

# Rovers

**v Swindon Town**



COCA-COLA LEAGUE ONE MONDAY 29TH AUGUST 2005 KICK OFF 3.00PM

## **On the Ball**

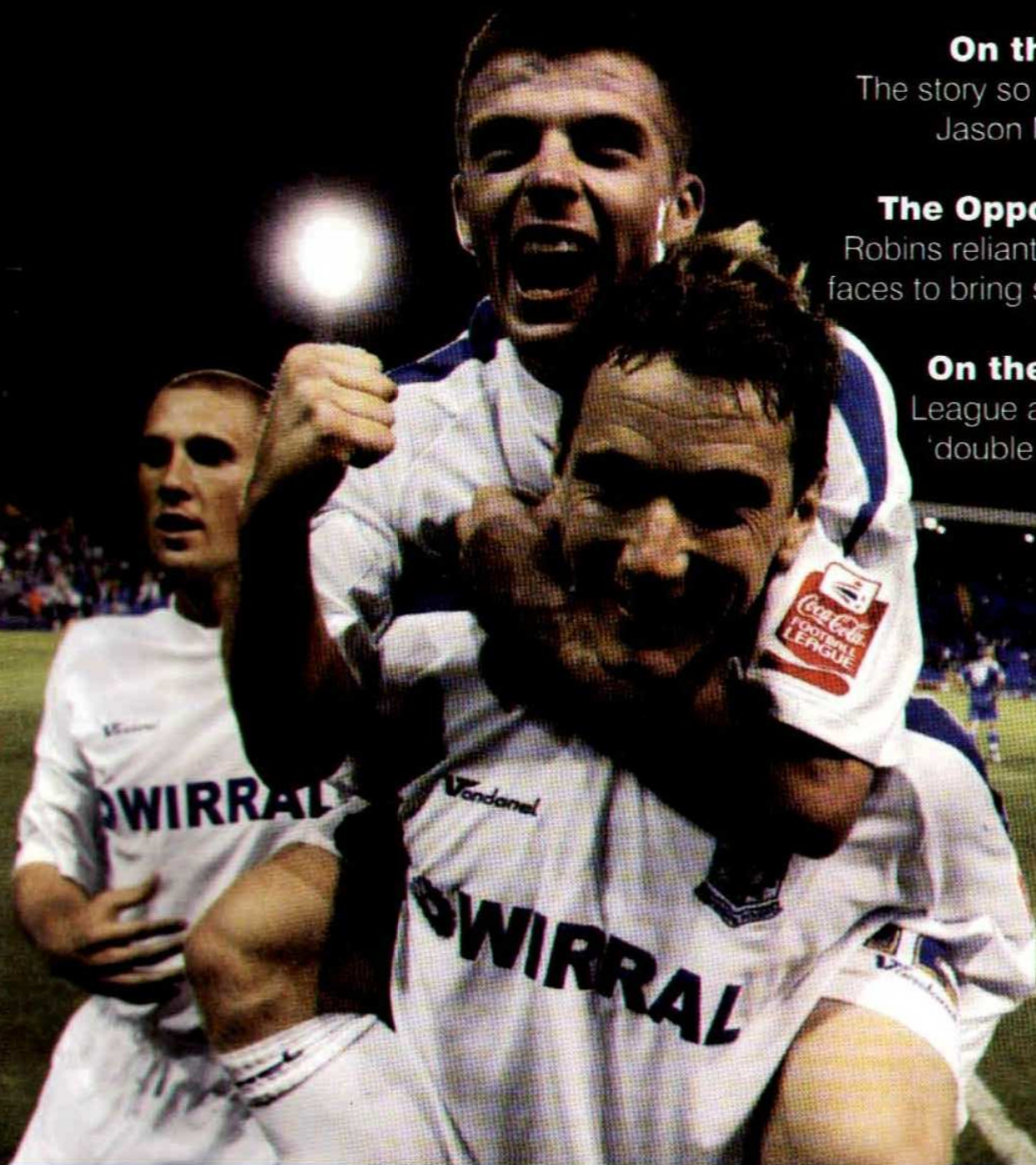
The story so far from  
Jason McAteer

## **The Opposition**

Robins reliant on new  
faces to bring success

## **On the Road**

League and Cup  
'double header'



**'An Evening with Ray Stubbs' - Ticket Details Page 42**





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# Contents



9



24



26



## 4 The Boss

Brian aims for a Bank Holiday bonanza

## 7 The Chairman

From the top - Lorraine Rogers

## 9 The Opposition

Robins just bobbing or booming?

## 14 On the Ball

Jason McAteer four games in

## 17 Making Headlines

News round-up from around the beautiful game

## 19 Man of the Match

Sponsors on camera

## 20 Prenton Pups

For all our younger supporters

## 21 Community

Rovers off the field activities in the community

## 22 Soccerstats.com

For football anoraks everywhere!

## 24 On the Road

Last away game review

## 26 Match Action

Recent action snaps both home and away

## 31 CH42

From the heart of the club...

## 31 The Lowdown

Carl Tremarco

## 35 Fan Base

Tony Morris - from a fans point of view

## 37 Programmes

Tony Evans on printed matters

## 39 Prentonian Nostalgia

Gone - but not forgotten - a look back through the Rovers archives

## 40 Youth

Our younger players in the spotlight

## 41 Reserves

Waiting in the wings - second string news

## 43 Rough Treatment

Les Parry's own inimitable column

## 45 Coming Next

Mark McKean looks forward

## 47 Box Office

Ticket and travel news - home and away

## 52 Super White Stats

All matters statistical - from a Rovers angle

## 56 The Squads

Today's teams in full

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Leyland DAF Cup Finalists 1990-91

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Welsh Cup Finalists 1933-34

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Promoted to Third Division

1966-67, 1975-76, 1988-89

Division Three Play-off Final

Winners 1990-91

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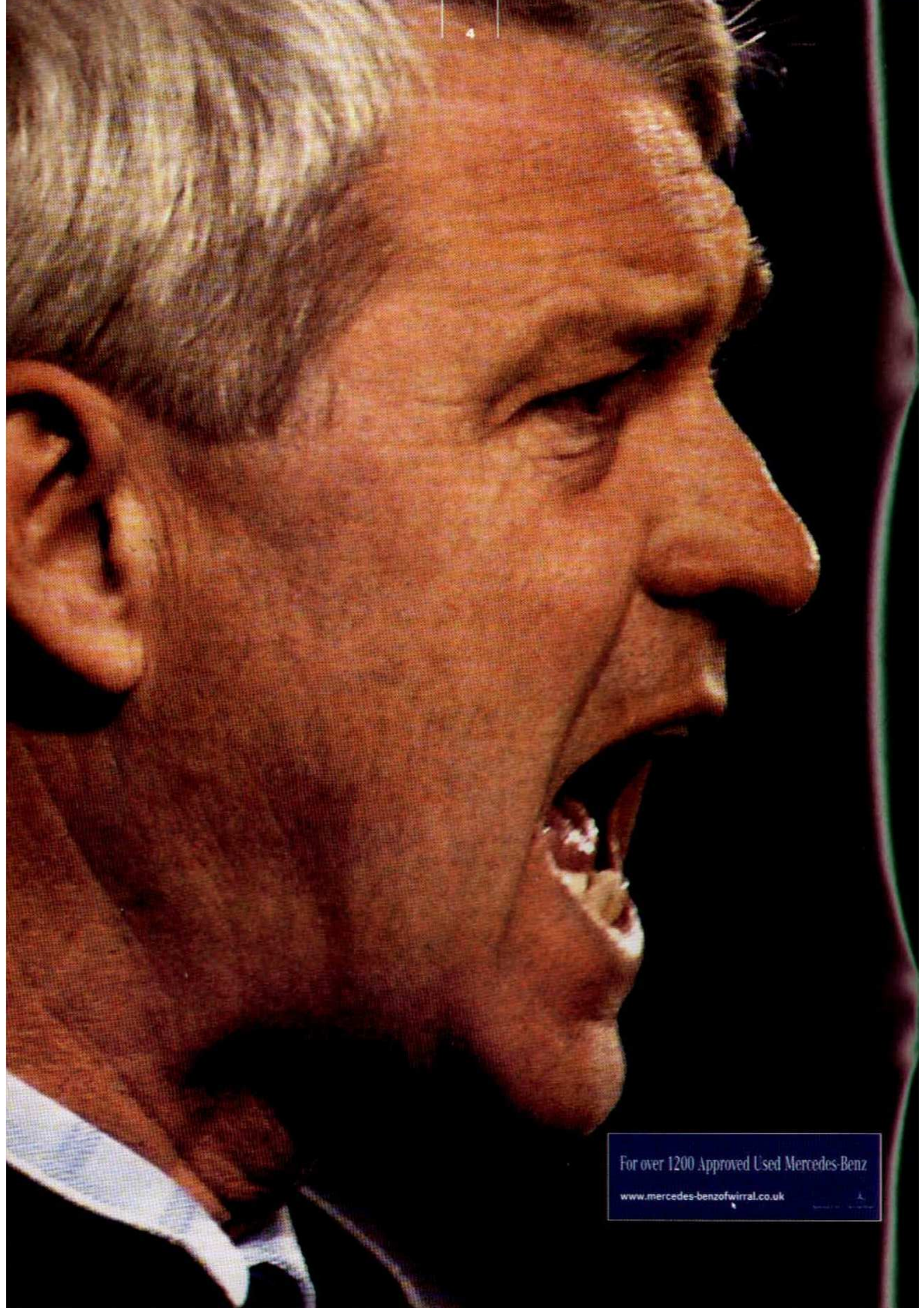
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# The Boss

Brian reflects on events so far

**"I'm writing these notes before the Chesterfield game and hopefully we have a win under our belt. If we haven't, it's very important that we pick up three points today."**

"We've just lost the last two games and were a little bit wounded. That's not something that has happened to me often since I've been here. People will start to look at us, be critical and doubt us, and I can understand that, it is common in football. But in situations like this, we have to dig deep and I feel we have the quality to come through. It's a time when everybody should stick together and encourage and support each other. That will certainly go on in the dressing room and I ask the fans to back the players too.

We are a bit bruised but the spirit in the squad is first class and the players showed me that at Scunthorpe. It's very difficult when you lose two games in quick succession to shout about improvement but on this occasion I feel justified. At Brentford we were second best so we changed the system and personnel around for the cup game against Scunthorpe. We looked at the players we have at the club and had to make some hard decisions. Paul Linwood has played very well for us at right back but if I'd asked him to play as a wing back I wouldn't have been doing him any favours. I feel the choice of Steve Jennings at right wing



**"Since the last home game I'm very pleased to have added Alex Bruce to the squad on loan from Birmingham. He will take a week or two to settle in as he came to us fresh from his injury. I have already seen signs of him being a very worthy addition to the group both on the training ground and in matches."**

back was a good one based on his mobility and enthusiasm for the game. Danny Harrison, as ever, came in and did a good job for us. I asked young Steve Davies to do a job for us and, although he's not played in that system for us before, he put in a good shift for us on the left.

We didn't get the result that we wanted but it was a long way towards the sort of performance we're looking for. I was pleased

with lots of things we did on the night, there was a vast improvement on the Brentford match. We were very disappointed at losing, but much of the disappointment was borne out of the fact that I thought we were good enough to win the game.

That said, there were certainly some things we could brush up on. Both of the goals came as a disappointment and that is something we've had to

look at closely. While John Achterberg had a couple of saves to make early in the game, we should have been able to do something about both of the goals. We'll work on getting rid of the individual errors we are making at the moment, especially from set pieces.

Since the last home game I'm very pleased to have added Alex Bruce to the squad on loan from Birmingham. He will take a week or two to settle in as he came to us fresh from his injury. I have already seen signs of him being a very worthy addition to the group both on the training ground and in matches.

We always look forward to home games and we have a good record at Prenton Park. Hopefully we'll get ourselves back on track with a good result against a strong Swindon side.

Get behind the lads and enjoy the match."



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# Supporters Shirt

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# From the Top

Chairman Lorraine Rogers

**"I see no point in glossing over our Cup defeat last week as if it doesn't matter. It does. We're not a big enough or a wealthy enough club to be able to pick and choose which competitions we focus on. They all matter. We simply can't afford not to take the Carling Cup or the FA Cup seriously. We wanted to win on Tuesday night but we were unlucky. The income generated from the Cup competitions can make a massive difference to a club of our size. Being knocked out of the Carling Cup in the first round is a financial blow."**

"It really is feast or famine for Tranmere Rovers in Cup competitions. When supporters ask about Cup income, they forget the bad Cup runs when we have virtually no Cup income. We budget on a fairly conservative basis and assume that we get knocked out in the second round so, less than two months into the financial year, we're already behind budget.

With the prospect of higher police charges our budgets for the year are now looking tough to meet. We've faced this sort of situation before. It's not a reason for supporters to be worried but it means we face a major financial challenge over the coming season.

However, with four games in 10 days it's football results rather than financial results that have been at the forefront of my mind.

When results don't go the right way it can sometimes be so disappointing that it's difficult to find consolation in the post match analysis and explanations. All teams suffer injuries and no one wants to hear excuses but we were

unfortunate to lose two defenders in the second half at Brentford through sickness; we were unlucky to lose our captain through an injury in training just hours before the game last Tuesday night and we have been unlucky in having our options up front restricted with Calvin being unavailable again - this time through injury.

At the time of writing we have four points out of a possible 12 and have suffered two League defeats away from home. On the basis of the first four games, it seems that our performances away from home are very different from those at home. We all have our views as to why but Brian is one of the few people who watches and analyses all of our home and away games. He knows what our strengths and weaknesses are and we trust his judgment which comes from years of experience. We haven't had the strong start we had hoped for but there's plenty of time to improve.

The Premier League is dominated by three clubs and if any one of them suffers a few defeats in the course of the season they certainly won't win the title. League One is, however, very different. Last season the Premiership Champions, Chelsea, suffered just one defeat all season. Manchester United and Arsenal both suffered one defeat at home and four away. Compare that to League One - Luton had six defeats in total (four away) and Hull had 12 (with 10 on the road). No club in League One this season is going to have 100% record - that went out of the window after only three games. It's going to be far more open and all clubs will have off days and bad patches.

**Thankfully, the win against Oldham was**

**totally convincing so we know what we are capable of. It was a great night and a reminder of how special Friday night games at Prenton Park can be. We have another five Friday night games starting with our next home game against Bradford on Friday 9 September.**

The way the fixtures have fallen, we have a lot of long distance journeys in the first few weeks of the season. Swansea, Brentford, Scunthorpe, Bournemouth and Southend are all in the first five weeks. It's expensive for the Club and for supporters but also takes a great deal of time and commitment from supporters. I know the travelling support makes a difference to the players so thank you to all those supporters who have been with us on the road. With so many long distance journeys it's perhaps no surprise that the Official Travel Club, which is overseen by Associate Director, Tony Adams, has been attracting new members.

Finally, on Wednesday the August transfer window closes on Football League clubs for the first time. At the time of writing, I cannot say with any certainty whether we will be involved in any transfer activity before the deadline. We are in discussions with Nottingham Forest about a possible move for Eugene. Brian, together with Chief Scout, Dave Philpotts, have made enquiries about a number of players that Brian is interested in but I can't say with any certainty whether these talks will or won't lead to any further changes before the deadline. A limited loan system will be in place when the window closes and it's quite possible we will take advantage of this."

