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THIS IS ANFIELD

23.08.05

Official Matchday Programme



04 **Rafael Benitez**
We need to be aware in the first 20 or 30 minutes



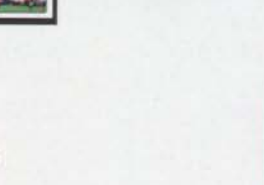
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LIVERPOOL VERSUS
CSKA SOFIA

Official Matchday Programme number...

04

Rafael Benitez

Tonight is all about getting to the group stages

WE must show no complacency tonight and do a professional job to make sure we qualify for the Champions League group stages.

We played well in Bulgaria. CSKA Sofia are a good attacking team and we tried to be organised in defence, compact and play well on the counter-attack. We found space and now we have a good position with a 3-1 lead.

But always in football you must be aware in the first 20 or 30 minutes. If we can score it will have a major effect on the game. If we don't score we must continue to work hard. We need to approach the game with respect and make sure we do a good job. It's a very important game for us because we want to qualify for the Champions League.

Antonio Barragan came on for his debut two weeks ago and did well. It was a necessity to have him on the bench because David Raven and Josemi were injured. He played as a right winger because we don't have two players in that position and he showed his quality and pace.

Antonio is one of many young players we have signed this summer and they will learn by playing for the reserves. Our

idea with the reserve team is to use young players. We don't want to use players who won't be good enough for us in the future. We prefer to use young players, players with motivation.

With the reserve team we are not thinking about winning every game. We are thinking about teaching the players to improve and to give them the opportunity to play in the first team, little by little. We don't want to use experienced players. We need to use Academy players but we must make sure they have the talent.

In three days time we are playing the Super Cup final in Monaco. It's not ideal to have to play so soon after tonight but we will have many, many situations like this throughout the season. We will have games postponed and we will have to arrange them for midweek. With two games already cancelled in August and a lot of internationals to be played, it will be a difficult situation for us.

For now, we are thinking just about tonight's match and after we want to play well against CSKA Moscow. We won't have a lot of time. We know they are a good team, we will be studying the videos to see how we should approach the game.

Rafa Benitez



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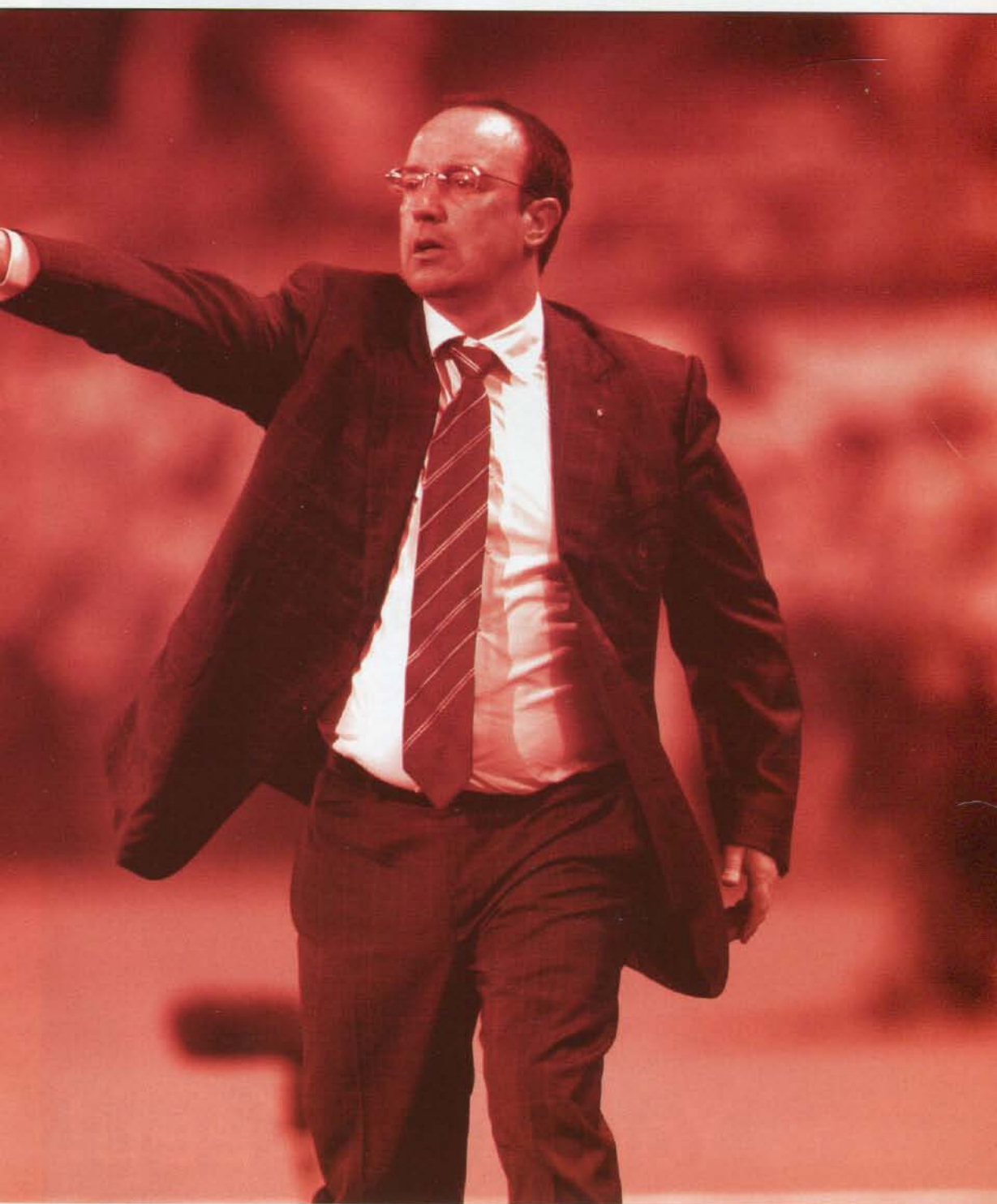
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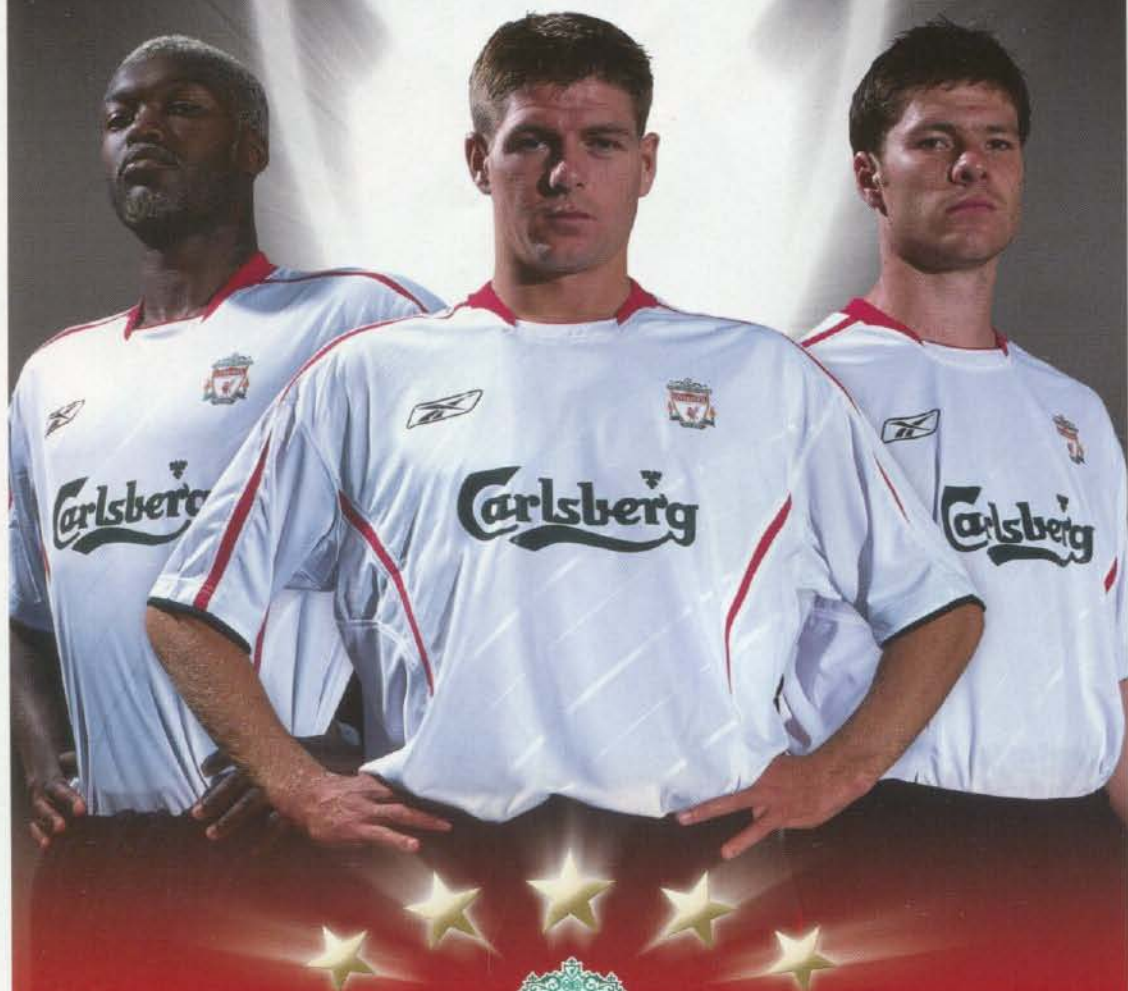
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Steven Gerrard



