4	—	4	—	38 (1)
Moran	16	1	1	—	2 (1)	—	19 (1)
Hendry	14 (1)	—	5	—	2	—	21 (1)
Marker	16 (4)	—	3	—	2	—	21 (4)
Ripley	32	3	5	—	4	—	41
Atkins	5 (7)	1	1 (2)	—	0 (1)	—	6 (10)
Sherwood	28	1	5	—	3	1	36
Wilcox	21 (2)	4	2	—	4	1	27 (2)
Newell	20 (1)	4	4	2	—	—	24 (1)
Gallacher	27 (3)	7	4	—	4	1	35 (3)
Berg	28 (3)	—	3	—	4	—	35 (3)
Shearer	24 (6)	25	4	1	4	2	32 (6)
Andersson	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Warhurst	4	—	1	—	—	—	5
Makel	—	—	0 (1)	—	—	—	0 (1)
Wright	5 (2)	—	2	—	—	—	7 (2)
Batty	19	—	2	—	4	—	25
Flowers	19	—	—	—	4	—	23
Pearce	0 (3)	—	0 (2)	1	0 (2)	—	0 (7)
Morrison	0 (2)	—	—	—	1	—	1 (2)

Actual sub appearances in brackets  
(Up to and including Sunday, March 20)

Date	Opponents	F	A	Att	Pts	Pos
Aug 14	A Chelsea	2	1	29,189	3	—
18	H Norwich City	2	3	13,693	3	—
21	H Oldham Athletic	1	0	13,731	6	7
24	A Manchester City	2	0	25,185	9	6
29	A Newcastle United	1	1	34,272	10	6
Sept 1	H Arsenal	1	1	14,051	11	8
12	A Liverpool	1	0	37,355	14	3
18	H West Ham United	0	2	13,943	14	8
21	H Bournemouth (C.C. Cup 2-1)	1	0	10,733	—	—
25	H Sheffield Wednesday	1	1	13,917	15	8
Oct 2	A Swindon Town	3	1	15,224	18	6
5	A Bournemouth (C.C. Cup 2-2)	0	0	10,321	—	—
18	H Sheffield United	0	0	13,505	19	5
23	A Leeds United	3	3	37,827	20	6
26	H Shrewsbury T. (C.C. Cup-3)	0	0	10,603	—	—
30	H Tottenham	1	0	16,849	23	4
Nov 6	A Q.P.R.	0	1	17,636	23	8
9	A Shrewsbury (C.C. Cup-3 R)	4	3	7,330	—	—
20	H Southampton	2	0	16,666	26	7
23	H Coventry City	2	1	15,136	29	2
27	A Ipswich Town	0	1	14,582	29	4
Dec 1	A Tottenham (C.C. Cup-4)	0	1	22,295	—	—
5	H Chelsea	2	0	15,736	32	3
11	A Oldham Athletic	2	1	13,887	35	3
18	H Manchester City	2	0	18,741	38	3
26	A Manchester United	1	1	44,751	39	3
29	H Everton	2	0	21,462	42	2
Jan 1	A Aston Villa	1	0	40,903	45	2
8	H Portsmouth (FAC-3)	3	3	17,219	—	—
15	A Sheffield Utd	2	1	19,124	48	2
19	A Portsmouth (FAC-3 R)	3	1	23,035	—	—
23	H Leeds United	2	1	16,938	51	2
29	A Charlton Athletic (FAC-4)	0	0	8,352	—	—
Feb 5	H Wimbledon	3	0	16,215	54	2
8	H Charlton Athletic (FAC-4 R)	0	1	15,438	—	—
12	A Tottenham	2	0	30,236	57	2
19	H Newcastle United	1	0	21,269	60	2
22	A Norwich City	2	2	15,193	61	2
26	A Arsenal	0	1	35,030	61	2
Mar 5	H Liverpool	2	0	20,831	64	2
20	A Sheffield Wednesday	2	1	24,699	67	2
26	H Swindon Town	—	—	—	—	—
29	A Wimbledon	—	—	—	—	—
Apr 2	H Manchester Utd	—	—	—	—	—
4	A Everton	—	—	—	—	—
11	H Aston Villa	—	—	—	—	—
16	A Southampton	—	—	—	—	—
24	H Q.P.R.	—	—	—	—	—
27	A West Ham United	—	—	—	—	—
30	A Coventry City	—	—	—	—	—
May 7	H Ipswich Town	—	—	—	—	—

Fixtures copyright of the Football Association. ● Goals scored







# TEAM CHECK



## BLACKBURN ROVERS

1	Bobby MIMMS	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	David MAY	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Alan WRIGHT	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Tim SHERWOOD	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Colin HENDRY	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Graeme LE SAUX	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Stuart RIPLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Kevin GALLACHER	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Alan SHEARER	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Mike NEWELL	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Jason WILCOX	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Nicky MARKER	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Frank TALIA	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Lee MAKEL	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Richard BROWN	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Andy MORRISON	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Simon IRELAND	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Henning BERG	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Kevin MORAN	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Mark ATKINS	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	David BATTY	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	Paul WARHURST	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Ian PEARCE	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	Tim FLOWERS	<input type="checkbox"/>

## SWINDON TOWN

1	Fraser DIGBY	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Nicky SUMMERBEE	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Paul BODIN	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Luc NIJHOLT	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Shaun TAYLOR	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	John MONCUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Ross MACLAREN	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Jan FJORTOFT	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Martin LING	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Steve WHITE	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Adrian WHITBREAD	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Adrian VIVEASH	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Kevin HORLOCK	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Chris HAMON	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Edwin MURRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Andrew THOMSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Wayne O'SULLIVAN	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Nicky HAMMOND	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Andy MUTCH	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	Terry FENWICK	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Keith SCOTT	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	Ty GOODEN	<input type="checkbox"/>
31	Brian KILCLINE	<input type="checkbox"/>
32	Frank McAVENNIE	<input type="checkbox"/>
33	Lawrie SANCHEZ	<input type="checkbox"/>

Referee: Kelvin Morton, Bury St. Edmonds.

Linesmen:  J.P. Devine, Middlesbrough. (Red trim)  R. Pearson, Peterlee. (Yellow trim)

### Ball Sponsor

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