**"The way the fixtures have fallen, we have a lot of long distance journeys in the first few weeks of the season. Swansea, Brentford, Scunthorpe, Bournemouth and Southend are all in the first five weeks. It's expensive for the Club and for supporters but also takes a great deal of time and commitment from supporters. I know the travelling support makes a difference to the players so thank you to all those supporters who have been with us on the road."**





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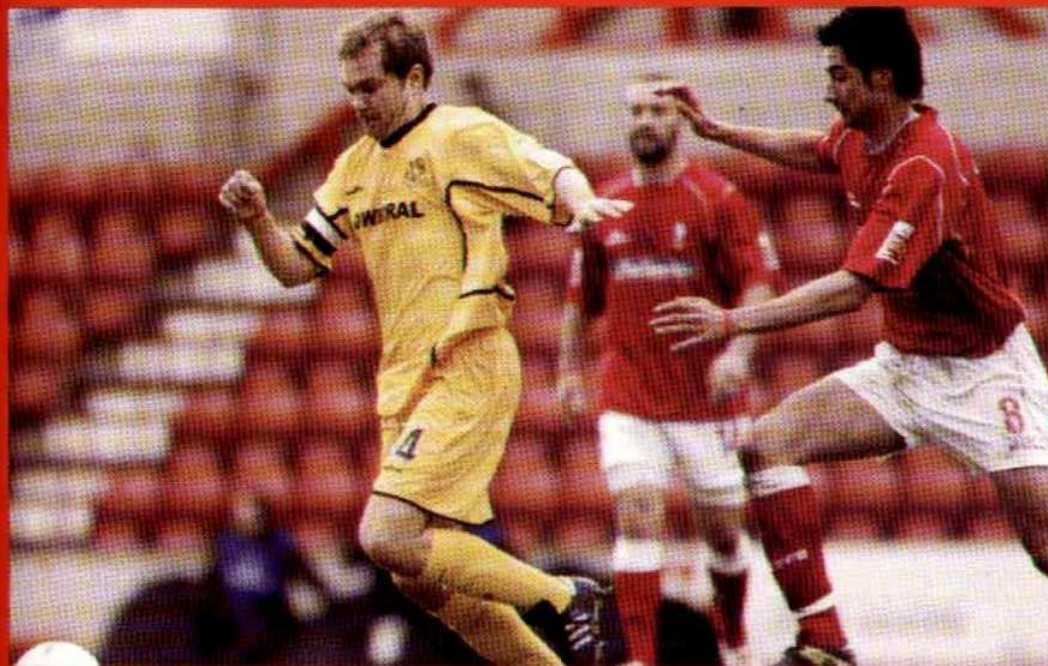
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# The Opposition

Robins reliant on Cureton and Co to deliver promotion this season



**Andy King has carried out a major rebuilding programme over the summer, with a host of new faces arriving at and leaving the County Ground.**

The Robins' prolific goalscorer of the past few seasons, Sam Parkin, was snapped up by Ipswich Town but King was quick to replace him with QPR's Jamie Cureton. Steve Robinson, Matt Hewlett, Sammy Igoe and David Duke also departed after the end of the season. In addition to Cureton, there are nine new faces at the County Ground, three of whom all signed on the same day. Defenders Charlie Comyn-Platt and Ricky Shakes arrived from Bolton Wanderers, while Jack Smith, another defender, joined from Watford.

Next to join the Robins were centre forward Tony Thorpe, who was reunited with former team mate

Cureton, and Nicky Nicolau, an ex-Arsenal trainee from Southend. Gareth Whalley was signed after being released by Wigan Athletic and the midfielder was joined at Swindon by three loan signings soon after.

Manchester United youngsters Colin Heath and Tom Heaton joined on three month loans and defender Patrick Collins signed a long term loan deal from Sheffield Wednesday.

Their season began with back to back defeats. The first game - an away trip to Barnsley - ended in a 2-0 loss with a goal conceded in each half. Next up was a home fixture against Oldham Athletic. After 50 minutes the Robins found themselves 3-0 down, but with ten minutes left they pulled a goal back through Christian Roberts. Five minutes later Thorpe brought the game to life with a low shot into the net and the comeback was almost completed in injury time

when Cureton hit the crossbar with a powerful header.

It was third time lucky for the Robins in their next game as they defeated Nottingham Forest at home, with goals from Rory Fallon and former Everton trainee Sean O'Hanlon earning them a 2-1 win. Last weekend they were held to a goalless draw by Blackpool, with King saying after the match: "I thought that we were the better team by far first half and should have gone in two or three up.

"Second half we didn't play so well but you've got to remember we were away from home and that first goal you can fight for and get a lift from, we didn't get. So the second half performance was based on that but in general it was a very, very comfortable nil-nil away from home at this level."



**Name:** Swindon Town FC.

**Formed:** 1881.

**Entered the Football League:** 1920.

**Nickname:** 'Robins'.

**Former Names:**  
N/A.

**Manager:** Andy King.

**Assistant Manager:**  
Alan Reeves.

**Ground Address:**  
County Ground, County Road,  
Swindon SN1 2ED.

**Capacity:** 15,728 (all seated).

**Record Attendance:**  
32,000, v Arsenal, 15th January  
1972, FA Cup Third Round.

**Best League Win:** 9-1:  
v Luton Town 28th August 1920,  
Division Three South.

**Worst League Loss:** 1-10:  
v Manchester City 25th January  
1930, FA Cup Fourth Round.

**Average Attendance:**  
2005-06 - 6,701.

**Pitch Size:** 114 x 74 yards.

**Final League Position:**  
2004-05 - 12th - Coca-Cola  
League One.

**Website address:**  
[www.swindontownfc.co.uk](http://www.swindontownfc.co.uk)

**Shirt Sponsors:**  
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# The Players

Swindon's player profile listing for 2005-06

## Rhys Evans

After being released by Chelsea in 2003, Town manager Andy King swooped for the young stopper to give first choice keeper Bart Griemink more competition for the number one shirt at the County Ground.

Since then Evans has been a regular between the posts for Town and has turned in many match saving performances.

He enjoyed a successful first season back and has now established himself as number one.

## Sean O'Hanlon

After impressing during an eight-game loan spell last season, Liverpool-born Sean O'Hanlon signed for Swindon Town in March 2004 on a permanent basis from Everton.

Having come up through the youth ranks at Goodison Park, O'Hanlon left Merseyside in search of first team football and was a rock in the centre of defence towards the end of the 2003-04 season and is surely one of Town's brightest prospects.

## Jack Smith

Signed from Watford in the summer of 2005, Smith adds youthful experience to the Town side and arrives with a point to prove.

Due to the departure of Paul Robinson to West Bromwich Albion he was thrust into the first-team spotlight at Watford and coped admirably,

registering two goals - the first of which a 'Goal of the Season' contender at Sheffield United in front of the Sky Sports cameras.

## Jerel Ifil

Powerful defender Jerel Ifil joined Town in the summer of 2004 after enjoying three loan spells with Town previously from 02-04.

Jerel became a fan's favourite during his brief stays in Wiltshire and signed on a permanent basis in June 2004 and put in some solid performances during the following season.

## Steve Jenkins

Capped by Wales on 16 occasions, 'Jenks' was signed at the end of November 2004 and has provided added experience to the Town backline. After beginning his career at Swansea, he has also been with Huddersfield, Birmingham, Cardiff, Notts County and Peterborough.

After falling out of favour at London Road under Barry Fry, Town Boss Andy King moved quickly to sign the player after impressing during his four game loan spell.

## Gareth Whalley

Signed for Swindon Town in July 2005 from Wigan Athletic on a free transfer.

Originally a trainee at Crewe, Gareth made over 200 first-team appearances for them before signing for

Bradford City in July 1998 for £600,000. Gareth was a regular during their two-season spell in the top flight and in March 2002 went back to Crewe on loan for a few months.

Left Cardiff in September 2004 and joined Wigan Athletic and subsequently made nine appearances for The Latics in the march to promotion to the Premiership.

## Rory Fallon

A recent signing from Barnsley, the big striker made quite an impression against Town in the past, scoring on many occasions and catching the eye of Town boss Andy King in doing so.

He joined Barnsley as a professional in 1999 after moving up through their trainee programme. Last season saw him score his first ever league goal against Blackpool and he quickly followed that up the following week in a game at Stockport.

Missed the opening two games of the season with suspension after being sent off at Huddersfield Town last season.

## Tony Thorpe

Striker Tony Thorpe made the switch along the M4 from Loftus Road in the summer of 2005, signing a 1-year deal.

The long serving Luton Town striker moved to Loftus Road for a nominal fee in the first few weeks of the 2003/04

season.

31-year old Thorpe's overall goalscoring record stands at 136 strikes in 277 starts and he also scored one goal in five appearances for Rotherham United during a loan period at the end of last season.

## Stefani Miglioranza

Miglioranza is the product of the American College football system in which the most promising players are drafted into Major League Soccer. Stefani helped St John's University win the 1996 NCAA Division I Championship and played for MLS team Chicago Fire before joining Everton on trial.

They were keen to sign him but no deal came about. Portsmouth then out jumped Liverpool in inviting him for a trial and signed him soon thereafter.

A Brazilian born American who holds an Italian passport, Miglioranza is versatile; he can play in defence or as a central midfielder and since joining the club in July, has impressed in the middle of Town's midfield.

## Ricky Shakes

A tricky winger with plenty of pace, Shakes signed from Bolton Wanderers in a deal which also saw Charlie Comyn-Platt join the club.

He signed on for STFC in July 2005 and will be out to prove what he can do in League One.



Rhys Evans

Nicky Nicolau

Rory Fallon



### Alan Reeves

Before joining Swindon in 1998, he spent four years at Wimbledon, where he had the tough task of replacing John Scales.

Reeves has also played for Gillingham, Chester and Rochdale where he is considered to be one of the best players in the club's history.

He has now made well over 400 league appearances and was rewarded last season with a playing/coaching role that has seen him turn around the fortunes of Town's reserve side.

He continues to back up the Swindon defence when called upon and will continue in his dual role this term.

### Andy Nicholas

'Nicho' was a regular member of Liverpool's under-19 winning team in 2003 and won plaudits with his consistent performances at left back, resulting in a flattering comparison to Anfield legend Sami Hyypia.

With good height, terrific pace and recovery he has made the left back slot his own during the last campaign after being snapped up by Andy King.

He also possesses a Dave Challinor style long throw, which he claims to be one of the longest in the division.

### Kyle Lapham

A tough-tackling former

Centre of Excellence player, local-based Kyle progressed through the ranks and has made a number of appearances for the reserve team last season before signing a professional one-year deal in the summer.

### Charlie Comyn-Platt

Charlie Comyn-Platt joined the Bolton Academy in the summer of 2002 after a long association with the club.

The assured defender was called into the first team for the first time in September 2003, and he was handed his debut when replacing Bruno N'Gotty for the final nine minutes of the 3-1 Carling Cup win over Walsall.

After being released by Bolton in the summer of 2005 he made the switch to The County Ground on a one-year contract.

### Christian Roberts

Cardiff-born striker who joined Town on Thursday 14th October 2004 in a £50,000 switch from local rivals Bristol City.

He is an aggressive runner who adds pace to the Swindon frontline. Formerly with Exeter City where he scored 18 goals in 67 league starts for the Grecians from 2000-2002.

### Michael Pook

Third year scholar who has seen first team action on a number of occasions including the LDV Vans

Trophy game at Boston United in 2003. An energetic 'box-to-box' midfielder.

### Patrick Collins

Arrived on loan from Sheffield Wednesday in the week before the opening day of the season and has been involved in the first few games of the campaign.

Collins signed a two-year deal at Hillsborough in July 2004 after impressing during a trial spell towards the end of the 2003-04 campaign.

He represented England 15 times at youth level, scoring for the under-17 team on his first outing against Portugal - in which he was deployed to mark Manchester United star Cristiano Ronaldo.

### Ben Wells

One of three Centre of Excellence players who were signed on as first year scholars in June 2004.

Involved in Town's pre-season trip to Bidford in central midfield and made the bench for the opening two games of the season, coming on as a late substitute at Barnsley.

### Andy Caton

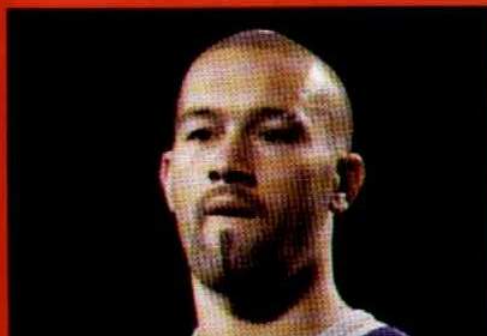
A powerful striker, Andy joined Swindon Town as a first year scholar in June 2004 after spending some time with GLS Hellenic Premier Division side North Leigh last season where he was a prolific scorer.



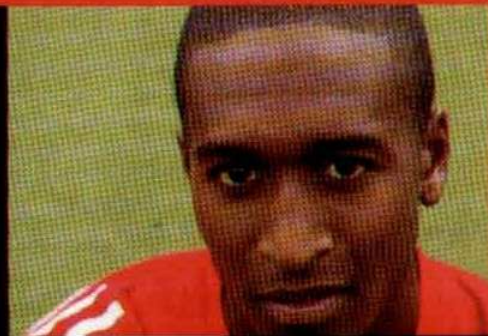
## Star Man Jamie Cureton

Jamie Cureton joined from QPR where he scored 6 goals in 20 league starts and he arrives with an impressive overall goalscoring record of 134 strikes in 274 league starts.

A frontman with plenty of pace, Cureton lists his previous clubs as Norwich, Bournemouth, Bristol Rovers and Pulan Icons.



Christian Roberts



Ricky Shakes



## Manager Andy King



As a player, King made his name in spells at Luton, Everton, QPR and West Brom. After retiring, his first managerial appointment came at Mansfield Town in 1993.

Having been relegated from Division Two, Mansfield were low on confidence but King managed to steer them to a mid-table finish in his first season at the helm.

The following season saw The Stags in with a chance of promotion back to the Second Division, having finished in 6th place in the table, but they were beaten in the play-off semi-finals by John Duncan's Chesterfield.

The 1995-96 season saw Mansfield drop down to 19th position in Division Three and Andy was replaced at Field Mill by Steve Parkin.

Andy spent some time out of management but was still involved in the game, and was working with former Everton team-mate Peter Reid at Premiership club Sunderland as a scout when Colin Todd took him to Swindon as his assistant manager in the summer of 2000.

When Todd got the call from Jim Smith to be his assistant at Derby County, King was given the opportunity to impress chairman Terry Brady, and after four games in charge he was given the job full-time, on November 6, 2000.

Since then he has stabilised Swindon's League One status and built a side capable of challenging for promotion.



## Last Team Line Up



### Blackpool (0) 0 Swindon Town (0) 0

Coca Cola League One, Saturday 20th August 2005 Bloomfield Road.

Substitutes: Heaton, Thorpe, Jenkins, Roberts, Shakes.

Goalscorers: N/A

## Top 5 League Hotshots 2005-06

Rory FALLON - Striker	1
Tony THORPE - Striker	1
Christian ROBERTS - Striker	1
Sean O'HANLON - Defender	1

## Last 5 League Results 2005-06

6/8	(A) v Barnsley	Lost 0-2
9/8	(H) v Oldham Athletic	Lost 2-3
13/8	(H) v Nottingham Forest	Won 2-1
20/8	(A) v Blackpool	Drew 0-0
27/8	(H) v Yeovil Town	UNK

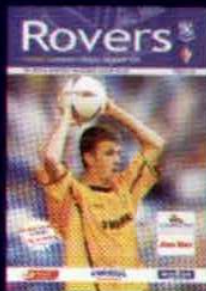
## Last Time Around

### Tranmere Rovers (1) 2

Hall (34 & 74)

### Swindon Town (0) 1

Duke (69)



### Coca-Cola League One Saturday 6 November 2004

**Tranmere:** Achterberg, Taylor, Jackson, Sharps, Goodison, Hall, Harrison, McAteer, Roberts, Hume, Zola (Dadi 51).  
Subs not used: Gary Jones, Howarth, Jennings, Beresford.

**Swindon:** Evans, Heywood, O'Hanlon, Ifil, Jenkins, Duke (Fallon 77), Howard, Igoo, Hewlett, Roberts, Parkin.

Subs not used: Book, Nicholas, Robinson, Reeves.

**Attendance:** 8,419.

**Referee:** Phil Joslin (Nottingham).



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# On the Ball

The story so far • with Jason McAteer

**With over 500 appearances for club and country to his name, Jason McAteer is well qualified to give an assessment of the season so far.**

Rovers' captain is now in his second year at Prenton Park and he is aware that after finishing third last season in Coca-Cola League One, expectations are high.

"Last season we set a standard as a football club and that standard was high," he said. "So some sections of the crowd inevitably think we should be winning by four or five goals every game and that's just not going to happen. This league is very competitive and it's not often you're going to beat a team very convincingly.

"Other teams have learnt from last season and we have some new players who are adapting to the way we play. We have a young team and we need the fans to stick with us.

"We have to learn quickly. We have to make sure last year's mistakes are not forgotten. We have to strengthen our mental approach and impose ourselves more on the opposition."

At 34-years of age, McAteer is happy to carry on playing for as possible. Though he has plans in place for when he finally decides to end his career, at the moment, his thoughts are firmly on the helping the side achieve their goals.

The former Republic of Ireland international admits last season was something of a culture shock, but with a year of experience in League One behind him, he is better prepared for the challenge ahead.

He added: "I want to play as long as I can. When I'm on the pitch all my problems are forgotten and for 90 minutes I can enjoy playing football. I'm in a young team but we have high aspirations. We all want to aim for the best we can, from the players and

coaching staff right through to the office staff. We know what direction we want to be going in.

"Last season was a transitional period for me. I had to adapt to the way football is played in this division. It can be frustrating, especially when I get stick from the opposition fans. But we have a gaffer here who is just not just football minded but works with us personally and is always there with advice. I admire him a lot and listen to him; he's a calming influence on me.