We can't afford to take anything for granted

TONIGHT sees the final game of our UEFA Champions League qualifying campaign and it is imperative that Liverpool Football Club reaches the group stage.

It was never ideal that we had to enter the competition from the very first qualifying round but we have worked it to our favour and taken many positives from the situation.

Playing in competitive games so early in the campaign has provided an extra edge to pre-season and the players are all feeling sharp. It has set us up nicely for the rest of the season.

We take a good lead into tonight's third round, second leg and that is down to the professional job the team produced in Sofia a few weeks ago. The first leg was all about getting the right result to bring back to Anfield and we are happy we did that.

CSKA Sofia are a tricky side to play against. They played some good stuff over in Bulgaria and always looked dangerous going forward and on the counter-attack. They kept the ball well and in some ways have a similar style to us in that they are quite compact and look to hit teams on the break.

With all due respect to TNS and FBK Kaunas, Sofia are a much better side and we had to show them a bit more respect. That proved to be the right approach as we saw by the way they played in the opening 25 minutes when they were at their most dangerous.

Sofia are a good side and although we will be massive favourites to go through tonight it's never job done until the final whistle and we can't afford to take



anything for granted. An early goal for them could change the whole outlook of the tie so we will have our minds fully focused on the job from start to finish.

We can't afford any slip-ups now that we are so close to achieving our aim of reaching the group stage. It will be a huge boost to get back there after what we achieved in last season's competition.

Most people have expected us to get there but we have to make sure.

We want to defend the trophy like true champions and so it is up to us tonight to ensure our place in Thursday's group stage draw.

LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

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

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS

1976/77 1977/78 1980/81
1983/84 2004/05

EUROPEAN SUPER CUP WINNERS

1977/78 2001/02

UEFA CUP WINNERS

1972/73 1975/76 2000/01

FA CUP WINNERS

1954/55 1973/74 1985/86 1988/89
1991/92 2000/01

LEAGUE CUP WINNERS

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

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1966 1974 1976 1979
1980 1982 1988 1989 2001

Handy finish

Djibril Cisse opens the scoring in the first leg 3-1 win in Sofia





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L4
INTERVIEW



A GAME OF TWO HALVES

While Liverpool fans still had their heads in their hands, Didi Hamann had quietly gone about placing Kaka in his pocket. He entered the fray in Istanbul at half-time like the true professional we know he is and helped inspire the greatest comeback in European Cup final history...

It was this time last season that Liverpool's Champions League participation was confirmed. A 1-0 defeat to Grazer AK here at Anfield saw the Reds sneak into the group stage courtesy of a narrow aggregate scoreline at which point nobody in their right mind was wondering about the availability of hotel rooms in Istanbul in May.

What a difference a year makes.

From Steven Gerrard's decisive double in Austria to Jerzy Dudek's heroics in Turkey, it is difficult to single out any one defining moment from the journey that took Liverpool to their fifth European Cup win.

For Dietmar Hamann, however, the final in particular will always be remembered for two very different reasons.

First and foremost he will revisit the elation of staging one of the most remarkable fight-backs ever witnessed to lift the trophy; the goals, the penalty shoot-out, the scenes of celebration, the whole mind-blowing experience.

Then he will recall how Rafa went for an attacking line-up that left him kicking his heels on the bench at the start

You have to take these things

on the chin though, because it

may happen that he needs you,

I had to keep it together so

my mind would be on the job if

and when I did come on

of one of the most important games of his career.

The contrast in emotions could not have been starker for the German international but, ever the professional, he picked himself up and got on with it.

"I was disappointed initially as I expected to play but the manager went for a more attacking system and I wasn't involved," says Hamann.

"You have to take these things on the chin though, because it may happen that he needs you. I had to keep it together so my mind would be on the job if and when I did come on.

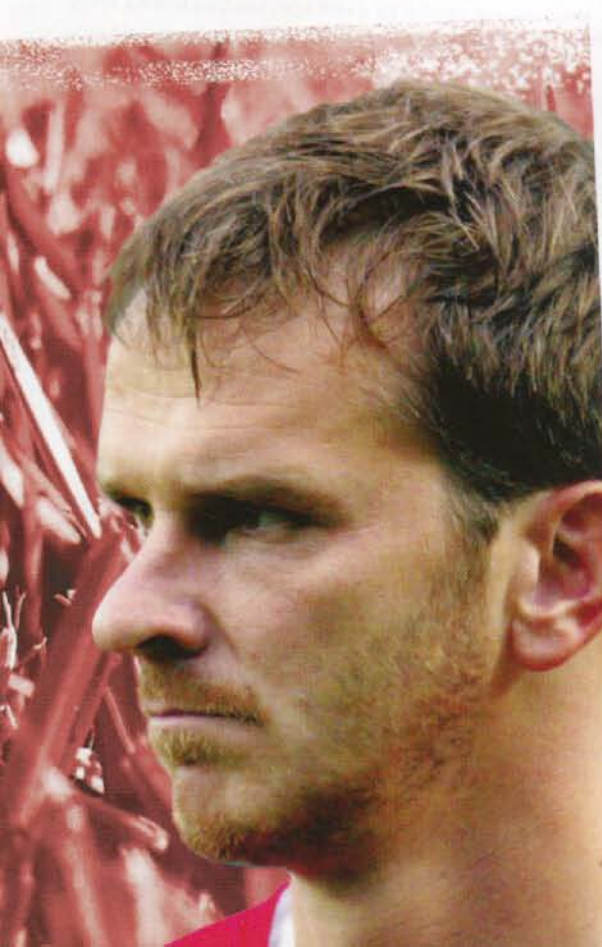
"I just had to get on with it and wish the boys all the best and hope the team does well. You don't take part in too many European Cup finals so there's no point sulking or throwing a chance away where you may be needed. You still have to be in the right frame of mind."

It's a good job he was. For those whose heads weren't buried in their hands during the half-time interval you may have been somewhat bemused to see Hamann out on the pitch warming up alone.

With Liverpool needing three goals and fast, and Didi's tally for the season at just one, a Hamann hat-trick seemed a little far-fetched. In light of the bare facts his introduction appeared more of a face-saving deterrent to prevent AC Milan pulling further away.

As he seized the midfield and helped nullify the threat of Brazilian ace Kaka within minutes it seemed to be mission accomplished but never in his wildest dreams did he envisage what would happen next.

"The gaffer put me on at half-time and things changed," continues Didi.



"Milan probably thought they'd won it but we had to go all out to have any chance of getting back into the game.

"Stevie's goal helped us a lot but we had a bit of luck as they could have made it four just after the break only for an offside to be called that, looking back, probably wasn't."

"Then we scored the first and before we knew it, it was two then three. I didn't expect it to happen so quickly to be honest. I was a bit surprised when I looked at the scoreboard and saw 3-3 and it was only 60 minutes and 49 seconds or something like that. I thought it would be more like the 75th minute or later.

"Then you're faced with another half an hour and it's a case of shall we be cautious or go for the fourth goal but we played fantastic in the second half."