"The football can be given away easily in this division whereas in the top flight, teams will hold on to it for a lot longer. That's mainly down to confidence. Last season there were spells when we played really well and we looked like a team from the Premiership the way we kept possession and played flowing football. There are a lot of young players around the squad here who are either pushing to move on to a higher level or pushing to gain a regular first team place and their confidence will grow with every game they play. If we bond well as a team we can push on as a team for promotion. There's no reason why we shouldn't be capable of reaching the top six again.

"I enjoy myself here. I'm under no illusion that I'm getting on and I'm thinking about my future after I stop playing. I'd love to manage Tranmere as they're my home town club. I'm learning a lot from the back room staff and I enjoy that side of the game. Working with John McMahon with the reserves is fantastic and is another building block I'm putting into place for the future.

"As long as my body is holding up and the gaffer still wants me I'll carry on."







**"I want to play as long as I can. When I'm on the pitch all my problems are forgotten and for 90 minutes I can enjoy playing football. I'm in a young team but we have high aspirations. We all want to aim for the best we can, from the players and coaching staff right through to the office staff. We know what direction we want to be going in."**



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# Making Headlines

News from the beautiful game

**Nottingham Forest boss Gary Megson has begun to search for a new striker after watching his team lose three games in a row.**

"We don't have pace and power in the final third of the field and have to do something about it," said the former West



Brom boss after Forest's 1-0 home defeat against Scunthorpe. "We

dominated the game and had so much possession. Had we scored at any stage of the first half we would have gone on to win comfortably but we didn't."

**Despite being just 23-years old, Barnsley defender Paul Reid has been appointed the club's new captain.**

Reid was handed the position temporarily last season when



previous skipper Tony Vaughan was injured but he has now been given the role permanently by

boss Andy Ritchie.

The former Rangers player said: "To be given the captaincy is a huge thing for me and I will have an extra spring in my step leading the lads out. It was a great feeling last season."

"Now I have been given it permanently, it is a massive honour for me and my family."

**Blackpool have unveiled a life-sized statue of legend Stan Mortensen outside their Bloomfield Road ground.**

Mortensen played 345 times for the Tangerines and scored 222 goals, while he also found the net 23 times in 25 England appearances.

His hat-trick in the 1953 FA Cup "Matthews" Final victory over Bolton Wanderers remains the only time any player has scored three times in an FA Cup



**Former Rovers defender Christian Edwards has joined Swansea on a month long loan deal from Bristol Rovers.**

Edwards, 29, played for Rovers for three months in 2002, making 17 appearances in a loan spell from Nottingham Forest.

The Welsh international was recruited by Swansea after Garry Monk, Izzy Iriekpen and Kristian O'Leary all picked up injuries, and both parties are keen to make the move permanent.

"It's an opportunity for us to look at a player who did well for Swansea first time round," said Swans boss Kenny Jackett.

Edwards began his League career at Swansea, where he made 112 League appearances before joining Nottingham Forest for £275,000 in 1998.

final at Wembley Stadium.

The statue was unveiled by his widow Jean and former England captain and BBC summariser Jimmy Armfield.

The statue cost £25,000 to make and was funded by the club, the town council and Blackpool FC fans.

Organiser Chris Hull said: "Stan was a truly great man in football and also humanitarian terms," said statue organiser Chris Hull.

"His legacy in Blackpool transcends just football as he became an inspirational figure in the local community."

"The statue will be positioned

outside Blackpool Football Club's North Stand - which, appropriately, is also known as the Mortensen Stand."

**Paul Warhurst has been snapped up by Wrexham on a non-contract agreement.**

The former Blackburn Rovers defender has made the Red Dragons his 13th club in League football, after spending a short time with Conference side Forest Green last season.



A delighted Wrexham boss Dennis Smith commented: "We are thin on the ground in several

positions and Paul has the credentials to help us."

Warhurst, who has also played for Bolton Wanderers, Sheffield Wednesday and Crystal Palace, added: "There seem to be a good set of players at the club and I was certainly impressed watching the opening home game against Boston United."

**Players and managers complaining about red cards and suspensions is nothing new, but perhaps they should think themselves lucky they don't play in Holland.**

A Sparta Rotterdam player who broke the leg of an opponent during a match last December has been given a six-month jail sentence suspended for two years.

Sparta striker Rachid Bouaouzan, 21, was given a 12 match ban by the Dutch soccer association after being sent off following a challenge which saw Go Ahead Eagles player Niels Kokmeijer suffer a double leg fracture.

Dutch public prosecutors had taken the unusual step of indicting Bouaouzan, saying the foul by was so serious that the soccer body's disciplinary powers were insufficient. According to prosecutors, Kokmeijer spent a long period in hospital and may never be able to play football again.





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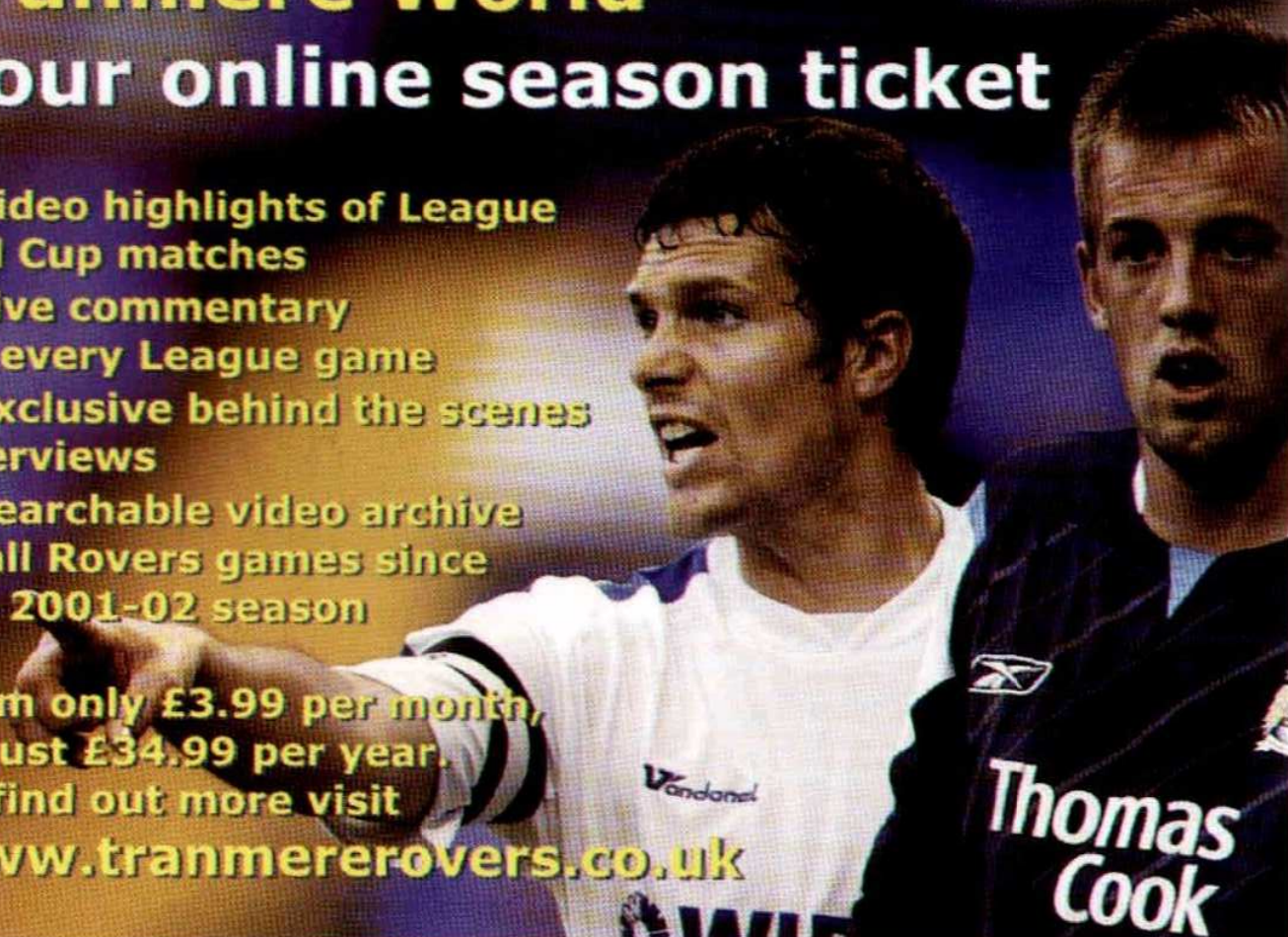
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# Man of the Match

Tranmere Rovers v Oldham Athletic Friday 12th August 2005



## MEDIA SUITE

The night's award from our Media Suite Sponsors Bibby Financial Services went to Chris Greenacre, following on from our impressive 4-0 win over Oldham Athletic...



## VICE PRESIDENTS

The night's award from our Vice-President Members went to Sam Aiston, collecting his second of the evening...



## MATCHBALL

Our matchnight Mascot took his place alongside both club captains and the match officials for the customary pre-match photo call...



## DIXIE DEAN

The night's second award - this from our Dixie Dean Members - was presented to Chris Greenacre, helping Rovers to overcome the Latics...



## MINI-SPONSORS

Our regular Mini-Sponsors Lewis Reed made Sam Aiston their choice following a sterling performance on the wing...



## EQUALISER WINNER

The lucky holder of the nights' winning ticket holder in our Equaliser draw, was Mr George Prosser, who in turn collected a cheque for £802.50 - presented by Carl Tremarco...



# Prenton Pups

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Denise and Diane's news for all our younger supporters

Good Afternoon to all our Pups, and also a very warm welcome to all our young visiting supporters who have made the journey from Swindon. We hope you enjoy your day out to Prenton Park and have a very safe journey home!



Today we have news of a very special "Pups' Away Day"

that doesn't involve watching any football!! On Monday October 24th we will be taking a coach through the Blackpool Illuminations! We will be leaving from Borough Road (behind the Johnny King Stand) at 5:30pm and we hope to return for approx 10:30pm. And for all you grown ups who are worried about us having such a late night on a school night the children will be on their half term holiday from school! Seats on the coach are £8 and you can book your place(s) with Diane and Gemma in the Pups' Kennel on match day.....but hurry! Places are going fast already so book your's soon!

Our Spotters have been out and about looking for Pups wearing their Tranmere shirts with pride around the Wirral, and over the last 7 days we have seen the following children: Luke Donovan was spotted at Hamilton Square Train Station, Mark Watson was seen riding his bike in Bebington, and finally for today's list, little Nathan Griffiths was spotted wearing his Tranmere shirt while shopping with his mum in Birkenhead! Well done to you boys and keep wearing your Rovers shirts!

Can you believe that the Summer Holidays are almost over? It only seems like last week that they began and now the long lie-ins are over and we have to start getting up early again for school! To all the Pups who are going back to school this week (and even to all of you lucky ones who get an extra few days off and don't get back until next week!) we hope that you have a great first day back!



What a night for mascot Joe Thomas - not only did he get to lead the team out onto the pitch, he also got to meet his heroes in the pre-match warm up - and capped it all watching the lads win 4-0! We sincerely hope you enjoyed your evening Joe!

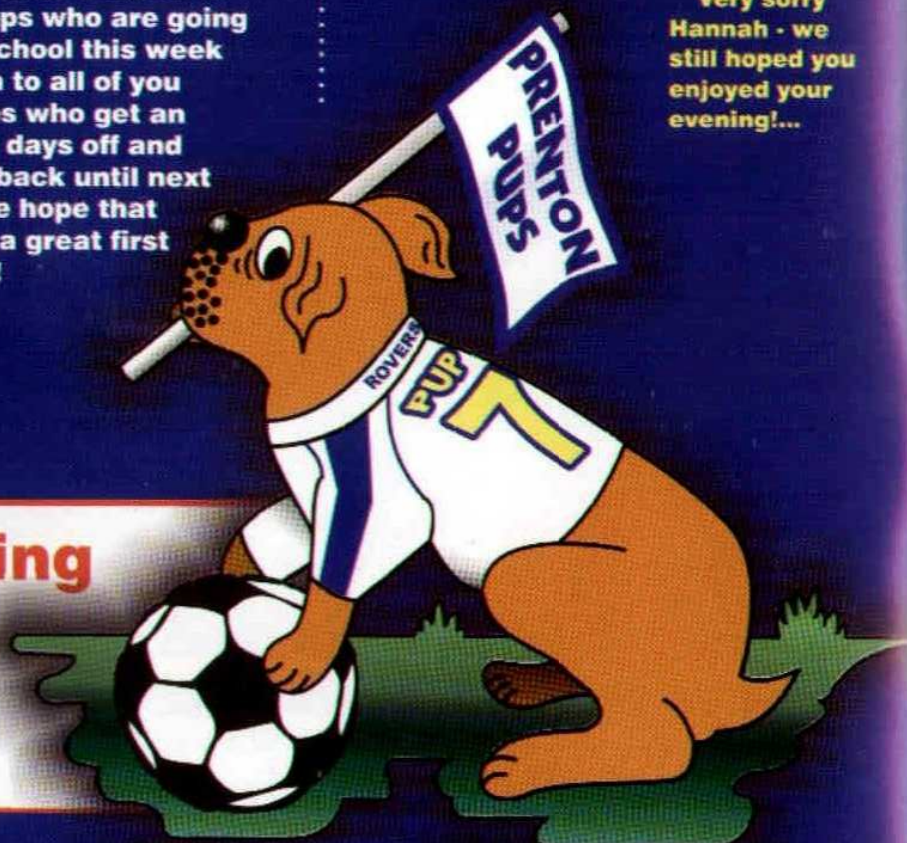


Our apologies! - our mascot from the Crewe pre-season fixture was in fact Hannah McKenna, and not the name printed in our Blackpool issue.

Very sorry Hannah - we still hoped you enjoyed your evening!...

## Next Pups Meeting

Details to be announced shortly - so watch this space!





# Community

Rovers • off the field • in local activities



**Six young people from the Wirral were congratulated by Tranmere Rovers player Ian Sharps at a special presentation held in the Belmont Room at Prenton Park.**

The young people, all aged between 16 and 25, the majority unemployed, had recently completed The Prince's Trust Team Programme, to improve their confidence and develop the skills necessary to get back into employment, education or further training. This was the eighth team to be delivered by ScottishPower Learning in Birkenhead.

Team member Tony Thomas said "We have all

had many obstacles to overcome over the past 12 weeks, but working together as a team we have been able to achieve our goals. Taking part in the Team Programme has helped me to improve my tolerance and communication skills. It's made me more determined to do something positive with my life."

Rovers Chairman Lorraine Rogers added: "Tranmere Rovers Football Club is delighted to support The Prince's Trust Football Initiative. The support which we offer teams delivered by ScottishPower Learning, really does make a difference and by working in partnership, we are able to

help some of the most disadvantaged young people in our local community."

**With the schools going back shortly, the Football in the Community team are getting ready to go out and about on their travels.**

In addition to the coaching sessions they run, they'll be joined by Study Support Centre Manager Andy Heywood who will be bringing his fantastic football based lessons to the classrooms.

Also going out soon will be the application forms for the Football in the Community Wirral Schools 6-a-side

competition. Last year almost 70 teams took part in the Wirral stage of the national competition which sees the eventual finalists competing at the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff.

**Six schools were the lucky recipients of free Tranmere Rovers soccer schools over the summer.**

As part of the New Opportunities National Lottery Fund, pupils from Rock Ferry Primary, Cathcart Primary, Park High, Plessington High, Christ Church Primary (Birkenhead) and Well Lane Primary schools all took part in week long coaching sessions.