To reach so high after being so low must surely not be good for the blood pressure and Hamann was probably the only person rooting for the Reds who felt anything resembling a buzz at the break.

As well as an FA Cup final, three League and two UEFA Cup finals, the midfield anchorman has also played in a World Cup final, but nothing had prepared him for this.

"It was tremendous," he adds. "Even in the run up to the final, everybody was so excited at the prospect of playing in such a game. Then from going 3-0 down, coming back to 3-3, to Jerzy's save two minutes before the end of extra-time and then the penalty shoot-out was just amazing.

"Some things happen just once in a lifetime and I think this was one of them.

"It is the biggest game you can play in at club level and the Champions League is the biggest cup you can win. The World Cup final was my most important game at national level and I'm glad to have taken part in both. They are rated as the highest levels and are both great occasions but it was even better to take part in and win the Champions League with Liverpool.

"Everybody was in a state of disbelief after the game. Even a day later we were still coming to terms with it.

"It takes a few days to sink in. A week or two later I was still sitting there asking myself, 'how did we win that game?' It's hard enough to come back against AC Milan when they are one or two nil up, let alone three.

"Everything just fell into place for us and it seemed we scored from every attack straight after half-time.



4-4-2 TACTICALLY SPEAKING

MARKING

When you line up alongside Xabi Alonso or Steven Gerrard in midfield do you decide who you will mark or does Rafa Benitez tell you before kick-off?

"Sometimes the manager will give us direct orders but generally we just have to see how it works out.

"When we play side on together with one on the left and one on the right, you can't follow the man 40 or 60 yards as it will leave a big open space down one side of the pitch. We've got to pass players on and it takes a lot of talking but it seems to work well.

"We've got Momo Sissoko now as well. He's made a very good first impression and gives us a few more options in that department."

POSITIONING

Would you say your game relies more on positional sense than pace?

"Probably, yes. I still have to do my bit but maybe not as much as some other players like the forwards for example.

"Having a bit of pace about you can make a huge difference in the middle of the pitch or at the back in defence, particularly for centre-backs if they need to recover quickly and make a tackle."

"Djimi cleared one off the line, then Jerzy made that save, but I don't think anyone can say we didn't deserve to win. We also had a few more chances and, okay, it always comes down to a bit of luck in penalties but we scored more than them."

Hamann's introduction was as pivotal as anything else in the campaign. Whether or not Milan would have taken such a lead into half-time had he started the match is open to debate. But the way in which he slipped Kaka into his back pocket suggests their main source of first half danger would have had to be found elsewhere.

"I didn't need telling to watch him really. Anybody watching the first half could see the problems Kaka was causing," reveals Hamann.

"The manager didn't say too much to me at half-time. He wanted to speak to the rest of the lads when they came in and just told me I was coming on. At the time I didn't even know who was coming off.

"We had played that formation before with me and Xabi in the middle and Stevie a bit further forward so that wasn't new to us.

"Playing side on next to Xabi meant that if Kaka went left or right, either one of us would take him. We did that in the second half and kept him a bit quieter but you can't stop him completely as he's too classy a player."

As Milan seemingly ran out of ideas, it was there on the biggest of stages that Didi's true worth became apparent.

With rumours abound ahead of the final that he would be leaving Anfield this summer, the unsung hero swiftly extended his contract by another year on his return from Istanbul and is looking forward to bringing more success to Liverpool this season.

"The manager had always said he didn't want to finalise anything until the end of the season," says Hamann.

"After the final and the reception we got back here in Liverpool the next day it would have been very hard for anybody to leave. We sat down shortly after and found the right solution.

"I had always made it clear that if Liverpool wanted to keep me then I'd love to stay. I'd never really thought about leaving the club and I'm more than happy to still be here.

"We still have to qualify for the Champions League but if we do it will be the same as when we play in the Premiership.

"Everyone wants to do well against the champions of Europe but that is a nice honour to have.

"It was an amazing achievement but we have to step things up now and make sure we deserve to hold that

cup, not only in the Champions League, but also the Premiership as well. Our overall performances in the league just weren't good enough last year and we must improve.

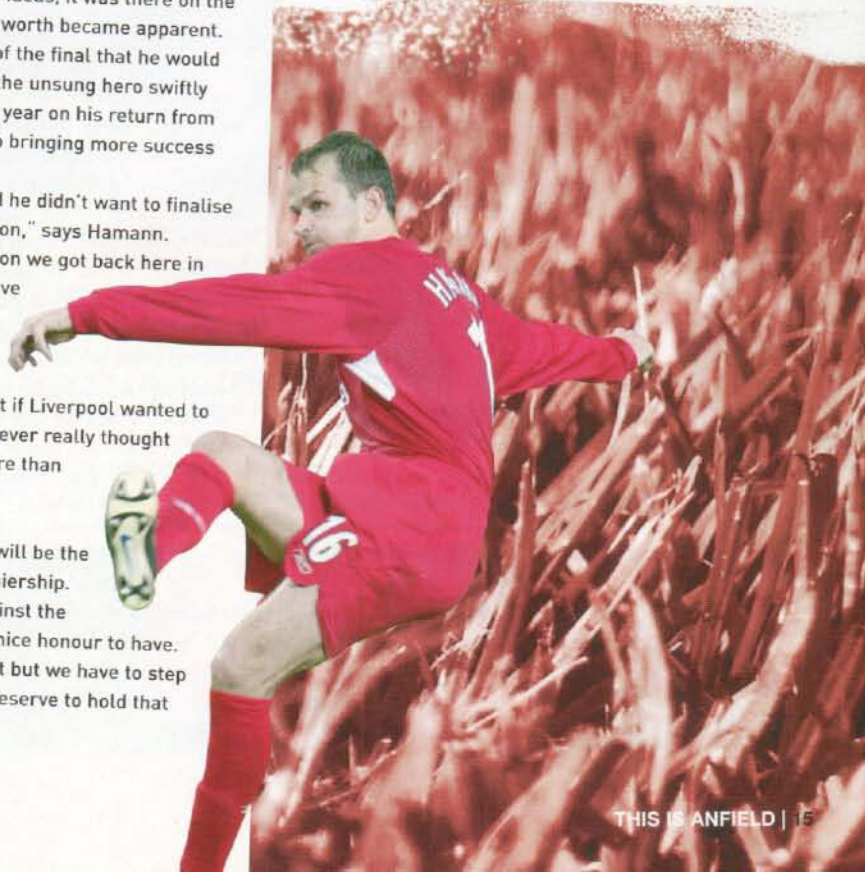
"The manager has made a few good signings in the summer and says he still wants a right midfielder and a centre-back so I think we will be stronger. Plus, a lot of players who came in last year are heading into their second season now so they know more about what is required and how to play in England.

"They all made an impact last year but I think they will be even better now.

"I left Newcastle to join Liverpool after my first year in England but it can take a few months to adapt.

"It takes some players longer than others to get used to a new style of football. It's much quicker and more physical in England and maybe not what we are used to in Germany or Spain, as the Spanish players will tell you. You've got to adapt and the more you play and get used to it the better you become."

Didi was back on the bench ahead of the 3-1 first leg win over CSKA Sofia a fortnight ago. Should he find himself there again tonight he won't be complaining but just biding his time and waiting for his moment.



Just how...

GOOD

was Hristo Stoichkov

WHEN Manchester United strode out at the Nou Camp on November 2nd, 1994, Alex Ferguson's side retained firm hopes of European Cup qualification, in a group that also included IFK Gothenburg and Galatasaray.

Cue Hristo Stoichkov and Romario to demolish their hopes in front of over 100,000 fans, the Bulgarian notching twice and the Brazilian once as one of the most ruthless performances in the competition saw United – admittedly weakened by the 'three foreigners' rule – going down 4-0.

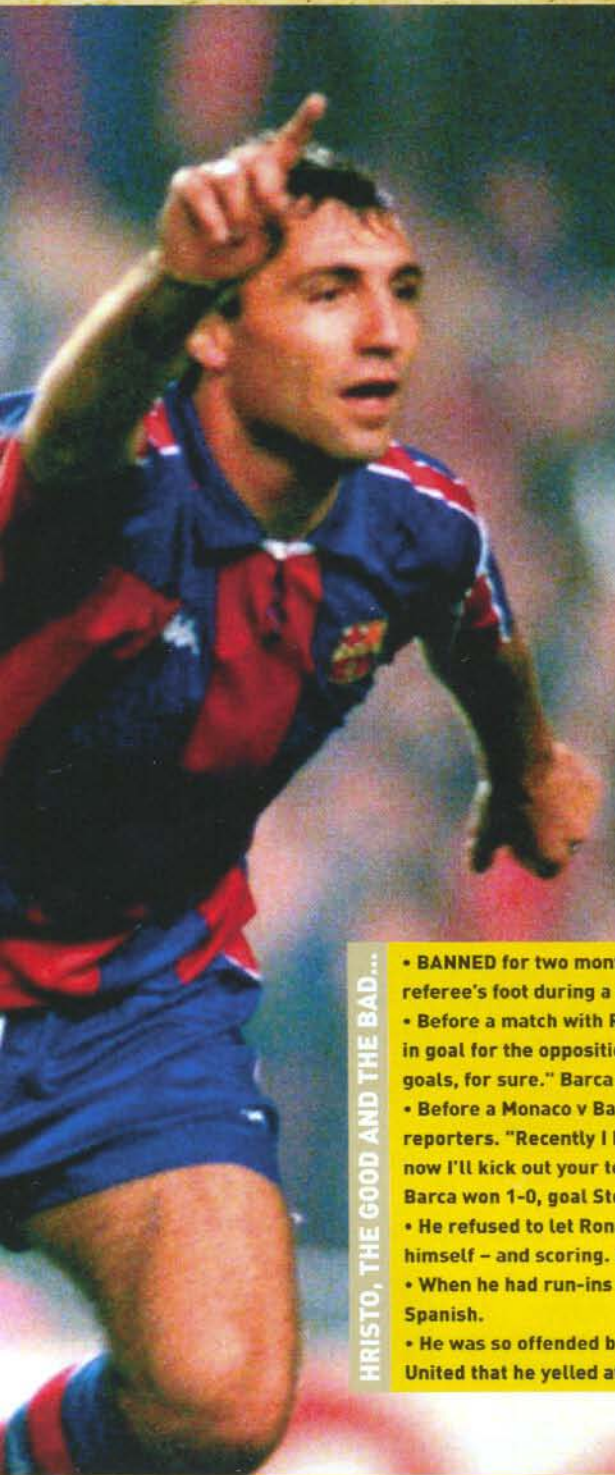
At this stage the Plovdiv-born forward was at his peak, having won the Golden Boot only months earlier as he led his previously unheralded country to the World Cup semi-finals in America, securing the Ballon d'Or in the same year – the only Bulgarian to be awarded the honour.

His aggressive style on the pitch and outspoken views off it kept Stoichkov in the media throughout his playing career, having earned a move to Barcelona after

impressing coach Johan Cruyff playing for CSKA Sofia against the Catalans in the European Cup Winners' Cup.

Helping inspire Barcelona to five La Liga titles, a Spanish Cup, a European Cup Winners' Cup and their only European Cup success in 1992 earned Hristo a lasting legacy with the club, while his displays for his country earned him god-like status in his homeland.

Further appearances at Euro '96 and the following World Cup followed, although by this stage the team was past its best. The last of his 84 caps (scoring 37 goals) came in 1999, with Hristo having moved on to Parma, back to Barca and CSKA, before spells in Saudi Arabia, Japan and America. Indeed, his biggest regret was while with Al Nassar, as he told the Expert Football website last year. While playing in the Asian Cup, the prince of Saudi Arabia promised a new Mercedes to the first player to score. Having won a penalty for his team early in the match, Stoichkov took the ball from the player preparing to take it. "Go rest in the shade" was his assurance... and he promptly struck the post.



The CSKA Years...

STOICHKOV remembers his time in the Bulgarian League with fondness. Winning a hat-trick of league and cup honours, his final two years were his most productive in front of goal. His final season, 1989-90, yielded 38 goals in just 30 games, enough to secure the Golden Boot in the process.

Despite his success under coach Dimitar Penev, he cites his first coach as an inspiration, telling the Expert Football website: "Manol Manolov aided my development by introducing me to a big club like CSKA. I will never forget him."

His rise to superstardom was not without the odd hiccup along the way. At 19 he was banned for life for his part in a mass brawl during the 1985 Bulgarian Cup final against local rivals Levski Spartak. Fortunately the communist regime reduced this to one season, and he was able to repay the CSKA fans who stood by him.

"I owe a lot to this club and the supporters who were always there for me. They supported me when I was suspended. We had a great team and great tradition, that's how we became great players."

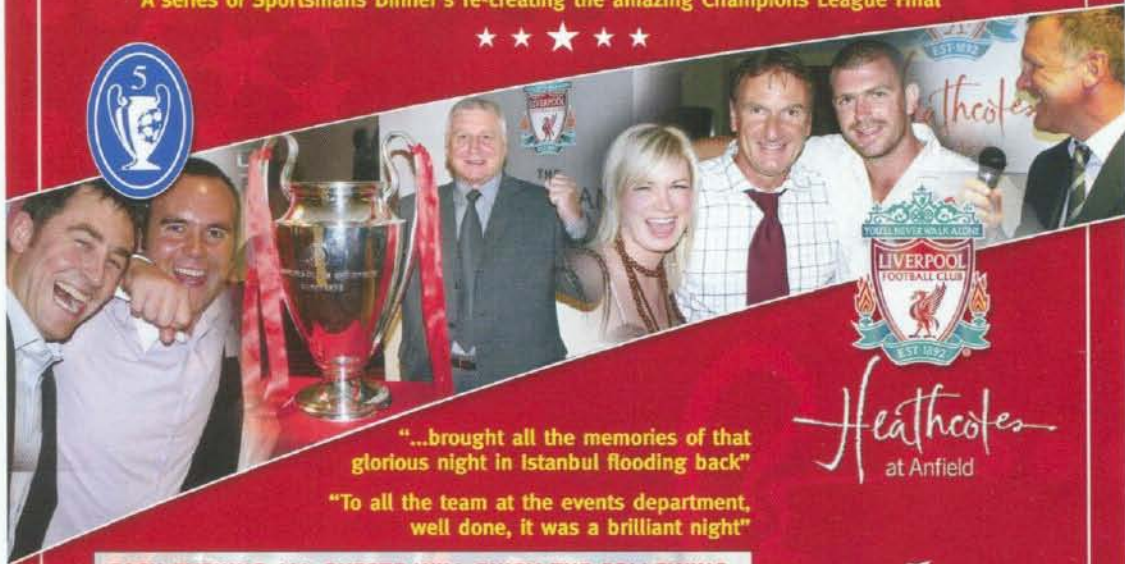
HRISTO, THE GOOD AND THE BAD...

- **BANNED** for two months soon after joining Barcelona for stepping on the referee's foot during a Spanish Super Cup game with Real Madrid.
- Before a match with Real Madrid, he learnt that reserve keeper Jaro would be in goal for the opposition and proclaimed: "Jaro is very bad, we'll score ten goals, for sure." Barca could only manage a 2-1 win.
- Before a Monaco v Barcelona European Cup match he was questioned by French reporters. "Recently I kicked out your national team from the World Cup, and now I'll kick out your team from the European Cup." This time he called it right. Barca won 1-0, goal Stoichkov.
- He refused to let Ronaldo take a penalty against Logrones in 1997, taking it himself – and scoring. Barca were leading 6-0 at the time.
- When he had run-ins with Bulgarian journalists, he spoke to them only in Spanish.
- He was so offended by a fan sporting a Real Madrid shirt while training with DC United that he yelled at him to go away – because the shirt was offending him.

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Opposition



One to Watch

HDIOUAD stood out as CSKA Sofia's best player at the Vassil Levski Stadium a fortnight ago.

The Moroccan international is the midfield playmaker who pulls the strings at the heart of the team and displayed a good range of passing.

He is always seeking to unlock defences and it was his cross that picked out Velizar Dimitrov for Sofia's goal.

Hdiouad later proved just as dangerous from deep when he picked out substitute Evgeni Yordanov with a 40-yard pass that

saw Jose Reina produce a magnificent save deep into injury time.

He was part of the Moroccan squad that made it to the finals of the African Nations Cup in 2004 and arrives at Anfield with a reputation for shooting at will as he showed with a speculative first half effort from just inside the Reds' half.