## Tranmere Rovers Ladies versus Liverpool Ladies

Northern Division Thursday 7th September 2005 Kick Off 7.00pm Poulton Victoria FC  
Free admission for all supporters - Ring 0151 608 2354/609 3334 for more details

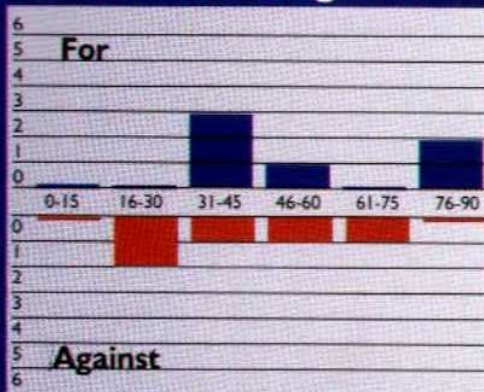




# Tranmere Rovers v. Swindon Town



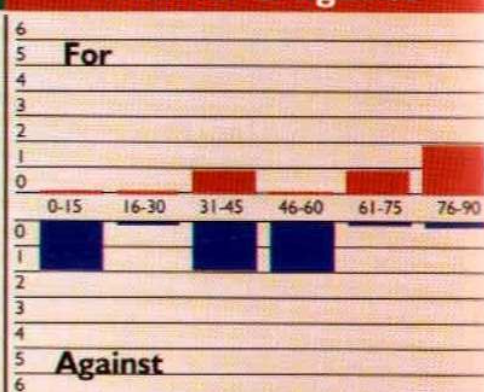
## When for & against



## Where & how scored

0	Close range	1
5	Inside 18yd box	3
1	Outside 18yd box	0
3	Shots	3
1	Headers	1
1	Volleys	0
1	Penalties	0
0	Free Kicks	0
0	Own Goals	0

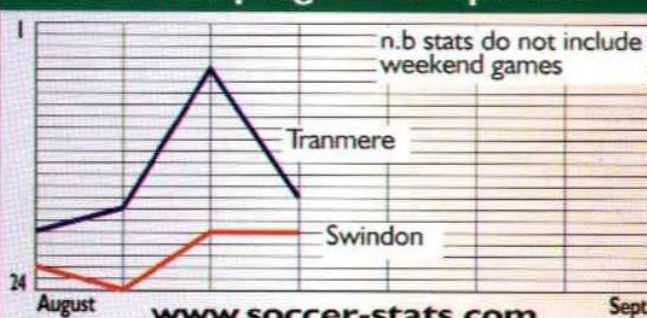
## When for & against



## This season

Opponents	H/A	Score
Brentford	A	0-2
Oldham	H	4-0
Blackpool	H	2-2
Swansea	A	0-1

## Seasonal progress comparison



## This season

Opponents	H/A	Score
Blackpool	A	0-0
Forest	H	2-1
Oldham	H	2-3
Barnsley	A	0-2

## Swings

Won when Behind	0
Drawn when Behind	0
Drawn when Ahead	1
Lost when Ahead	0

## Swings

Won when Behind	0
Drawn when Behind	0
Drawn when Ahead	0
Lost when Ahead	0

## Discipline

Fouls committed	61
Average per game	15.25
Yellow cards	10
Red cards	0

## Last meeting at Prenton Park 6/11/04

2-1	
Hall 34, 74	Duke 69
Attendance 8,419	Referee Joslin
Achterberg, Sharps, Roberts, Taylor, Jackson, Goodison, Harrison, McAteer, Hall, Zola (Dadi), Hume	Evans, Ifil, Heywood, Jenkins, O'Hanlon, Igoe, Hewlett, Duke (Fallon), Howard, Roberts, Parkin
Booked none	Booked Parkin
Sent Off none	Sent Off none

## Discipline

Fouls committed	47
Average per game	11.75
Yellow cards	8
Red cards	0

## Set piece goals

Scored from free kick	1
Conc from free kick	0
Scored from corner	0
Conc from corner	2

## Set piece goals

Scored from free kick	0
Conc from free kick	1
Scored from corner	1
Conc from corner	0

## Strike ratio

Shots on target	19
Goals scored	6
% shots scored	31.6
Divisional rating	4

## Swindon's Last 10 Years



## Strike ratio

Shots on target	18
Goals scored	4
% shots scored	22.2
Divisional rating	12

## Top scorer

Chris Greenacre	
Goals Scored	3
Games Played	4
Points Won	1

## Top scorer

Sean O'Hanlon (Joint)	
Goals Scored	1
Games Played	4
Points Won	2

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## Scored &amp; conceded in last 15 mins

For	76-90	Total	%	AGAINST	76-90	Total	%
Swindon	2	4	50.0	Rotherham	2	3	66.7
Bournemouth	2	5	40.0	Oldham	4	7	57.1
Forest	2	5	40.0	MK Dons	3	6	50.0
Huddersfield	2	6	33.3	Gillingham	1	2	50.0
Tranmere	2	6	33.3	Swansea	2	6	33.3
Doncaster	1	3	33.3	Walsall	2	6	33.3
Rotherham	1	3	33.3	Bradford	1	3	33.3
Barnsley	1	4	25.0	Doncaster	1	3	33.3
Colchester	1	4	25.0	Huddersfield	1	4	25.0
Gillingham	1	4	25.0	Scunthorpe	1	4	25.0
Scunthorpe	1	4	25.0	Yeovil	1	4	25.0
MK Dons	1	4	25.0	Bristol City	1	5	20.0
Bradford	1	5	20.0	Colchester	1	5	20.0
Southend	1	6	16.7	Chesterfield	1	9	11.1
Brentford	1	7	14.3	Barnsley	0	3	0.0
Walsall	1	8	12.5	Blackpool	0	6	0.0
Oldham	1	9	11.1	Bournemouth	0	4	0.0
Blackpool	0	4	0.0	Brentford	0	2	0.0
Bristol City	0	4	0.0	Forest	0	7	0.0
Chesterfield	0	5	0.0	Hartlepool	0	4	0.0
Hartlepool	0	3	0.0	Port Vale	0	5	0.0
Port Vale	0	5	0.0	Southend	0	5	0.0
Swansea	0	5	0.0	Swindon	0	6	0.0
Yeovil	0	1	0.0	Tranmere	0	5	0.0

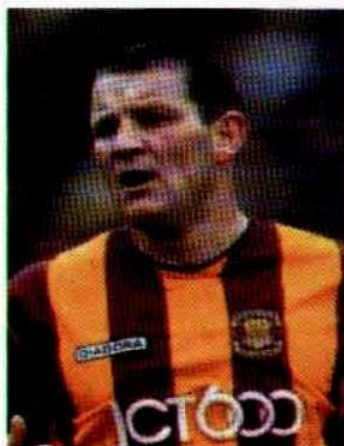
## Margins of victory &amp; defeat

WON BY	1 gl	2 gls	3 gls	4+ gls	LOST BY	1 gl	2 gls	3 gls	4+ gls
Brentford	0	3	0	0	Chesterfield	1	1	1	0
Oldham	1	1	1	0	Forest	3	0	0	0
Barnsley	1	1	0	0	Barnsley	2	0	0	0
Bradford	0	2	0	0	Bristol City	1	1	0	0
Gillingham	2	0	0	0	Colchester	2	0	0	0
Huddersfield	1	1	0	0	Swansea	1	1	0	0
Port Vale	2	0	0	0	Swindon	1	1	0	0
Scunthorpe	2	0	0	0	Tranmere	1	1	0	0
Swansea	2	0	0	0	Yeovil	1	1	0	0
Walsall	2	0	0	0	Bournemouth	1	0	0	0
Bournemouth	0	1	0	0	Blackpool	0	1	0	0
Bristol City	0	1	0	0	Bradford	0	1	0	0
Chesterfield	0	1	0	0	Brentford	1	0	0	0
Colchester	1	0	0	0	Doncaster	1	0	0	0
Doncaster	1	0	0	0	Hartlepool	0	1	0	0
Hartlepool	1	0	0	0	Huddersfield	1	0	0	0
Forest	1	0	0	0	Oldham	0	0	0	1
Rotherham	1	0	0	0	Port Vale	0	1	0	0
Southend	0	1	0	0	Rotherham	1	0	0	0
Swindon	1	0	0	0	Scunthorpe	0	1	0	0
Tranmere	0	0	0	1	Southend	1	0	0	0
Blackpool	0	0	0	0	MK Dons	0	1	0	0
MK Dons	0	0	0	0	Gillingham	0	0	0	0
Yeovil	0	0	0	0	Walsall	0	0	0	0

## Scored from volleys

## Most volleyed shots scored

Player	Club	Goals
Abbott	Huddersfield	1
Bullock	Hartlepool	1
Commons	Forest	1
Gray	Southend	1
Greenacre	Tranmere	1
Guttridge	Southend	1
Halford	Colchester	1
Hayes	Barnsley	1
Parker	Blackpool	1
Surman	Bournemouth	1
Windass	Bradford	1
Wright	Walsall	1



On the volley: Bradford's Dean Windass

## Long range goals

## Most goals scored outside 18yd box

Player	Club	Goals
Bullock	Hartlepool	1
Byfield	Gillingham	1
Cummins	Port Vale	1
Greenacre	Tranmere	1
Hayes	Barnsley	1
Hessenthaler	Gillingham	1
Leitao	Walsall	1
Liddell	Oldham	1
Parker	Blackpool	1
Schofield	Huddersfield	1
Stock	Bournemouth	1
Wright	Walsall	1



Long ranger: Bournemouth's Brian Stock

## Goalkeeping &amp; goalscoring

## Best goalkeeping ratio

Total goals conceded	3
Opposition shots on target	30
Percentage of shots saved	90.0

Barnsley



## Best strike ratio

Total goals scored	9
Shots on target	23
Percentage of shots scored	39.1

Oldham



## Worst goalkeeping ratio

Total goals conceded	5
Opposition shots on target	12
Percentage of shots saved	58.3

Tranmere



## Worst strike ratio

Total goals scored	1
Shots on target	22
Percentage of shots scored	4.5

Yeovil



## Comebacks &amp; throwaways

WON FROM	-3	-2	-1	TOTAL	LOST FROM	+3	+2	+1	TOTAL
Chesterfield	0	0	1	1	Barnsley	0	0	1	1
Doncaster	0	0	1	1	Blackpool	0	0	1	1
Gillingham	0	0	1	1	Colchester	0	0	1	1
Scunthorpe	0	0	1	1	Forest	0	0	1	1
Walsall	0	0	1	1	Swansea	0	0	1	1
DRAWN FROM	-3	-2	-1	TOTAL	DRAWN FROM	+3	+2	+1	TOTAL
Bournemouth	0	1	1	2	MK Dons	0	1	1	2
Blackpool	0	0	1	1	Southend	0	0	2	2
Bradford	0	0	1	1	Walsall	0	0	2	2
Colchester	0	0	1	1	Blackpool	0	0	1	1
Hartlepool	0	0	1	1	Doncaster	0	0	1	1
Huddersfield	0	0	1	1	Gillingham	0	0	1	1
Scunthorpe	0	0	1	1	Hartlepool	0	0	1	1
Southend	0	0	1	1	Rotherham	0	0	1	1
Walsall	0	0	1	1	Tranmere	0	0	1	1
MK Dons	0	0	1	1					
Yeovil	0	0	1	1					



# On the Road

A League and Cup double header

**Oh dear! It only seemed like last week that we'd strayed into Brentford's Griffin Park to witness one of the most universally disappointing games of the 2004-05 season, which resulted in a forgettable 0-1 defeat, on an otherwise pleasant and sunny evening in West London.**

It was the meeting of the play-off semi-final losers, and you hoped that this time around that the contest as a whole would lift itself and provide both sets of fans with a spectacle.

The morning had started with optimism following our second half 'Real Madrid' demolition of Oldham just over a week before, and the journey down offered a freebie DVD of the 'Top 50 Premiership goals', leading to South Ealing's very own park-and-walk.

At Griffin Park, Brentford's 'supporter' ambitions do have to be noted here once again, following the announcement last season of their purchase of the 'Princess Royal' pub. On the corner of Ealing Road and Braemar Road, the conversion into a 'fans only' pub, the Bees offer of £1 a pint for all season ticket holders, plus Sky TV, hot food and the like, which make it a very positive place to congregate, pre-and-post match, and whether it be a visit from Tottenham or Leyton Orient.

This maybe raises the point once more that on our own door step, a supporters club facility such as one at Prenton has been lacking for a good number of years, something of which in fact stretches as far back as the 1960's.

The second introduction, now reserved for this season's visit was that of the Bees 'Mini-Superstore', which opened during the pre-season. This replaced the almost



**ABOVE:** The Iron's final strike, burning a hole in the Tranmere defence - which led to an early dousing in the Carling Cup. Worst still, it was scored by Richard Hinds - extending the age of trend of ex-players scoring against us to win the game.

inaccessible portakabin shop that graced the Main Stand's forecourt for a good many years, offering a picture of cramped space, with barely enough shelf space to crowd all those cut-price cuddly beeeney bears.

Once again, from what I could gather from conversations with the Bees staff, the property was purchased by the 'Bees United', and fitted out in basic, yet smart looking décor, with a good range of reasonably priced merchandise.

By 2.45pm the Away Supporters queue was stretched far beyond the new club shop, as those home fans lined up for a new replica shirt were now in parallel conversation with the visiting supporters, almost baiting each other in jest, as to what the outcome would be during the next 90 minutes or so.

From this point on however, the day and game became more of a blur.

There was little or no singing whatsoever from anyone, made the more ironic by the large sign located just outside the Main Stand entrance turnstiles requesting fans to 'cheer as loud as you can'. Two goals either

side of half time gave Brentford the edge, while the home sides' style of play fared much the same as the season before.

That was it. With many filing out away from the ground at full time and out onto the open Ealing Road, even an open top tour ride on a London red bus had looked a better bet.

A Sunday morning combination of 'The Championship' goals round-up and a scan of the centre pages of the tabloids soon after in Waterstones coffee shop, finally brought it all home, as thoughts quickly turned to the next game.

With national interest now waning it seemed in what some considered the country's 'third best' competition (unless of course you're a premiership club desperate to get into Europe through the back door), it was a good bet that the SWA numbers at Glanford Park would be little, if non-existent for the first round of the Carling Cup.

However, just half an hour before kick off, a good 100 or so began to file past the reception entrance, heading toward the visitors turnstiles.

I will though, from here on,



defer my appraisal of Glanford Park in full until our 'proper' visit due mid-November, but I can at least for now fill you in briefly on our last visit here, in the FA Cup, way back in 1990 (yes, over 15 years ago!).

Bitterley cold winds, snow and late arrivals all added to Rovers surrendering a 2-1 lead, to eventually lose 2-3 to a Scunthorpe side still languishing in the division below. Only previous to this had we won - our first visit to Glanford in fact on New Years Eve in 1988, thanks to a Steve Lister own goal (from the half-way line).

Banishing any thoughts of another cup exit, the Rovers fans assembled, with new stories doing the rounds as to why we had to 'avoid the chips' and the like. Several supporters were seen nursing wounds inflicted by snapping plastic forks, unable it seems to penetrate the three-times-over-cooked French fries. Only the heavy coatings of brown sauce it seemed now eased the pain of consuming them. In total contrast, the hot dogs, an almost home barbecue-style delight, were indeed, a delight - dressed in real onions and topped with either mustard or relish. Simply the best! With food in hand then, it was time to settle down for the evenings events, which consisted of plenty of singing, including a phase of 'edited' lyrics primarily to protect the young ones (stewards, police etc.) before the 9pm watershed. This went down a storm, until that is, several members of the stewarding fraternity took it upon themselves to 'over stretch their means' and boisterously root out those out to enjoy themselves. The ejections sadly brought angry scenes and dissenting voices from all around.

Meanwhile, with plenty of posts to obstruct a full view of the action, thankfully this did

not obscure John Achterberg's string of superb first half saves which kept the scoreline to 0-0, when realistically it should have been 0-4.

When Scunthorpe eventually did take the lead, the game moved up at least a couple of gears, which in turn prompted a ferocious Rovers reply.

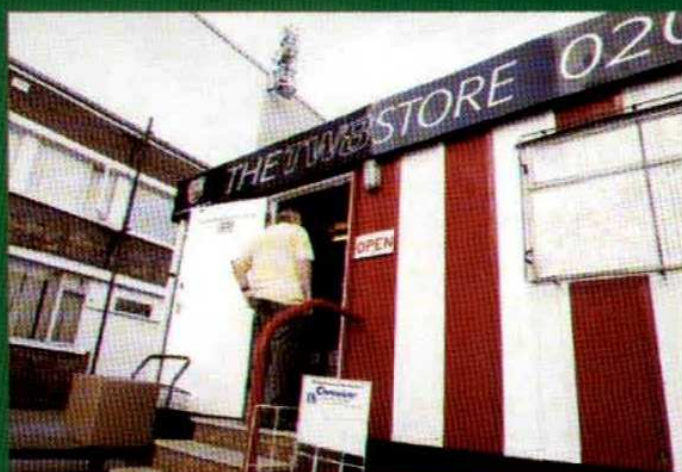
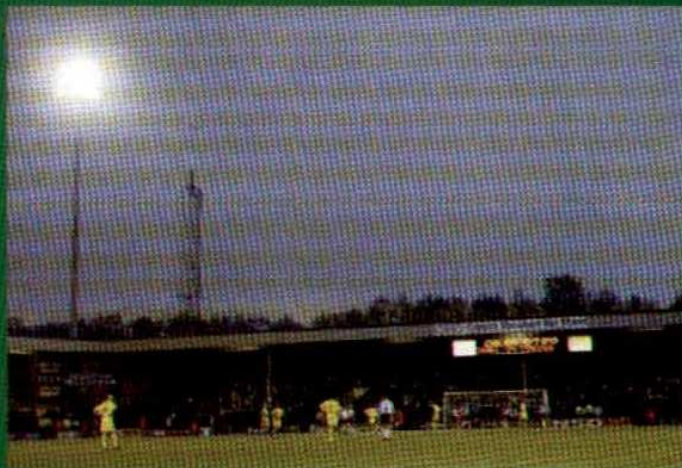
There had been several near misses during the run up to our goal, but when Ian Sharps fired home, the away section in particular broke into emphatic raptures, then having witnessed not only an equaliser, but our first goal away from home in 2005-06.

The killer blow however was delivered in the latter stages thanks to an age-old scenario in which an ex-Rovers player is guaranteed to score against us. As the match wore on, the youngsters rather ignorant chants of "Tranmere reject!", were added to the one-liner from the man in seat J126 who replied with "You'll know he'll score soon don't you". Low and behold, who pops up but young Richard Hinds to net the winner!

We maybe never really looked like getting a second, but as our website editor later commented, if we'd reached extra time this wouldn't have been unfair on the home side.

But, the night was over and we were out. The blow had been ever so slightly softened however by the fact that Bristol City, Brentford, Oldham, MK Dons, Nottingham Forest, Swansea and Swindon had all fallen by the wayside in almost the same manner.

By the time you read this hopefully though, we would have invaded both Saltergate and the famous buttie shop on the corner leaving Derbyshire with a large salad bag and three points in the bag...



ABOVE:

Top Left: It had been in fact over 15 years since we last visited Glanford Park - and sadly our cup exit jinx there continued.

MIDDLE: The now-departed Club Shop portakabin at Griffin Park - replaced by a small, yet impressive new facility just outside the visitors turnstiles on Braemar Road. Another nice 'supporters' touch.

BOTTOM: A brave statement - more so as there was little or no atmosphere at all at Griffin Park on the day of the game - and that included both sets of fans!



# Match Action

Latics laid to rest as Rovers flatten Oldham's 100% record



## Tranmere Rovers (1) 4

Greenacre (45 & 90 pen) Sharps (54), Roberts (77)



## Oldham Athletic (0) 0

Coca-Cola League One

Friday 12th August 2005 Prenton Park

**Rovers:** Achterberg, Linwood, Jackson, Sharps, Goodison, Aiston, McAteer (Jennings 72), Rankine (Harrison 56), Roberts, Hume (Davies 80), Greenacre. Subs not used: Wilson, Whitmore.

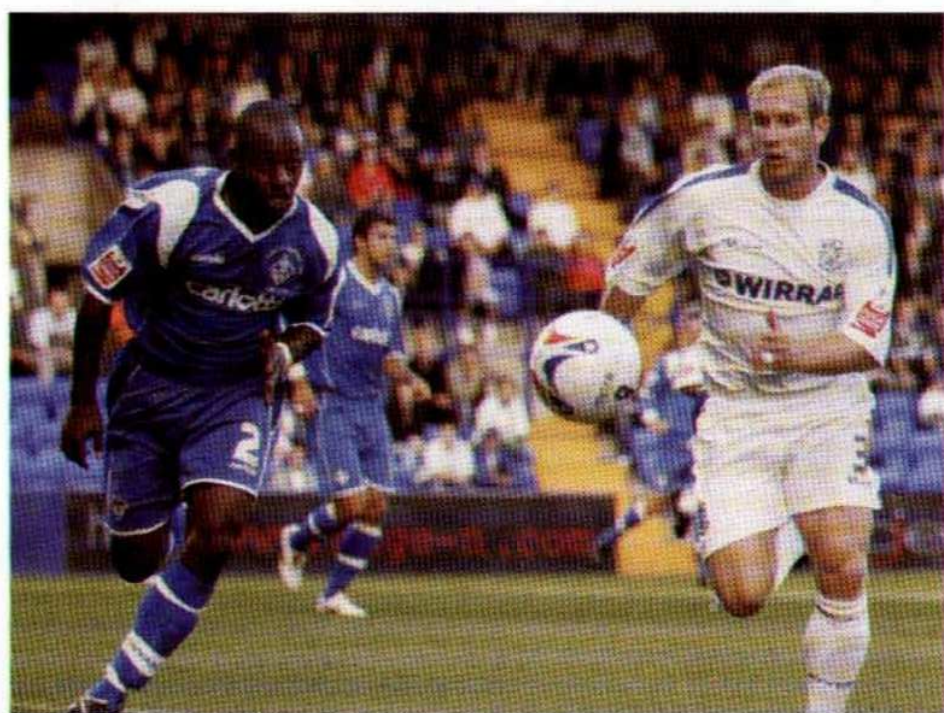
**Latics:** Day, Scott, Branston, Owen (Eyres 61), Forbes, Wellens, Butcher (Bonner 73), Tierney, Warne, Porter (Facey 60), Liddell. Subs not used: Poggiacomi, Stam.

**Referee:** Mr. R. Olivier (West Midlands).

**Attendance:** 8,466 (Away 1,648).









# Match Action

**Rovers left hoping for better days - after suffering a double blow  
- at both Brentford and Scunthorpe United**



**Brentford (1) 2**

Tabb (23), Hutchinson (50)



**Tranmere Rovers (0) 0**

Coca-Cola League One

Saturday 20th August 2005 Griffin Park

**Bees:** Nelson, O'Connor, Sodje, Turner, Frampton, Rankin (Campbell 84), Hutchinson, Dobson, Tabb (Fitzgerald 65), Brooker (Keenan 80), Owusu.  
Subs not used: Bankole, Gayle.

**Rovers:** Achterberg, Linwood (Bruce 45), Jackson (Jennings 58), Sharps, Goodison, Aiston, McAteer, Rankine, Roberts, Hume (Davies 66), Greenacre.  
Subs not used: Wilson, Harrison.

**Referee:** Mr. C. Penton (Sussex).

**Attendance:** 5,438 (Away 702).







## Scunthorpe United (0) 2

Ryan (56), Hinds (82)



## Tranmere Rovers (0) 1

Sharps (61)

Carling Cup First Round

Tuesday 23rd August 2005 Glanford Park

**Irons:** Musselwhite, Stanton, Crosby, Butler (Corden 74), Williams, Sparrow (Taylor 45), Hinds, Ryan, Beagrie, Sharp, Torpey (Johnson 46).

Subs not used: Parton, Keogh.

**Rovers:** Achterberg, Jackson, Sharps, Goodison, Jennings, Rankine (Bruce 70), Harrison, Roberts, Aiston, Greenacre, Davies (Hume 67).

Subs not used: Wilson, Whitmore, Linwood.

**Referee:** Mr. P. Joslin (Nottinghamshire)

**Attendance:** 2,738 (Away 155).





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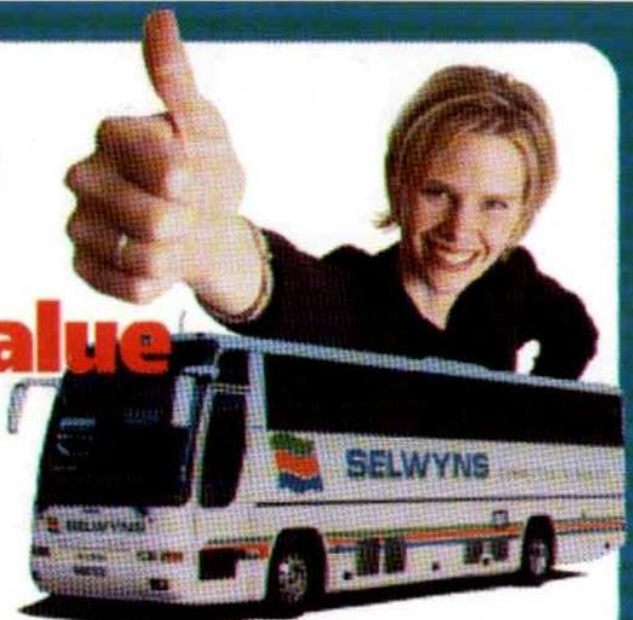
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# CH42

All the latest from the heart of the club

<p><b>VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS</b></p> <p><b>RADIO NEWS</b></p> <p><b>LIVE COMMENTARY</b></p> <p><b>VIDEO ARCHIVE</b></p> <p><b>BUY WORLD</b></p> <p><b>MY ACCOUNT</b></p> <p><b>HELP</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Home</b></p> <p><b>News</b></p> <p><b>Match</b></p>	<p><b>Radio</b></p>  <p>24.08.2005 Little - "That Performance Was Miles Better Than At Brentford" The Gaffer's Post Match Reaction</p> <p><b>LISTEN NOW</b></p> <hr/> <p>22.08.2005</p>	<p><b>Recent Match Highlights</b></p> <div data-bbox="1053 425 1236 571">  <p><b>WATCH NOW</b></p> </div> <p>20.08.2005 Brentford 2 Tranmere <a href="#">Match report</a> <a href="#">Match stats</a> <a href="#">League table</a></p> <hr/> <div data-bbox="1053 604 1236 705">  </div> <p>12.08.2005 Tranmere 4 Oldham <a href="#">Match report</a> <a href="#">Match stats</a></p>
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## Always dreamt about having an evening with Ray Stubbs, Mark Lawrenson, Brian Little, Les Parry and Jason McAteer?

Well, now you can. On Thursday 29th September 2005 these five will be regaling an audience with their anecdotes and banter and hopefully answering some of your questions.

Tickets are only £20.00 each and include a three-course meal. Numbers are limited so, get your tickets now.

Call Sue on 0151 609 3305 or call in to the club shop.

## Are you or your kids going back to school soon?

Why not send them off in style, rulers, pens and pencils all available in the Club Shop now.

Impress your friends with your Tranmere Rovers style.

## Have you visited the Dave Russell Restaurant yet?

You can enjoy a three course pre-match meal in the fantastic restaurant and watch the game from the Main Stand for just £40.50 per person or only £19.95 if you already have a ticket.

## For a birdseye view of the match why not catch all the action from our exclusive Media Suite.

For the price of £800 + VAT (that's just £40 per person based on 20 guests) you will receive a fantastic hot and cold buffet, have access to your own bar and receive complimentary programmes and team sheets.

Why not call Sue on 0151 609 3305 for more details.

## Want to present the team with their match ball?

Become match ball sponsor for just £160. This includes a meal for two in the Dave Russell restaurant and you will receive a signed ball as a souvenir of your day.

A lot of the matches have already been booked up, so if you are interested call Sue now!

## Shortly after Alex Bruce (right) put pen to paper on his loan deal from Birmingham City, Tranmere World caught up with the defender.

"The last couple of months haven't been easy," he said. "I got an injury over the summer which delayed the move but to get down here and start training has been great. When I got the phone call to see if I was interested in coming to Tranmere there was no decision to be made. Tranmere are a good team who pass the ball and make it difficult for their opponents. If both parties are happy at the end of January and I've done a good job, hopefully we'll see if we can do something so I can stay here longer."

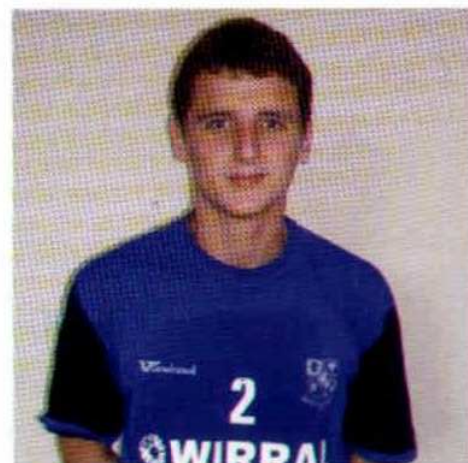
Subscribe to Tranmere World and listen to the full match commentary on your computer and get all the latest news, views and Statistics. Not only do you get top quality commentary from BBC Radio Merseyside, there's rolling text commentary so you can flick through

all the key moments of the matches and on screen stats so you can see which team is dominating the game. Not only can you do this for Tranmere matches, but you can also listen to every game in the country! All this for only £3.99 a month, Bargain!!

## Gareth Roberts will be missing from the Rovers squad on Friday as he's been called up for international duty with Wales.

If selected, Rovers' number three will take on both England and Poland in a four day spell and you can bet on the matches with Tranmere Bet. At the time of writing, England were 1/8 to win the qualifying group, followed by Poland at 4/1 and Austria at 40/1.

For odds on the internationals, Rovers matches and more, visit [www.tranmerebet.co.uk](http://www.tranmerebet.co.uk), and remember, every bet you place helps the club!





# The Lowdown

## Carl Tremarco

**Date of birth:** 11/10/1985

**Place of birth:** Liverpool

**Total Rovers appearances:**  
3 + 1

## Strengths...

I win a lot of headers and my tackling is a big part of my game.

## Weaknesses...

I only use my right foot to stand on and I don't talk enough when I'm on the pitch.

## I play a bit like...

Hopefully Stuart Pearce. He was a good hard tackler and I'd like to be as good as him one day.

## Where I want to be in five years time...

I'd love to be a first team regular here, if that's not possible then playing first team football somewhere else.

## Any mates at other clubs?

Ged Scott who used to be here and is now with Cammell Lairds.

## First medal won...

I won a medal in athletics for the long jump.

## My prize possession...

My little Punto!

## One player I'd love to play alongside...

Jamie Carragher, he's a legend already.

## Favourite away ground...

MK Dons' National Hockey Stadium. I haven't played at too many so it will have to be that one.

## Most memorable match...

## played in...

Our FA Youth Cup Fifth Round match against Southampton in 2004. We won the match on penalties and I scored one of them.

## Watched live...

When Tranmere came back from 3-0 down to beat Southampton 4-3 in the FA Cup a few years ago.

## watched on tv...

Liverpool 4 Newcastle United 3, the first time it happened.

## Toughest opponent...

Paul Hall in training. You just didn't know where he was going or what he was going to do.





# You're never too young to follow Rovers!

## Home & Away Shirts

Baby **£19.99**

Youth **£29.99**

Adult **£39.99**

\*Save 15% on the Adult  
Away Shirt with your  
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(S - XL)

\*NOW IN STOCK

**Highlights**

**2004-05**

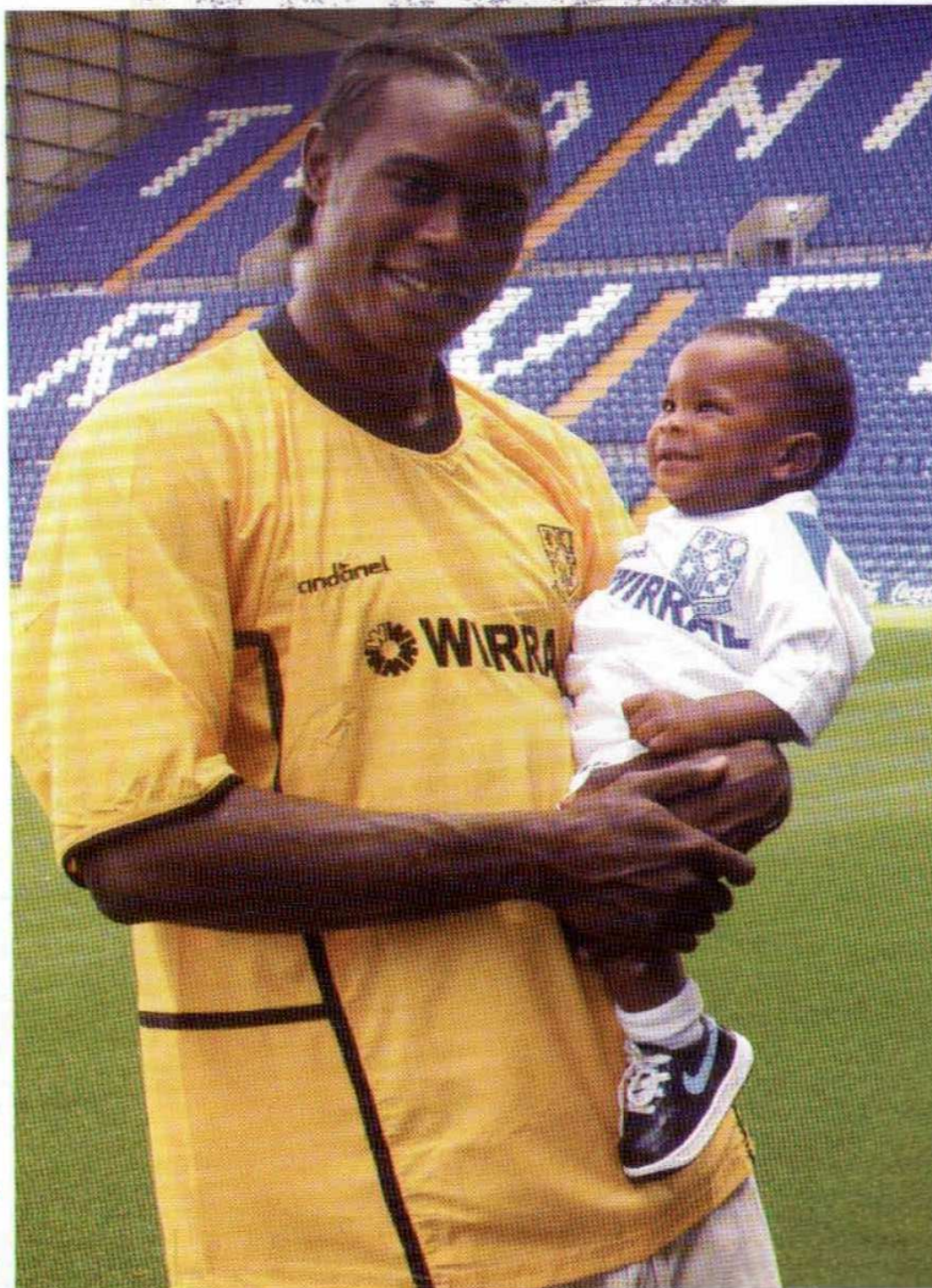
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on DVD