Reina was untroubled by the shot but following a similar strike against FK Tirana in the second leg of the previous round that hit the post, Hdiouad is not afraid to try his luck from anywhere.

Mourad HDIOUAD
18. Midfielder

Opposition CSKA Sofia

Evgeni Hmaruk

31. Goalkeeper

THE Moldovan international goalkeeper has replaced regular number one Dejan Maksic at the start of this season but, judging by his performance in the first leg, may not keep him out for too long.

Hmaruk rarely looked comfortable throughout the 90 minutes and took his fair share of the blame for two of Liverpool's goals.

The first saw him beaten on his near post from a Djibril Cisse left footer before he was caught in no man's land for the Reds' second. He will be looking to make amends here at Anfield.

Still all to play for at Anfield

CSKA Sofia arrive at Anfield 3-1 down from the first leg but with good European pedigree.

Liverpool are just one of three reigning European champions the Bulgarians have knocked out of the competition over the years, a statistic that Rafael Benitez will not need reminding of.

In addition to the 1982 win over Bob Paisley's team, the Bulgarians have also dumped Ajax and Nottingham Forest out as holders.

Other major scalps include Barcelona, Real Madrid, Juventus, Bayern Munich and Monaco. As reputations are so often forged in the past however, the reality of the modern day CSKA Sofia is that they have never actually qualified for the group stage of the UEFA Champions League.

They went out at this same stage last season, beaten 6-0 on aggregate by Galatasaray, and this year represents their fourth attempt at making it past the qualifiers in what is their 44th season of European football.

Although not the force they once were,

recent excursions to England have seen them come away with credit. A first round UEFA cup tie saw them 2-0 down to Bobby Robson's Newcastle in 1999 before earning a 2-2 draw back at St James' Park.

Three years later they faced Blackburn Rovers in the same round of the competition and it was Velizar Dimitrov who put Sofia ahead at Ewood Park before Corrado Grabbi equalised for Rovers. Graeme Souness' side eventually won through but only after seeing Sofia come back from 3-0 down in the return, current skipper Emil Gargorov finding the net twice.

After starting out as an army team in 1948, CSKA have become Bulgaria's most successful club and won their 30th league title last season. They lost just one league game along the way, a 4-3 defeat to Lokomotiv Plovdiv on the final day of the season with the title already secured. A second round UEFA Cup exit to Steaua Bucharest however, suggests they find it difficult to translate their domestic form on to the European stage.

Ibrahima Gueye

29. Defender

FIRST impressions suggest the big Senegal centre half may be better going forward than in his accustomed position at the heart of the defence after he offered little resistance to Liverpool's second goal.

At 6ft plus, Gueye will be disappointed not to have got anywhere near Fernando Morientes from Steven Gerrard's curling freekick.

He is, however, a constant threat at set pieces and carries the ball well out from the back. It was Gueye who fired wide from a corner 10 minutes before half time in Sofia and it was his 89th minute goal that broke the deadlock against Albanian champions FK Tirana in the first leg of their second round qualifier.





*Outjumped:
Fernando Morientes
is first to the ball to
score the second
goal of the first leg*



Tiago Silva

27. Defender/Midfielder

WHEN Luton Town travelled to Sofia for a pre-season tournament this summer, the Brazilian was one of the players earmarked by Hatters boss Mike Newell as a potential threat to Liverpool's Champions League hopes.

He played in midfield during a 3-2 win over the Championship team but assumed the left wing back role against the Reds and looked dangerous going



forward on the overlap. This, however, left space in behind which Liverpool will be looking to exploit on the counter attack.

Despite his Brazilian roots he has recently been granted Bulgarian citizenship and with it a first call up to the national squad from current manager and former Sofia and Barcelona star Hristo Stoichkov.

Opposition CSKA Sofia

Hristo Yanev

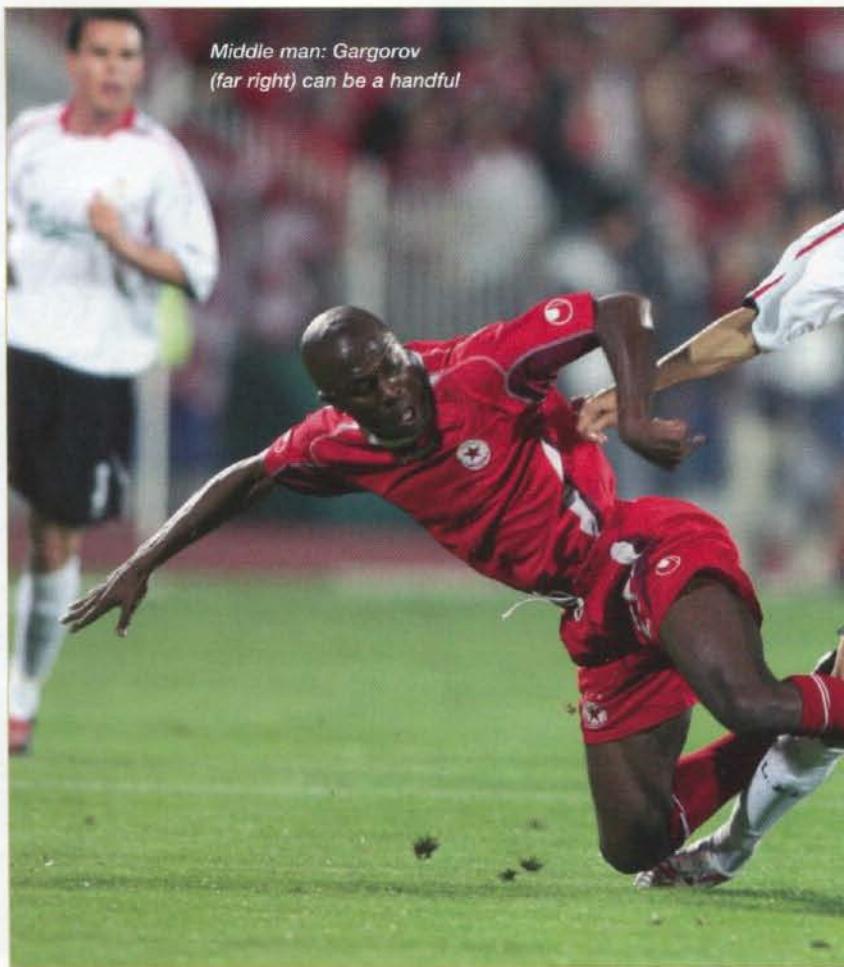
7. Forward

HRISTO Yanev is a Bulgarian international who provides width in attack and comes with a trick or two on the right side of the pitch.

Yanev was Sofia's top scorer last season. His 24 goals contributed to his Bulgarian player-of-the-year award and he is one of the main players manager Miodrag Jesic will be counting on to cause Liverpool problems.

He was always looking to get in behind Stephen Warnock in the first leg before being replaced by Petar Dimitrov on 35 minutes after pulling up with a hamstring strain.

*Middle man: Gargorov
(far right) can be a handful*



Velizar Dimitrov

8. Forward

THE pacy attacker was involved in much of Sofia's play going forward in the first leg.

The Reds defence were first made aware of his skills in the 15th minute when he struck an ambitious volley on the turn from the edge of the penalty area.

He has scored twice in 14 caps for Bulgaria and is no stranger to scoring on English soil. It was Dimitrov who put Sofia ahead against Blackburn Rovers in a 1-1 draw at Ewood Park in a UEFA Cup first round tie three years

ago before being sent off in the last minute of the return.

Dimitrov was named Bulgarian player-of-the-year the next season and it was his clinical diving header on the stroke of half-time that dragged CSKA back into the game against Liverpool as he came from deep to evade the Reds defence. This is where Dimitrov is at his most dangerous, sitting in behind target man Guillaume Dah Zadi whom he uses as a foil.



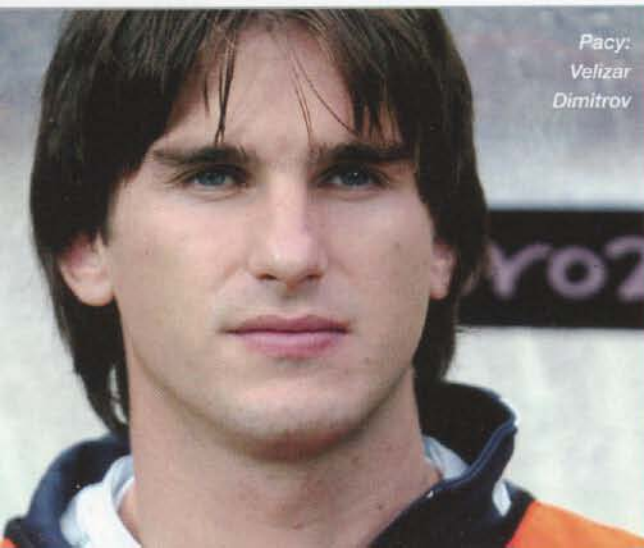
Emil Gargorov

23. Midfielder

GARGOROV is the CSKA Sofia captain and marshals the centre of the pitch alongside Mourad Hdiouad.

He lined up in a more advanced role than the Moroccan in a 4-5-1 formation a fortnight ago but the pair often interchanged with Gargorov dropping off to provide cover when Hdiouad moved up to support Yanev.

The skipper likes to keep things simple, often breaking down the play and retrieving possession. His main role is to take the sting out of the opposition and keep things steady for Sofia.



Pacy:
Velizar
Dimitrov

Guillaume Dah Zadi

11. Forward

ZADI played as a lone striker in Bulgaria where Sofia looked to utilise his size and strength. An Ivory Coast international, he is athletic and relatively quick for a big man. Zadi looked lively early on and held the ball up well for runners, Hristo Yanev and Velizar Dimitrov. He faded as the game went on though, and found few goalscoring opportunities that suggests he might be more of a threat with another striker playing alongside him.

Opposition CSKA Sofia

- Steven Gerrard has now scored seven goals so far in this season's competition. He has a total of 16 European goals for the Reds. Only Michael Owen (22), Ian Rush (20) and Roger Hunt (17) have scored more.

- Steve set a club record here in the last round by scoring in five successive European games for the club. Only Roger Hunt (1964-65) and Robbie Fowler (1996-97) had previously scored in four. Should Djibril Cisse score tonight he will equal Gerrard's record and will be the first player to achieve the feat in the same season.



- Liverpool are unbeaten in their last 13 games in Europe since defeat in Monaco last year. They have won 11 and drawn 2. If they avoid defeat they will

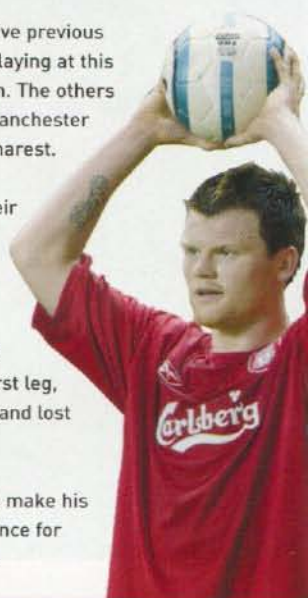
equal the club record of 14 set between September 1980 and March 1982. That run came to an end with defeat in Sofia to CSKA.

- The Reds are one of five previous winners of the trophy playing at this stage of the competition. The others are Ajax, Inter Milan, Manchester United and Steaua Bucharest.

- Liverpool will play their 250th game in European competition tonight.

- In the seven previous games, including the first leg, Liverpool have won six and lost just once.

- John Arne Riise could make his 50th European appearance for Liverpool in this game.



Did you know...

- CSKA's record in European competition (including Intertoto Cup): Pld 175 Won 72 Drew 33 Lost 70.

- European Cup record: Pld 97 Won 40 Drew 16 Lost 41.

- This is CSKA's 45th season in Europe and their 25th in the European Cup.

- CSKA have won the Bulgarian League title a record 30 times and last season won the Championship by

three points from city rivals Levski scoring 81 goals and conceding just 16 in the process.

- They lost just once, on the final day, when they were beaten by Lokomotiv Plovdiv with the title already won.

- However, Levski prevented them from completing a League and Cup 'double' by winning the Cup Final 2-1.

- Earlier this season CSKA lost to

Levski on penalties in the Bulgarian Super Cup after a 1-1 draw.

- They are aiming to become the first Bulgarian team to qualify for the group stages of the Champions League.

- This is the fourth time they have played in the qualifying rounds. In 1992 they were beaten by Austria Vienna in the first round and five years later by Steaua Bucharest at the same stage.



Head2Head



In Europe: Liverpool Pld: 249 Won: 143 Drawn: 53 Lost: 53
In European Cup: Liverpool Pld: 119 Won: 72 Drawn: 24 Lost: 23

• Liverpool have met Bulgarian opponents three times previously.

• The first meeting with CSKA in 1981 saw Graeme

Souness become the first Liverpool player to score two hat-tricks in the same European season after his three against Oulu earlier in the competition.

• In 1982, Liverpool, the holders, lost in extra-time in Sofia, with Mark Lawrenson becoming the first Liverpool player to be sent off in Europe.



• In the 1980-81 European Cup quarter-final, Liverpool beat CSKA Sofia 5-1 home and 1-0 away (6-1 aggregate).

• In 1981-82, at the same stage, the Reds lost to CSKA 2-1 on aggregate after winning 1-0 at home in the first leg.

• In 2003-04, the Reds defeated Levski Spartak 2-0 at home and 4-2 away for a 6-2 aggregate win in the UEFA Cup.

• In 2003-04 they beat FC Pyunik 3-0 on aggregate only to lose 6-0 over two legs to Galatasaray in the third qualifying round.

• This season they defeated Tirana of Albania 4-0 on aggregate, winning both legs 2-0. Three of the four goals were scored after 88 minutes had passed.

• CSKA have reached the semi-finals of the European Cup on two occasions.

• In 1967 they were beaten 1-0 in a play-off by Inter Milan who went on to lose to Celtic in the final.

• After eliminating Liverpool in 1982, they beat Bayern Munich 4-3 at home only to lose the second leg 4-0. Bayern lost to Aston Villa in the final.

• Bulgarian legend and former Barca star Hristo Stoichkov, who is now the coach of the national team, began his career with CSKA.

CSKA SOFIA AGAINST ENGLISH CLUBS IN EUROPE

1970-71 - CUP WINNERS CUP
SECOND ROUND
CHELSEA
(CSKA LOST 0-2 ON AGGREGATE)
LOST 0-1 (HOME) LOST 0-1 (AWAY)

1980-81 - EUROPEAN CUP
FIRST ROUND
NOTTINGHAM FOREST
(CSKA WON 2-0 ON AGGREGATE)
WON 1-0 (HOME)
WON 1-0 (AWAY)

1980-81 - EUROPEAN CUP
QUARTER-FINAL
LIVERPOOL
(CSKA LOST 1-6 ON AGGREGATE)
LOST 1-5 (AWAY)
LOST 0-1 (HOME)

1981-82 - EUROPEAN CUP
QUARTER-FINAL
LIVERPOOL
(CSKA WON 2-1 ON AGGREGATE)
LOST 0-1 (AWAY)
WON 2-0 (HOME)

1999-00 - UEFA CUP
FIRST ROUND
NEWCASTLE UNITED
(CSKA LOST 2-4 ON AGGREGATE)
LOST 0-2 (HOME)
DREW 2-2 (AWAY)

2002-03 - UEFA CUP
FIRST ROUND
BLACKBURN ROVERS
(CSKA LOST ON AWAY GOALS - 4-4 ON AGG.)
DREW 1-1 (AWAY)
DREW 3-3 (HOME)

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Фил Томпсън
защитник в „Ливърпул“ играе от 1971 г. с 379 мача и 14 гола постигнати за отбора си



Алън Хансен
защитник с общо 263 мача, от тях 155 в „Ливърпул“, в които е отбелязал и 9 гола

Digging deep into the Liverpool Football Club vaults to bring you history and mystery surrounding the men who gave us dreams and songs to sing...

For those of you watching in Bulgarian...