**£17.99**

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**CLUB SHOP OPEN FOR 30 MINUTES AFTER TODAY'S GAME**  
**MATCHDAY SATURDAYS 10.00AM-KICK OFF**  
**MIDWEEK MATCH NIGHTS 9.30AM-KICK OFF**  
**MON-FRI 9.30AM-5PM**



# **It's a long way to the South Coast ...So let us do the driving for you!**

## **Bournemouth**

**Friday 2nd September**

**Executive Coaches only**

**- Adults £23,**

**U16 / 60+ £21.50**

**Non-Members pay £2 more**

**Departs 11.30am**

## **Southend United**

**Saturday 17th September**

**Executive Coaches only**

**- Adults £23,**

**U16 / 60+ £21.50**

**Non-Members pay £2 more**

**Departs 7.00am**

**Both journeys include a selection of hot and cold drinks  
provided by our on-board stewards, DVD and toilet facilities**

**Membership now available Adults £10, Under-16's and Seniors 60+ £6**

**PLUS - All members will be entered into our Accumulator System,  
where journeys equal points.**

**At the end of the season, the six supporters who have  
the highest number of points will win a money-can't-buy prize  
and be invited to a pre-season training session in summer 2006**

## **Support the Superwhites on the road!**

**To book your place telephone  
the Tranmere Ticket Office  
on 0870 460 3332**





# Fan Base

Tony Morris' current view from the stands



**"Last week, my son Josh spent four days at a football coaching course for five- and six-year olds run by Rovers."**

"Not only was it great fun to watch children enjoying themselves hugely while learning new skills, it also got me thinking about the nature of Tranmere's support and the club's place in the Wirral community.

This was the second course Josh has been on this year, and on both occasions I noticed the scarcity of Tranmere shirts worn by the youngsters. That fact was surprising, given Rovers' high percentage of season ticket holders under the age of sixteen. And it's worrying, too.

The early 1990s saw an explosion of support for Tranmere as Johnny King's teams rose majestically through the divisions and made Wembley a second

home. For the first time, the number of white shirts seen across Wirral rivalled the red and blue ones representing our cross-river neighbours, and youngsters were a big part of that. Yet in recent years fewer Rovers favours have been in evidence compared to those of the big Premiership clubs across the water.

Rovers' attendances have held up well despite this season being our fifth outside the top two divisions, so why the apparent drop in Tranmere colours being displayed?

Our successes from 1987 to 1995 - avoiding relegation from the Football League, two promotions, five trips to Wembley and three play-off campaigns - coincided with relatively barren spells for Liverpool and Everton. It became acceptable for Wirral-based reds and blues to start watching Tranmere instead, and as they began to take

their children to Prenton Park so another generation of Rovers fans was born. This accounts for the large number of passionate young supporters who sit at the back of the Kop, among other places.

But as the Rovers revival faltered after relegation in 2001, so the fortunes of the other two sides have revived: Liverpool's Treble season and the heroics of Istanbul, and the Moyes effect at Everton, have led to more and more red and blue shirts in Tranmere territory. Wirral football fans have again felt able to show support for teams from across the Mersey - and their children are doing the same.

To break this cycle, to whitewash Wirral again, means one thing: promotion. So let's do it, people.

Get behind the lads and enjoy the game."

## Danny's 100 Is Up

This afternoon could be a special day for Danny Harrison.

If the midfielder was involved at Chesterfield, and takes some part in today's match, it will be his 100th appearance in a Tranmere shirt.

Congratulations Danny - and here's to many more of them!



## The Latest SWA Recruit

...is Harry Reynolds at just 2½ weeks old - born to Peter and Andrea, residing in Gloucestershire, and who is the proud and great nephew of TRFC season ticket holders Linda and Andrew McCartney.



Hopefully it won't be long before Harry will be taking his place alongside his relatives within Prenton Park itself.

Welcome to the world (of TRFC) Harry!

## Video Vaults?

There may be a few fans out there who may be able to assist one of our supporters with the following request.

Mr R. Postlewaite, based in Cumbria, is hoping to obtain any TRFC match videos, particularly from the 1988-89 and 1989-90 seasons.

If you think you can assist him in any way, please contact the Editor here at Rovers, and we'll pass on your details.



# The **BIG** Auction



## **LOTS COMING SOON:**

- +Bid for a place in the Rovers squad - including your own squad number and official football league registration.
- +Signed Ryan Taylor match worn home shirt.
- +New home shirt signed by the whole squad.
- +Signed and framed 2005-06 team photo.

**Auctions begin on Thursday 1st September 2005.**

**Visit [www.tranmererovers.co.uk](http://www.tranmererovers.co.uk)**



# Programmes

Tony Evans makes an issue of Rovers' printed matters

**Swansea City - 'The Swan'** Price: £3.00 Pages: 52 Adverts: 16%



<b>Scoreboard</b>	
<b>Presentation</b>	14
<b>Pictures</b>	14
<b>Statistical Content</b>	12
<b>Editorial Content</b>	14
<b>Value for Money</b>	13
<b>(last season n/a)</b>	

**To match their unimaginatively named NEW Stadium, The Swans have produced a very large NEW programme at a hefty NEW price!**

Assuming the good fortune they enjoyed in securing three points against us is only temporary and they don't mount a second successive promotion challenge, it will be interesting to see how many regular supporters have the money (and the storage space) to collect every edition. It's probably just as well that the impressive new Megastore hadn't wasted valuable floor-space by stocking the huge programme binders that would be needed to hold them!

The magazine size pages appear to be the sole reason for the price hike to £3, because the general design and editorial content are distinctly average.

## GOALS:-

- The matt finish on the cover and pages gives a very professional appearance.
- The large player photos and double-page montages of action shots from pre-season friendlies against Fulham and Blackburn are superb quality.
- The "Swans Legend" feature

on the great Ivor Allchurch took us back to an era when £3 would probably have bought a season ticket, let alone a single match programme! Ivor was dubbed the "Golden Boy" of Welsh football and helped his country reach the 1958 World Cup Quarter-Finals in Sweden. Given that his younger brother Len also played with distinction for his hometown club, surely the Allchurch Arena would have been a more fitting and original name for the Stadium until a suitably rich sponsor is found!

**SHOTS SAVED:-** (apart from Lee Trundle's penalty!)

- Although it reflects the club colours, surely more thought and imagination could go into the layout of most of the pages, which are simply a mass of print on a white background with very plain titles and poorly displayed photos.

- Very uninteresting coverage of Rovers consisted largely of detailed pen-pics of the whole squad alongside passport size photos which looked as insignificant as the pages as the Subbutto scoreboard did against the vast superstructure of the of the stadium! A double-page was also dedicated to "Leigh Edwards Dream Team" series which regular away fans will have read at least 23 times last season. His new offering on Tranmere's "Classic Campaigns" was of far more interest, but will probably have lost its appeal by next May especially if it remains completely un-illustrated, as was the case here.

**SHOTS OFF TARGET:-**

- Perhaps I'm being a little naïve, but isn't it probable that most readers of The Swan have successfully negotiated the route by road or rail to The New Stadium? Why then is a whole page given over detailed directions including a map?!!

- After spending several seasons in Britain, I'm sure Spanish skipper Roberto Martinez has a better grasp of our language than his largely incomprehensible column reflects.

Have a go at translating this extract!

"We are looking forward to hearing your support in the new stadium that will get us through the tough difficult moments as has happened in the past in a very important season to develop in another step forward"

We dig deep into the archives today to look at a programme for a match, which, in spite of the name of the league, was at the same level as today's! I'm sure both clubs would have been delighted if they could have looked in a crystal ball and seen the front cover of this edition of our programme showing us meeting in League ONE!

Talking of front covers, if your eyesight is better than that of the average referee you may be able to see that this particular red and white striped design omitted to give the date of the match. Those details were unusually printed on the back page above the team line-ups. In those days programme editors obtained their information about the opposition via a phone call to the club concerned, which could lead to some confusion especially with players' names! If like me, you're old enough to remember the exciting Johnny King team that won promotion in 1975-76 you can probably still recite the names of the regular line-up in your sleep: Johnson, Mathias, Flood, Parry, Philpotts, etc. Somehow this appeared in the programme as:

1. Johnson-Mathias
2. Flood
3. Parry

I can't see Achterberg combining with any of the current squad to give a double-barrelled name with quite the same ring to it! Another slight error listed our midfielder Eddie Cliff as CLISS. Incidentally, I saw Eddie harshly described in a recent publication as our worst ever player. While

## Were You There?

**Swindon Town  
v Tranmere Rovers  
Football League  
Division Three  
County Ground**



he may not have set the pulses racing too often at Prenton Park, I can think of a few names more deserving of that dubious honour!

The 16 pages gave good value for 10p, with some well written columns, some of which are even more fascinating when re-read today. These snippets show just how quickly things can change in our beautiful game.

Luton and CHELSEA managed to buy a little more time to sort out their (financial) problems!

"Though a newly constituted Wigan Athletic was formed to take over the massive Springfield Park Stadium, and have been trying ever since to get back into the League, they have never come back!"

Judging by what's happened to Chelsea and Wigan since 1976, how long will it be before Rovers and Swindon are meeting in the Champions League Final?!!

With the current debate raging over the introduction of all day licensing hours it was interesting to read that the Town Chairman was encouraging fans to visit the Social Club after the match, where tea, coffee and soft drinks were on sale. After Russell Allen headed an equaliser to cancel out Trevor Anderson's early penalty for Swindon, no doubt most of the 7,776 fans would have appreciated something a little stronger. Hopefully we'll be toasting another three points for The Superswans come 5 o'clock today!



# WEDDING CHRISTENING BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY

*Looking for a venue?  
We can cater for parties up to 200*



*Or if you prefer you can now  
do your own catering in 'Aldo's'*

*Call Sue on 0151 609 3316 for details or to reserve your date*

***Prenton Park - more than just a football club***



# Prentonian Nostalgia

**Tony Coombes makes a 'stand' over our own Prenton stadia  
- by delving into the Rovers archives for the first of a two part story**



**On this occasion, maybe we can describe the history of a very important, yet ageing section of our home ground, by making good use of the legendary Johnny King's own inimitable lines of phrase.**

We are talking, by the way, about the Main Stand, which at just over 37 years of age, holds great memories for Rovers fans young and old, and is still considered the 'flagship of the four' at Prenton - or as Johnny might say, Park's very own 'Ark Royal'.

Despite the many decades of loyal service however, it somehow links the stands' fate to that of her ocean going namesake, and with the expected life span of any major facility within football stadia these days set at 25 years, the act of 'mothballing' is more than likely the only option for the old lady.

It was a different story however during the mid-months of 1968, as Rovers were forced to finally replace the old wooden pavilion which had served Prenton Park for over half-a-century beforehand.

Rovers had moved to the current Prenton site in 1912, with the 'three-piece' wooden edifice an amalgamation of the centre section - revitalised from a ground sharing scenario with Birkenhead Wanderers Rugby Club at the turn of the century - and the two outer wing stands. Often fondly known as the 'Weekend Stand', this was purchased from the Oval Sports Ground owned by Lever Brothers, shortly before World War One. The entire structure had cost the club £350 in total - a far cry indeed from the £80,000 required for the new grandstand.

By the mid to late 1960's however, its age had been well noted, and it had more than served its purpose. Worst still, this major part of the Prenton Park ground had now inherited the unenviable tag as a firetrap.

Rovers now looked to the future, as plans drawn up for the new grandstand met with significant approval by the club's board of directors at a board meeting in early February 1968. The contract for construction itself was in turn awarded to local constructional engineers, E. F. Blakeley, located in Beaufort Road.

The fresh design - one of the first to use a cantilever construction - composed of 19 separate bays - approximately 15ft 9 inches per bay - the finished article was to measure almost 300ft long, accommodating 4,000 spectators. The total cost comprised of £47,000, with an additional £37,000 spent on executive and administrative office facilities. Rovers then announced a target date - the opening day of the League season, Saturday 10th August 1968 for its initial completion.



Despite all the hype and excitement felt by everyone connected with Rovers, it was little or no surprise to its supporters that news of a sharp increase in season ticket prices for the 1968-69 season soon followed - almost 33% more than the previous year - as a figure of £6 15s jumped to £9.

The forward Paddock area was also included in the makeover, enlarged and laden with cinders (which remained until the late 1970's), but the inclusion of dressing rooms and office accommodation was put on hold until the club could muster extra finance. This would eventually come to fruition shortly after the new season kicked off, thanks in part to the efforts of the club's Supporters Association.

*(To be continued)*



# Youth

First blood to our youngsters in the North West Conference

## Wrexham Under-19's (1) 2

## Tranmere Rovers Under-19's (3) 4

Football League Youth Alliance North West Conference

Saturday 13th August 2005

**Tranmere's youngsters began the season with a well deserved victory despite putting in a poor first half performance.**

Three first year scholars began the game for Rovers with a further five on the bench. With striker Steve Davies now on first team duties, Adam Dickinson and Jamie Garry were handed the attacking duties, while Ollie James featured at centre back.

It took just four minutes for Rovers to take the lead with Adam Dickinson converting after a shot from Jamie Garry had struck the cross bar and rebounded into play.

Luke Holden, a first year scholar, made the score 2-0 after 15 minutes with a well taken strike, while Mike Jones made put the match beyond Wrexham soon after. The midfielder's long run ended with him rounding the goalkeeper and

shooting into an empty net.

The three goal lead, however, lasted just a few minutes as the Red Dragons netted shortly before the interval.

Strong rain affected the second half, but Rovers' play improved and they went 4-1 up on 79 minutes with substitute John Corrigan finding the target. Corrigan impressed during his 20 minutes on the pitch, showing neat touches along with his well taken goal.

Another goal was conceded late on, but it was not enough for Wrexham as Rovers ran out comfortable winners.

Youth team coach Shaun Garnett said: "In terms of the result it was a good start to the season, but the performance was not what I'd hoped for."

"We didn't play our usual attacking football for much of the game, though we did improve after half time."

\* The youth team also took on Gambia Under-17s at Liverpool Academy recently and went down to a 2-0 defeat.

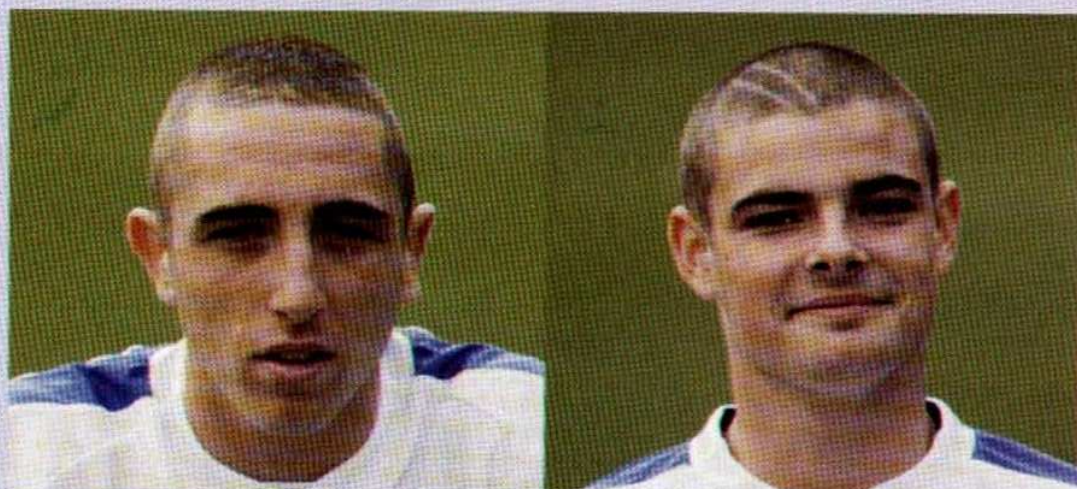
\* Their next match was a 2-1 defeat of Stockport County. A full report will appear in the Bradford City programme.



## Youth - Under-19's Results & Fixtures Season 2005-06

### North West Conference

Sat Aug 13	A Wrexham	W 4-2
Sat Aug 20	H Stockport C.	W 2-1
Sat Sep 3	A Macclesfield T.	
Sat Sep 10	H Preston NE.	
Sat Sep 17	A Shrewsbury T.	
Sat Oct 1	A Bury	
Sat Oct 8	H Blackpool	
Sat Oct 15	A Chester C.	
Sat Oct 22	H Oldham A.	
Sat Oct 29	H Port Vale	
Sat Nov 5	A Rochdale	
Sat Nov 12	A Carlisle U.	
Sat Nov 19	H Walsall	
Sat Nov 26	A Burnley	
Sat Dec 3	H Wigan A.	
Sat Dec 10	H Bury	
Sat Dec 17	A Blackpool	
Sat Jan 7	H Chester C.	
Sat Jan 14	A Oldham A.	
Sat Jan 21	A Port Vale	
Sat Feb 4	H Rochdale	
Sat Feb 11	H Carlisle U.	
Sat Feb 18	A Walsall	
Sat Feb 25	H Burnley	
Sat Mar 11	A Wigan A.	
Sat Mar 18	H Wrexham	
Sat Mar 25	A Stockport C.	
Sat Apr 1	H Macclesfield T.	
Sat Apr 8	A Preston NE.	
Sat Apr 15	H Shrewsbury T.	



**Luke Holden**

**John Corrigan**

**Tranmere Team:** Palethorpe, Holmes, James, Johnston, Lovell, Curran, Henry, M. Jones, Holden (Corrigan 70), Garry, Dickinson. Substitutes not used: P. Jones, Connolly, Williams, Ferguson.

**Tranmere Goalscorers:** Dickinson (4), Holden (15), M. Jones (17), Corrigan (74).

**Played at:** Colliers Park, Wrexham Training Ground.

Home games played at Raby Vale Training Ground unless stated. For fixture confirmation, please ring 0870 460 3333.

### Next Home Youth Team Fixture **Preston NE Under-19's**

Football League  
Youth Alliance  
North West Conference  
Saturday 10th September 2005  
Kick Off 11.00am Raby Vale



# Reserves

Rovers' second string have to settle for a share of the spoils at Deepdale

## Preston North End Reserves (1) 2

## Tranmere Rovers Reserves (2) 2

Pontin's Holidays League Premier Division

Monday 15th August 2005

**Tranmere twice led in their opening reserve fixture of the season but ultimately had to settle for a draw against Preston.**

Rovers fielded a young side including Steve Jennings and Danny Harrison while Preston boasted four of their summer signings including Manchester United youngster David Jones.

John McMahon's side took an early lead through Steve Davies after the striker slotted the ball under experienced keeper Gavin Ward after being played into the penalty area by Chris Dagnall.

McConville and Hibbert combined well for the hosts in the 11th minute when the younger striker chested down a long ball into Hibbert's path on the edge of the box and the former Port Vale man struck an effort that flew just over Steve Wilson's bar.

Rovers gradually took charge of the game, and went close when Ward almost spilled a harmless looking free-kick from Mike Jones into the net. The ball bobbed across goal and to the right side of the post and away for a corner.

Danny Harrison struck a half-volley over the North End bar from 12 yards out in the 26th minute and then from the resulting corner Ward pulled off a magnificent save to deny Davies his second of the game.

Poor marking left Davis free in the box and the striker's shot across goal looked to be on target for the net but Ward somehow managed to push it around the post.

The pressure from Rovers continued with Dagnall seeing his shot from close range hit the post, roll along the line and away to safety. Wilson kept Rovers in front on 34

minutes with a save at the feet of Cudworth, while a backheel from Davies found Dagnall in space inside the area soon after but his shot was kept out by Ward.

Rovers had another great chance in the 41st minute when Michael Johnston found himself unmarked from a Paul Brown corner on the left but the defender's header lacked power and Ward was able to gather.

Against the run of play, Preston grabbed an equaliser in the 43rd minute when Beattie ran onto the end of a hopeful ball over the top into the box and bravely put his leg in to poke it past Wilson and into the back of the net.

But soon after, the visitors were back in the lead. Jennings played a free kick to Dagnall, who, 18 yards from goal, turned his marker and hit a powerful effort to Ward's left

that struck the back of the net.

Danny Holmes was forced into action in the 47th minute after Michael Johnston hobbled off the field of play with a knee injury.

Tranmere could have had a third in the 58th minute when Dagnall and Davies combined well again, this time Davies playing a superbly weighted ball in behind the defence but Dagnall was unbalanced as he hit his shot and it flew harmlessly wide.

The home side equalised again just after the hour mark. Jones stood over the ball 35-yards out and he shaped to shoot before playing the ball into the path of Neal 12 yards out and the former Stoke man found the target.

Rovers continued to press forward with Brown, Davies and Dagnall all going close to grabbing a winner, but North End held out for a share of the points.

"We played some excellent football with a good attitude and work rate and should have got more from the game," said John McMahon after the final whistle.



**Reserves  
Results & Fixtures  
Season 2005-06**

### Division One West

Mon 15 Aug A Preston NE	D 2-2
Wed 24 Aug H Chester C.	W 2-1
Wed 7 Sep A Rochdale	(2pm)
Wed 21 Sep H Blackpool	
Mon 3 Oct A Shrewsbury T.	
Wed 26 Oct H Wrexham	
Wed 9 Nov A Bury	
Wed 16 Nov H Burnley*	
Wed 30 Nov A Carlisle U.	(2pm)
Wed 14 Dec H Preston NE*	
Wed 11 Jan H Rochdale*	
Wed 25 Jan A Blackpool	
Wed 8 Feb H Carlisle U.*	
Wed 22 Feb A Chester C.	
Wed 8 Mar H Shrewsbury T.*	
Wed 29 Mar A Wrexham	
Wed 5 Apr H Bury	
Wed 19 Apr A Burnley	

### League Cup

Tue 30 Aug H Sheffield U. B
Tue 11 Oct A Rotherham U.
Wed 7 Dec A Blackpool

### Liverpool Senior Cup

TBC	TBC
-----	-----

### Cheshire Senior Cup

WC 12 Sep H Winsford United or Cammell Laird
---

*Home games played at Prenton Park (7pm) except\* played at Vauxhall Motors (7pm)*

Next Home Reserves Fixture

### Sheffield United 'B'

Pontin's Holidays League Cup  
Tuesday 30th August 2005  
Kick Off 7.00pm Prenton Park  
All Pay Fixture:

Adults £3, Concessions £1  
We regret that under League rules Season Tickets cannot be used for this game

**Tranmere Team:** Wilson, Johnston (Holmes), Lovell, Tremarco, James, Harrison, M. Jones, Jennings, Dagnall, Davies, Brown. Subs not used: Dickinson, Palethorpe, Henry, Holden.

**Tranmere Goalscorers:** Davies (8), Dagnall (44).

**Played at:** Deepdale, Preston North End FC.

**Attendance:** 292.



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# Rough Treatment

No one's safe! - it's Les Parry's slaughter house!

**"OK, I'm a bit of a tart but I really thought I was dying. For those of you who don't know what I'm talking about, I ended up in accident and emergency majors at Arrowe Park hospital last Sunday."**

"I was just standing in the kitchen and suddenly got a pain in my side and couldn't breathe, it frightened me a bit. Anyway, after an ECG, chest x-ray and blood tests I was told I didn't have a blood clot in my lung or an air leak and would probably live for at least another few days. It was a bit embarrassing taking a bed up when there were loads of really sick people needing attention. Mind you, I don't suppose I would have been embarrassed if I'd have dropped dead. Just a quick note to thank sister Ann-Marie who is a TFRC fanatic, and her staff for looking after me. I don't want to sound fussy but it may be an idea to take looks into consideration when taking on staff. If I had have kicked the bucket, it would have been nice if the last women I saw were really attractive. The young lady

doctor who looked after me was about the best and ok, around 6½ out of 10, but I'm sure she could have made more of an effort with the make-up and hair. I appreciate that they are really busy but I'm sure Jessica Simpson and Jordan are very busy and you never see them looking rough. I bet you think I'm going to finish by saying I am only kidding and that they do a brilliant job and the problems they deal with put our little muscle pulls and sprained ankles into perspective. Well, I'm not.

Apart from my drama, little else has been happening on the medical side. I've still got young Joe Fowler with me. He's taking his time recovering from a pulled thigh muscle and because of it I think he's grown a bit attached to me. The other day he even asked if he could call me dad 2. I said he could if the role of dad 2 carried any marital rights with mum 1. I'll have to be a bit careful with Joe as he's becoming a bit institutionalised. He comes in every morning and sits on the bed until exactly 10.15am then walks into the gym and does precisely 75 minutes work. I'll have to break the rhythm up a bit. Thighs are notorious for taking ages to get over so I suppose I'll have him with me for at least another week.

Calvin is still walking around with his big boot on. In between me writing this and you reading it, he will have had an x-ray to see how well his foot is healing. With a bit of luck he will be able to take the boot off in a week or so and start some running work. When he starts ball

work with me I'm going to work on his touch for a fortnight so when he's back in the first team and his second touch isn't a header, as it normally is, you'll know why. Calvin lost his frog talking mate, Eugene, today (Thurs) so is feeling a bit lost. He and Eugene have this terrible habit of speaking French in my room and it drives me crackers especially because the only words they use that are the same in French and English are 'fat useless physio'. You get all this mumbo jumbo interspersed with the words 'fat useless physio' every five minutes or so. Calvin is going to have to try to find another ear he can chew for a couple of hours a day. Maybe he will be able to corner the unsuspecting Alex Bruce into a few conversations. That should work until Alex gets the knack of dropping his shoulder when he sees Calvin approach. I'll bring you fully up to date on Calvin in the next programme notes.

Those of you who were at Scunthorpe will have noticed bolly-eyed Mark Rankine hobbling off in the second half. Maybe you didn't notice the hobbling bit because it's hard to tell the difference with Ranks. One of their lads had gone down the back of his achilles with his studs so we brought him off as a precaution. He hasn't trained so far but I think he'll have been ok for Chesterfield and hopefully today.

That's about it for today, hope you have had a restful bank holiday weekend. Till next time."



**"Alex will have to stay out of Calvin's way!"**





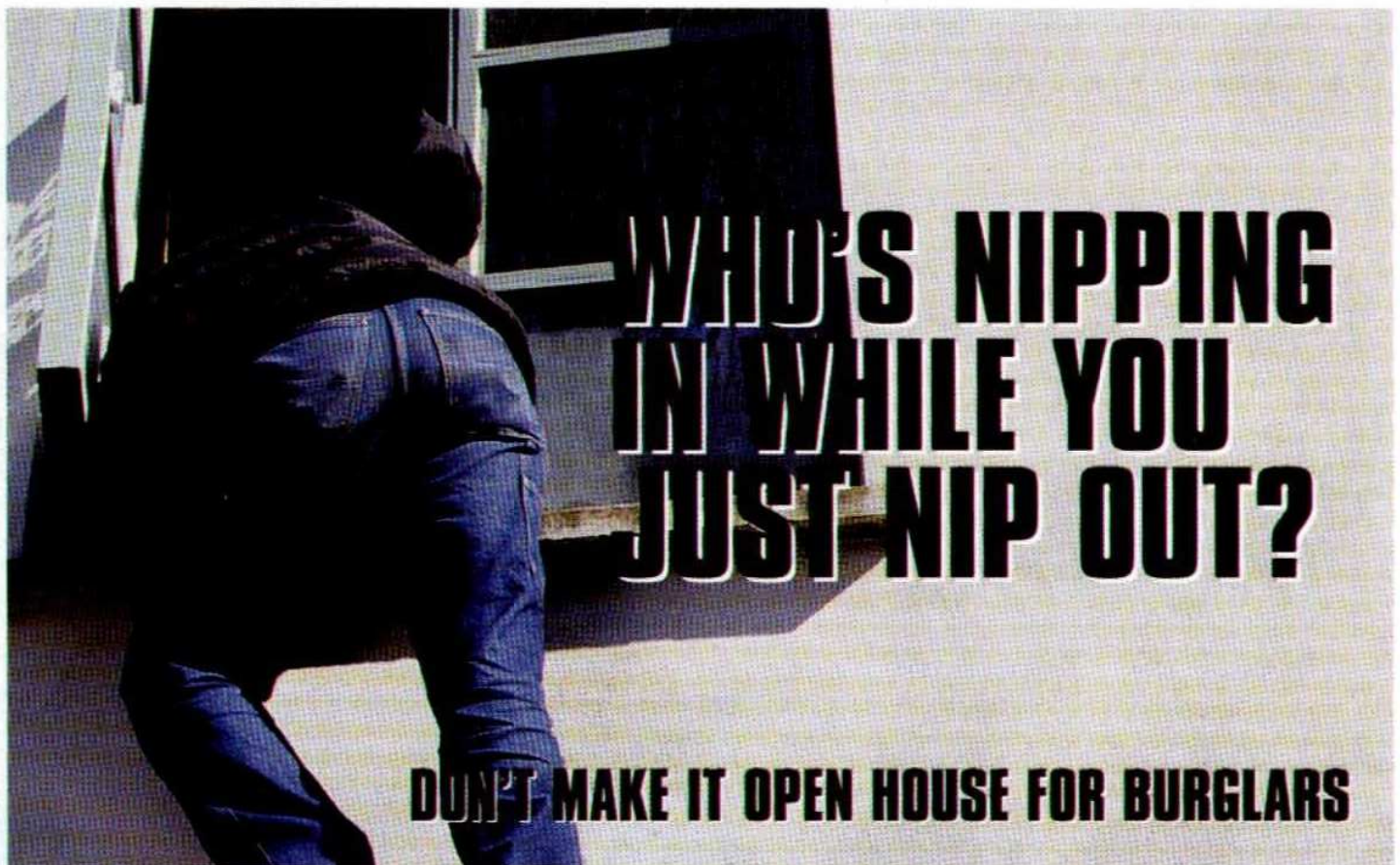


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# Coming Next

Mark McKean is focused on forthcoming opposition - home and away



Coca-Cola League One

## **AFC Bournemouth v Tranmere Rovers**

Fitness First Stadium at Dean Court

Friday 2nd September 2005 Kick Off 7.45pm

**The first of two back-to-back Friday night games sees Rovers make the long trip south to take on Sean O'Driscoll's Bournemouth.**

Having just missed out on the play-off places last season, The Cherries boss will be looking to go one better this time around, but their start has seen them win just the one game of the opening four (at the time of writing), leaving them on five points.

The Cherries' main threat lies in the form of striker James Hayter, who scored 19 times last season and has already found the net twice this term.

At the back, Bournemouth can call on experienced stopper Neil Moss, who is in his second spell at the Fitness First Stadium.

When we trekked south last season, Rovers returned with a point following a 1-1 draw - Paul Hall getting our goal.

However, with the match now switched to Friday night to accommodate the Wales-England World Cup qualifier, will the pressure be all on Rovers to get all three points to improve our early season form?



Coca-Cola League One

## **Tranmere Rovers v Bradford City**

Prenton Park

Friday 9th September 2005 Kick Off 7.45pm

**Our second home Friday Night Fever sees Colin Todd's Bradford City cross the Pennines to Prenton Park.**

The Bantams have started the campaign well, winning two and drawing one of their first four games - opposite to last season, when they only won one of the opening five.

Todd has kept the bulk of last season's squad together and added to it with the likes of former Celtic midfielder Bobby Petta and ex-Tranmere 'keeper, Russell Howarth.

Following the drama of last season's nine-goal epic, which Rovers lost 4-5, both managers will be hoping that their defences will be a lot stronger this time. A home win, though, will be at the forefront of Brian Little's mind.