Calm down Teru! They haven't spelt your name wrong. *Pen pics from the Sofia programme in 1981*



Боб Пейсли
трениор на „Ливърпул“ от 1974 година



Рей Клемънс
вратар с общо 691 мач, от тях 641 в „Ливърпул“, играл е 325 мача без прекъсване в клуба си



Фил Томпсън
защитник в „Ливърпул“, играл от 1971 г. с 379 мача и 14 гола постъпнали за отбора си



Алън Хансен
защитник с общо 263 мача от тях 155 в „Ливърпул“, в които е отбелязал и 9 гола

Фил Нийл
защитник с 570 мача, от тях 362 в „Ливърпул“, в които е отбелязал 36 гола. От 1974 г. е в „Ливърпул“



Рей Кенеду
играч от средната линия с 561 мача, от тях 349 в „Ливърпул“, в които е отбелязал 64 гола



Тери Макдермот
играч от средната линия, бил футболист № 1 на Англия, с 429 мача, от тях 259 в „Ливърпул“



Грейъм Сунес
от средната линия, национален играч на Шотландия с общо 375 мача, от тях 170 в „Ливърпул“ — с 23 гола



10

11



Сами Лииси
от средната линия, професионалист от 1976 г., участник в олимпиадския национален отбор на Австрия



Кени Далъмпли
нападателят рекордър по участие в отбора на Шотландия, общо е играл 537 мача

Стив Хайууд
нападателят с общо 466 мача в които е отбелязал 76 гола. Бонус за „Ливърпул“, рожен в Дублин, играл е в ирландския национален отбор



Девид Феъркълб
нападателят с 142 срещи. Всички в „Ливърпул“, в които е отбелязал и 51 гола



12

ЦСКА «СЕПТЕМВРИЙСКО ЗНАМЕ»

Втора четвъртфинална среща
за купата на европейските шампиони
София — 18 март 1981 година



LIVERPOOL
CHAMPIONS OF THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE

THE IRON MAN SMOOTHS THE WAY FOR LIVERPOOL

LIVERPOOL'S iron defender Tom Smith isn't one for mincing tackles... he seldom minces words, either! When he says something, he means it. And when he makes a prediction you can bet that he'll try his hardest to make it come true.

"I'm sure Liverpool will not only capture the First Division Championship within the next two or three years, but the European Cup as well," says Tom. "I've determined that the best way to do this is to win the league, and then to win the Cup. This is the only way to win the Cup. I've decided to win the Cup by winning the league." Smith says that Liverpool should win the Cup by winning the league, and then to win the Cup. This is the only way to win the Cup. I've decided to win the Cup by winning the league.

...he doesn't mince words... he seldom minces words... he means it. And when he makes a prediction you can bet that he'll try his hardest to make it come true.

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HOWARD JOHN

SHOOT! ANNUAL 1972

PACKED WITH ACTION-AND EVERY PAGE IN COLOUR



LIVERPOOL
...Tom Smith...
...the greatest...
...European Cup...
...win the Cup...
...by winning the league...
...This is the only way to win the Cup...
...I've decided to win the Cup by winning the league...



The only thing Tommy Smith didn't predict in the Shoot Annual back in 1972 was that he would score in the 1977 European Cup final.

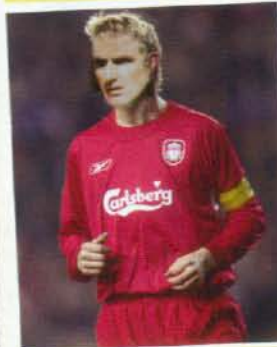
LIVERPOOL'S iron defender Tom Smith isn't one for mincing tackles—he seldom minces words, either! When he says something, he means it. And when he makes a prediction you can bet that he'll try his hardest to make it come true.

"I'm sure Liverpool will not only capture the First Division Championship within the next two or three years, but the European Cup as well," says Tom. "I'm convinced that the side we have here at Anfield at the moment could be the greatest the club has ever seen. We're a fine side already—and we can only get better!"

If that was now...

Liverpool

Phil Thompson



Circa 2005

If this was then...

Liverpool

Sami Hyypia



Circa 1979



1882★1982

ВЕРЕН СИН НА ПАРТИЯТА И НАРОДА

На 15 юни 1982 г. в София се състоя първият мач на ФК "Ливърпул" срещу ФК "Славия" (Белград). Това е първият мач на ФК "Ливърпул" в България. Мачът завърши с резултат 1:1. ФК "Ливърпул" постигна победата с гол на Филип Димитров.



ЛИВЪРПУЛ СЕПТЕМВРИЙСКО ЗАМЕ. ЛИВЪРПУЛ

КОПИЕ ЧЕТВЪРТОФИНАЛНА СРЕЩА ЗА КУПАТА НА ЕВРОПЕЙСКИТЕ ШАМПИОНИ

Собор "Св. Димитър" (17.08.1982) (Белград)

We wondered whether this iconic image in the 1982 Sofia programme was an historic Bulgarian figure or a Che Guevara-style tribute to Bob Paisley? Answers on a postcard.

BADGE OF HONOUR



EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS 1977

Candy



MY ROLE

A lot of people have been giving us a lot of stick recently but we are not to be written off. We wanted to win this game so much and right from the start we were going hammer and tongs.

The encouraging thing for us was that even after the Bulgarians pulled a goal back through Yonchev we kept going - and they never got back once we'd scored our fourth goal.

Graeme Souness,
March 1981

REDS ON FILM



Anfield movie stars that could have been . . .

THE JOKER

While Gotham was safe in the hands of Bruce Wayne, so too was Anfield in the hands of our own gloved crusader, Bruce Grobbelaar. The clown prince was made for The Joker's role



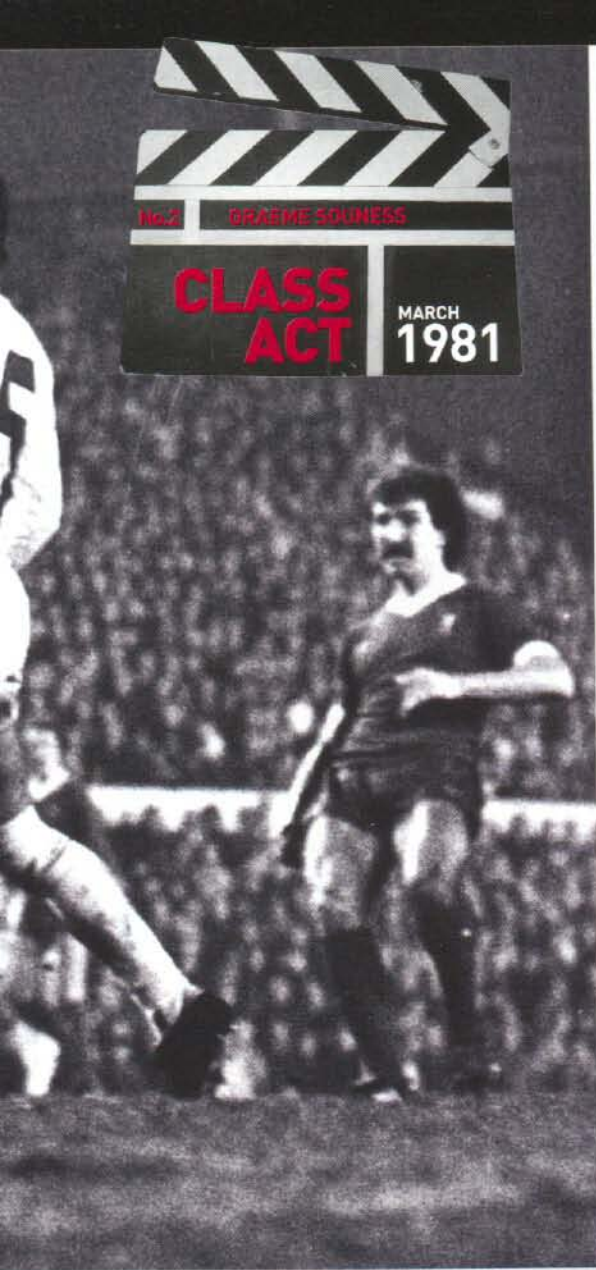
Highlander

MARCH 1981 and the Reds have a tricky European Cup quarter final first leg against Bulgarian champions CSKA Sofia to overcome.

A healthy lead to take back to Sofia was the order of the day from an expectant Kop and Souness was at his brilliant best to turn that hope into reality.

Ironically, the Scot - a £352,000 signing from Middlesbrough in 1978 - had been going through something of a barren time in front of goal.

He had started the 1980-81 season in style, scoring 10 goals by the end of October but had failed to score since.