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# Box Office

Forthcoming match information home and away

Telephone: 0870 460 3332

Email: [tickets@tranmererovers.co.uk](mailto:tickets@tranmererovers.co.uk)

Monday-Friday (Club Shop) 9.30am-5.00pm

Matchdays (Ticket Office) 9.30am-Kick-Off



## Bournemouth v Tranmere Rovers



**Coca-Cola League One**  
**Friday 2nd September 2005**  
**Kick Off 7.45pm Fitness First Stadium**

**Admission:** Seating only available.  
East Stand (1,400). Tickets in advance from the Bournemouth Ticket Office - No cash admission on the turnstiles. - Adults £17.00 Seniors 60+ £9.00 Juniors 16 & Under £7.00. For student concession tickets, please contact the Bournemouth Ticket Office on 01202 726313.

**Club Coach Travel:** Departs Main Car Park 11.30am.

**Travel Club Members:**

Executive Only: Adults £23.00 Concessions £21.50

**Non-members:**

Executive Only: Adults £25.00 Concessions £23.50

**ALL COACH BOOKINGS MUST BE MADE 48 HOURS  
PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED FIXTURE DATE.  
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## Southend United v Tranmere Rovers



**Coca-Cola League One**  
**Saturday 17th September 2005**  
**Kick Off 3.00pm Roots Hall**

**Admission:** Seating Only.  
Universal Cycles North Stand (2,000). Matchday Prices (Cash) - Adults £18.00 Seniors 60+ £12.00 Juniors 16 and Under £10.00. If purchased in advance, prices are: Adults £16.50 Seniors 60+ £10.00 Juniors 16 and Under £8.00. Please ring the Southend Ticket Office on 01702 304090. Students Tickets are also available in advance.

**Club Coach Travel:** Departs Main Car Park 7.00am.

**Travel Club Members:**

Executive Only: Adults £23.00 Concessions £21.50

**Non-members:**

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## Tranmere Rovers v Bradford City



**Coca-Cola League One**  
**Friday 9th September 2005**  
**Kick Off 7.45pm Prenton Park**

**Matchday Admission:**

**Main Stand:**

Adults £18.00\* Seniors 60+ £10.00\*

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Young Persons 17-22 £8.00\* Juniors 16 and Under £5.00

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## Tranmere Rovers v Gillingham



**Coca-Cola League One**  
**Saturday 24th September 2005**  
**Kick Off 3.00pm Prenton Park**

**Matchday Admission:**

**Main Stand:**

Adults £18.00\* Seniors 60+ £10.00\*

Young Persons 17-22 £13.00\* Juniors 16 + Under £5.00\*

**Town/Bebington Paddock & Johnny King Stand:**

Adults £16.00 Seniors 60+ £8.00\*

Young Persons 17-22 £11.00\* Juniors 16 + Under £5.00

**Kop Stand:**

Adults £15.00 Seniors 60+ £8.00\*

Young Persons 17-22 £8.00\* Juniors 16 and Under £5.00

**Season Ticket Voucher Number: 5**

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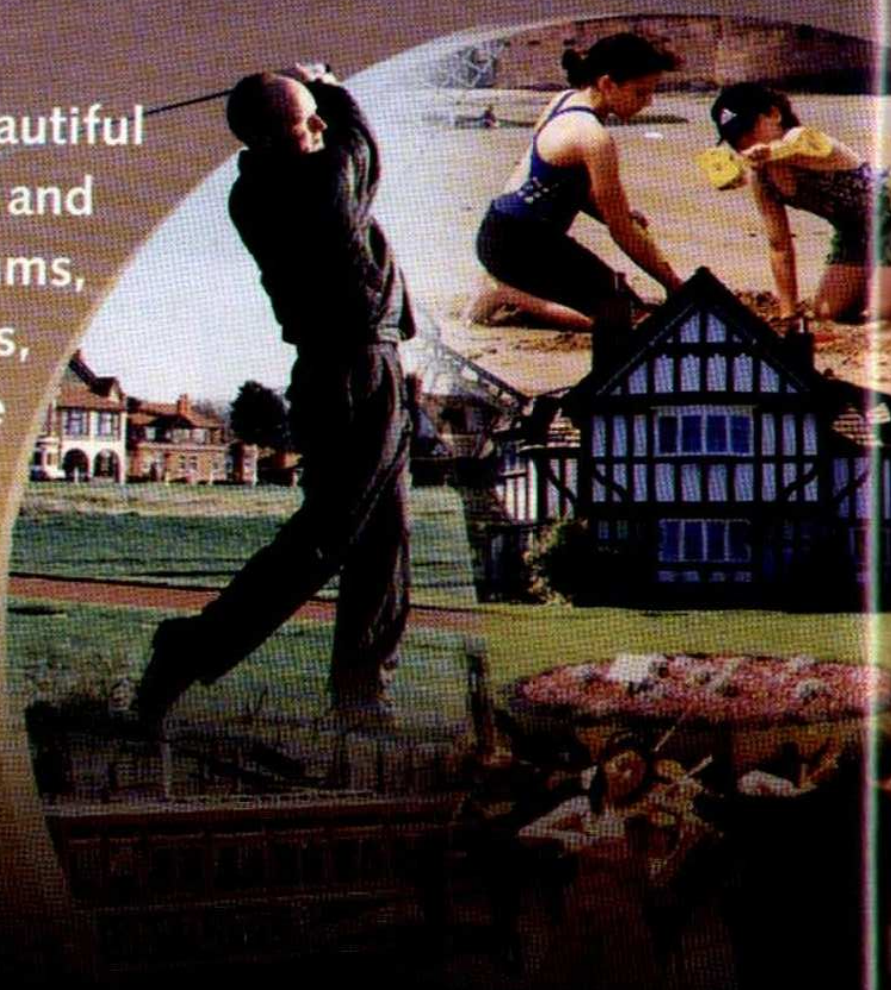
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# Results/Fixtures Season 2005-06

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Alex BRUCE

Gareth ROBERTS

Mike JACKSON

Ian SHARPS

Jason McATEER

Iain HUME

Mark RANKINE

Calvin ZOLA

Chris GREENACRE

Sam AISTON

Steven JENNINGS

Steve WILSON

Eugene DADI

Lee GUNNISON

## Coca-Cola League One

Date	Opposition	Res	HT	Att	Away	Pts	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Sat 6 Aug	A Swansea City	L 0-1	0-1	16,733	694	0	19th	●			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tue 9 Aug	H Blackpool	D 2-2	2-1	7,509	600	1	17th	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Fri 12 Aug	H Oldham Athletic	W 4-0	1-0	8,466	1,648	4	5th	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 20 Aug	A Brentford	L 0-2	0-1	5,438	702	4	16th	●	■	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sat 27 Aug	A Chesterfield										●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Mon 29 Aug	H Swindon Town	3.00																				
Fri 2 Sep	A Bournemouth	7.45																				
Fri 9 Sep	H Bradford City	7.45																				
Sat 17 Sep	A Southend United																					
Sat 24 Sep	H Gillingham																					
Tue 27 Sep	A Huddersfield Town																					
Sat 1 Oct	A Nottingham Forest																					
Fri 7 Oct	H Scunthorpe United	7.45																				
Sat 15 Oct	A Bristol City																					
Sat 22 Oct	H Colchester United																					
Sat 29 Oct	A Doncaster Rovers																					
Sat Nov 12	H Milton Keynes Dons																					
Sat 19 Nov	A Scunthorpe United																					
Sat 26 Nov	H Swansea City																					
Tue 6 Dec	A Barnsley																					
Sat 10 Dec	A Blackpool																					
Sat 17 Dec	H Brentford																					
Mon 26 Dec	A Walsall	3.00																				
Wed 28 Dec	H Yeovil Town	7.45																				
Sat 31 Dec	A Port Vale	2.00																				
Mon 2 Jan	H Rotherham United	3.00																				
Sat 7 Jan	H Bournemouth																					
Sat 14 Jan	A Hartlepool United																					
Sat 21 Jan	H Southend United																					
Sat 28 Jan	A Bradford City																					
Fri 3 Feb	H Huddersfield Town	7.45																				
Sat 11 Feb	A Gillingham																					
Tue 14 Feb	H Hartlepool United																					
Sat 18 Feb	H Barnsley																					
Sat 25 Feb	A Oldham Athletic																					
Sat 4 Mar	A Swindon Town																					
Sat 11 Mar	H Chesterfield																					
Fri 17 Mar	H Walsall	7.45																				
Sat 25 Mar	A Yeovil Town																					
Fri 31 Mar	H Port Vale	7.45																				
Sat 8 Apr	A Rotherham United																					
Sat 15 Apr	H Nottingham Forest																					
Mon 17 Apr	A Colchester United	3.00																				
Sat 22 Apr	H Bristol City																					
Sat 29 Apr	A Milton Keynes Dons																					
Sat 6 May	H Doncaster Rovers																					

## FA Cup

Date	Opposition	Res	HT	Att	Away	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Sat 5 Nov	Round One																			

## Carling Cup

Date	Opposition	Res	HT	Att	Away	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Tue 23 Aug	A Scunthorpe United (1)	L 1-2	0-0	2,738	155	--	--	●	■	●	●	●	■	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

## LDV Vans Trophy

Date	Opposition	Res	HT	Att	Away	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
TBC	All competition details TBC																			

**KEY:** ● Player appearance ■ First substitute & substituted player ■ Second substitute & substituted player ■ Third substitute & substituted player ✕ Substitute not used ◆ Player sent off







# Statistics

## League One facts and figures

### Coca-Cola League One Table 2005-06

	P	W	D	HOME			A	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	GD
				L	F	A								
1 Brentford	4	2	0	0	4	0	1	0	1	3	2	9	5	
2 Oldham	4	2	0	0	6	1	1	0	1	3	6	9	2	
3 Walsall	4	1	1	0	5	4	1	1	0	3	2	8	2	
4 Gillingham	4	2	0	0	3	1	0	2	0	1	1	8	2	
5 Huddersfield	4	2	0	0	4	1	0	1	1	2	3	7	2	
6 Bradford	4	1	0	1	2	2	1	1	0	3	1	7	2	
7 Port Vale	4	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	4	5	7	0	
8 Scunthorpe	4	1	1	0	3	2	1	0	1	1	2	7	0	
9 Barnsley	4	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	1	3	6	1	
10 Swansea	4	1	0	1	2	2	1	0	1	3	4	6	-1	
11 Southend	4	0	1	1	2	3	1	1	0	4	2	5	1	
12 Bournemouth	4	1	1	0	3	1	0	1	1	2	3	5	1	
13 Doncaster	4	0	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	2	1	5	0	
14 Rotherham	4	0	1	1	2	3	1	1	0	1	0	5	0	
15 Hartlepool	4	0	1	1	1	3	1	1	0	2	1	5	-1	
<b>16 Tranmere</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	
17 Bristol C	4	1	1	0	4	2	0	0	2	0	3	4	-1	
18 Colchester	4	1	0	1	2	2	0	1	1	2	3	4	-1	
19 Swindon	4	1	0	1	4	4	0	1	1	0	2	4	-2	
20 Nottm Forest	4	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	2	3	5	3	-2	
21 Blackpool	4	0	1	1	1	3	0	2	0	3	3	3	-2	
22 Milton Keynes	4	0	2	0	3	3	0	1	1	1	3	3	-2	
23 Chesterfield	4	0	0	2	1	4	1	0	1	4	5	3	-4	
24 Yeovil	4	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	3	2	-3	

Table not including results from 27.8.05

### Hotshots 2005-06

	LGE GLS	CUP GLS	TRFC GLS	CAR GLS
Chris GREENACRE	3	0	3	3
Ian SHARPS	1	1	2	7
Iain HUME	1	0	1	37
Gareth ROBERTS	1	0	1	13

Own Goals	0	0	0	--
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All statistics include Coca-Cola League One, FA Cup, Carling Cup & LDV Vans Trophy.

### First Team Appearances 2004-05

	POS	DOB	SQUAD NO	LGE APP	LGE SUB	CUP APP	CUP SUB	CAR APP	CAR SUB
John ACHTERBERG	GK	08/07/71	1	4	0	1	0	270	4
Sam ALSTON	MID	21/11/76	11	4	0	1	0	5	0
Paul BROWN	MID	10/09/84	22	0	0	0	0	1	3
Alex BRUCE	DEF	28/09/84	2	0	1	0	1	0	2
Eugene DADI	FOR	20/08/73	14	0	0	0	0	54	32
Chris DAGNALL	FOR	15/04/86	21	0	0	0	0	19	17
Steve DAVIES	FOR	29/12/87	28	0	2	1	0	1	2
Joe FOWLER	MID	19/08/86	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ian GOODISON	DEF	21/11/72	15	4	0	1	0	69	1
Chris GREENACRE	FOR	23/12/77	10	4	0	1	0	5	0
Danny HARRISON	MID	04/11/82	18	0	3	1	0	70	28
Iain HUME	MID	31/10/83	7	3	1	0	1	116	58
Mike JACKSON	DEF	04/12/73	4	4	0	1	0	55	0
Oliver JAMES	MID	13/01/87	23	0	0	0	0	0	0
Steven JENNINGS	MID	28/10/84	12	0	3	1	0	8	15
Paul LINWOOD	DEF	24/10/83	17	4	0	0	0	31	9
Paul MARTIN	DEF	29/10/85	24	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jason McATEER	MID	18/06/81	6	4	0	0	0	41	2
Phillip PALETHORPE	GK	17/09/86	27	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mark RANKINE	MID	30/09/69	8	4	0	1	0	53	0
Gareth ROBERTS	DEF	06/02/78	3	4	0	1	0	287	6
Ian SHARPS	DEF	12/10/80	5	4	0	1	0	147	7
Carl TREMARCO	DEF	11/10/85	20	0	0	0	0	3	1
James VAUGHAN	DEF	06/12/86	26	0	0	0	0	0	0
Theodore WHITMORE	MID	05/08/72	16	0	1	0	0	20	18
Steve WILSON	GK	24/04/74	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calvin ZOLA	FOR	31/12/84	9	1	0	0	0	11	9

\*Left the club

### Results & Fixtures

#### Results

##### Saturday 20th August 2005

Barnsley - Yeovil Town  
Blackpool - Swindon Town  
Bristol City - Port Vale  
Gillingham - Bournemouth  
Hartlepool United - Walsall  
Milton Keynes Dons - Colchester United  
Nottingham Forest - Scunthorpe United  
Oldham Athletic - Chesterfield  
Rotherham United - Bradford City  
Southend United - Huddersfield Town  
Swansea City - Doncaster Rovers

#### This Week's Fixtures

##### Monday 29th August 2005

Bournemouth v Walsall  
Blackpool v Bradford City  
Brentford v Gillingham  
Doncaster Rovers v Huddersfield Town  
Hartlepool United v Scunthorpe United  
Milton Keynes Dons v Port Vale  
Oldham Athletic v Rotherham United  
Southend United v Colchester United (12.00pm)  
Swansea City v Barnsley  
Yeovil Town v Chesterfield

#### Tuesday 30th August 2005

Nottingham Forest v Bristol City





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## Swindon Town

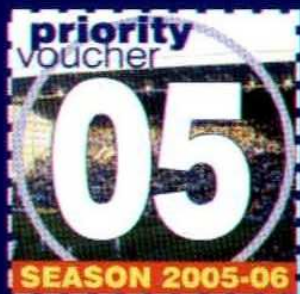
1	John Achterberg	Rhys Evans	1
2	Alex Bruce	Sean O'Hanlon	2
3	Gareth Roberts	Grant Smith	3
4	Mike Jackson	Matthew Hewlett	4
5	Ian Sharps		5
6	Jason McAteer	Steve Jenkins	6
7	Iain Hume	Sammy Igoe	7
8	Mark Rankine	Rory Fallon	8
9	Calvin Zola	Sam Parkin	9
10	Chris Greenacre	Stefani Migioranzi	10
11	Sam Aiston	David Duke	11
12	Steven Jennings	Jerel Ifil	12
13	Steve Wilson	Matt Bulman	13
14	Eugene Dadi	Christian Roberts	14
15	Ian Goodison	Andy Nicolas	15
16	Theodore Whitmore	Steve Robinson	16
17	Paul Linwood	Brian Howard	17
18	Danny Harrison	Alan Reeves	18
19		Matt Heywood	19
20	Carl Tremarco	Steve Book	20
21	Chris Dagnall		21
22	Paul Brown	Michael Pook	22
23	Oliver James	Luke Gerrard	23
24	Paul Martin	Andy Caton	24
25	Joe Fowler	Ben Wells	25
26	James Vaughan		26
27	Philip Palethorpe		27
28	Steve Davies		28
29			29
30			30

### Match Officials

Referee: Mr. E. Ilderton (Newcastle Upon-Tyne)

Referee's Assistants: Mr. C. Brumwell (Red/Yellow) & Mr. P. Kettlewell (Yellow)

Fourth Official: Mr. G. Stott.



## Next First Team Home Game

## Bradford City

Coca-Cola League One

Friday 9th September 2005 Kick Off 7.45pm