But he had already thrilled Anfield by scoring the first Liverpool hat-trick of his career in the first round 10-1 romp against Oulu Palloseura.

And he came up trumps once again, contributing one of the most spectacular Euro trebles the ground had ever witnessed.

He opened the Reds' account with a firm, low drive in the 16th minute, smashed home a first-time 25-yarder to make it 3-0 six minutes after the break and completed his treble by giving the Reds a 5-1 victory 10 minutes from time with another ferocious strike.

RAVE REVIEWS



It was finishing at its best.

RON YEATS, March 1981.

If Graeme plays until he's 100, he'll never hit three more perfect shots in one match.

IAN ST JOHN, March 1981.

Graeme was my hero at Middlesbrough. He used to look after me as one of the boys and I'll always be grateful to him. When he was transferred to Liverpool he even fixed up for me to have his digs in Middlesbrough. You can imagine how I felt when I succeeded him in the number 4 shirt at Ayresome!

Craig Johnston, 1981.

RECOMMENDED WORKS (so far)



CHAMPION 1976, 1980

Graeme's first two seasons with the Reds ends in league glory.

CHOP SUEY 1978, 1979, 1980

The Reds midfielder thrills fans with his combative displays.

THE GENERAL 1973

A teenage Graeme shows his steely character by telling Tottenham's legendary manager Bill Nicholson that he thought he was the best player at the club and should be in his first team.

FUTURE OSCAR NOMINATIONS



ITALIAN JOB 1984

Graeme undertakes a foreign adventure with Sampdoria.

EUROTRIP 1981, 1984 (remake)

Graeme helps the Reds to victory in Europe.

A MAN APART 1984

Souey strikes to give the Reds local bragging rights in the League Cup after scoring the winner in the replayed final against Everton.





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Kop 'n' Goal years

LIVERPOOL can expect CSKA Sofia to provide a tougher test than 12 months ago in a repeat meeting in the European Cup quarter-finals.

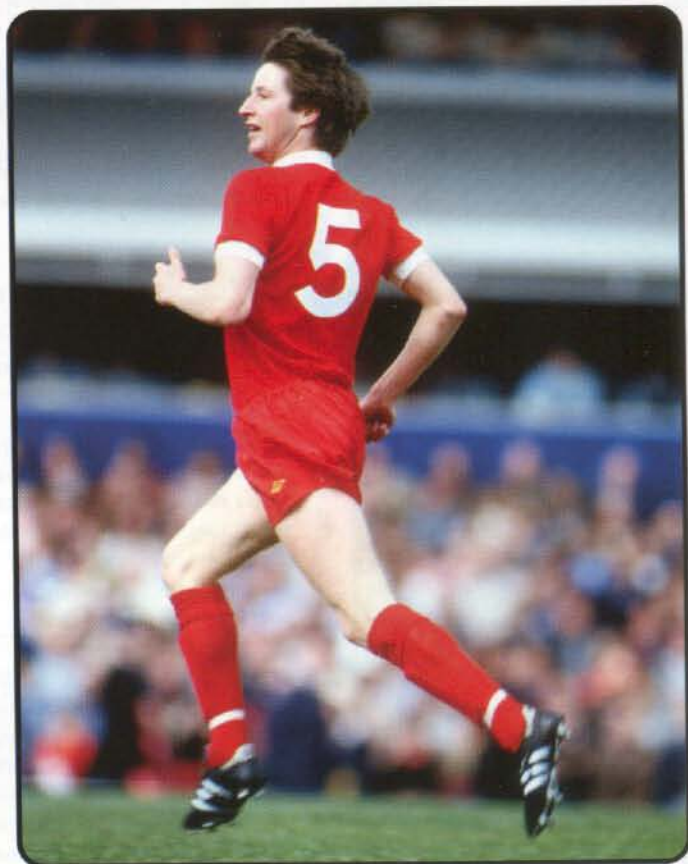
Their pride was dented by a 5-1 thrashing at Anfield last season and a more stubborn showing can be expected in the first leg at Anfield.

The match is being played on March 3, which marks the 102nd anniversary of Bulgarian independence from the Turks.

1982

Liverpool come into the game in the middle of an excellent run, though they do include four players with little experience at this level: Bruce Grobbelaar, Mark Lawrenson, Ronnie Whelan and Ian Rush.

Liverpool v CSKA Sofia
Wednesday, March 3, 1982



Right: Ronnie Whelan,
one of Liverpool's
inexperienced stars

OTHER NEWS

● A group of England cricketers who were embarking on a rebel tour of South Africa were labelled a "dirty dozen" by politicians



● Talks were continuing to try and save the Times newspapers, which were threatened with closure as Rupert Murdoch attempted to purchase them

ON THE BOX

- Starburst
- Emery
- The Glamour Girls
- Minder



AT THE MOVIES

- Absence of Malice
- American Werewolf in London
- Arthur
- Mad Max II



WORLD CUP HEARTENER FOR PHIL... 'A MUST F

IT HASN'T exactly been the Cup that Cheers for Phil Thompson, because it was in a League Cup tie that he received the injury which cost him his place in Liverpool's first team, and this meant that when he had regained fitness he had to start fighting his way back via the reserves. But one man who had some words of consolation to offer Phil was a former star who himself missed a European Cup final through injury—Denis Law.

Denis tipped Phil to claim a World Cup place with England, saying: "If he's fit, he must go to Spain... even if he's also in Liverpool's reserve side. His passing is first-class and he reads a game well at the back. His best partner is Dave Watson—they've played together on many occasions and go well as a pair."

Phil (pictured leading out Liverpool against AZW Alkmaar) was the first to acknowledge that, once out of the side, it's a battle to get back in—but he can take heart from the Law verdict and from his call-up to the England squad last week.



MARK SAYS HE'S 'NO REGRETS'...



THE MAN who came into the centre of the defence—Mark Lawrenson—when Phil Thompson was injured, has earned some glowing compliments from the likes of Frank McLintock and Welsh international team boss Mike England... and both of these men are former centre-halves. Frank McLintock rated Mark as being "dominating at the heart of the defence", while Mike England voted Mark the best centre-half in the League.

But Mark himself, who admits he doesn't mind where he plays, so long as he's in the team, sent out a record like this: "I think I've played no better when I was in a struggling side at Brighton." And the Preston-born player had "no regrets" about opting for the Republic of Ireland... as he said: "I've had five years' experience with them which I might never have got with England."

CLICKETY-CLICK... NOW YOU KNOW!

THE television cameras helped to solve a mystery when they put the Liverpool players under focus recently. It was a case of clickety-click... and now you know! The spotlight was on marksmen, and their reaction to having scored, and it was pointed out that as each player turned away from goal, he was seemingly giving

an wave of the hand. Bruce Grobbelaar was called in to explain that, in fact, it all started with Terry McDermott and the signal was that of a jockey cracking the whip, with one finger producing the clickety-click effect as the hand was waved up and down.

Above: Pages from the Liverpool v CSKA Sofia matchday programme, Wednesday, March 3, 1982

March 3, 1982: Liverpool 1-0 CSKA Sofia
 March 17, 1982: CSKA Sofia 2-0 Liverpool
 (CSKA Sofia win 2-1 on aggregate)

LIVERPOOL lost their grip on the European Cup with a bitter defeat in Sofia, where Mark Lawrenson became the first player in the club's history to be sent off in continental competition.

The Reds had gone to Bulgaria with a 1-0 lead but it should have been many more, as Bob Paisley's men bombarded their goal from first minute to last.

Paisley estimated that Liverpool had 20 more shots on

goal than when they put five past CSKA the previous season. On this occasion, only a Ronnie Whelan shot found the net in the 66th minute.

Liverpool were frustrated as early as the third minute when Ian Rush appeared to head the ball over the line before the keeper clawed it back. Claims for this 'goal' and two later penalty appeals were waved away.

The advantage remained intact until the 78th minute



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LIVERPOOL

European Cup 1st Round 1st Leg
Wednesday, 3rd March 1982 • Kick-off 7.30 p.m. **C.S.K.A. SOFIA**



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INFIELD
30p
REVIEW

LIVERPOOL

- Goalkeeper
1 Steve GROBBELAAR
2 Phil NEAL
3 Alan KENNEDY
4 Mark LAWRENSON
5 Alan HANSEN
6 Hamish WHELAN
7 Kenny DALGLISH
8 Sammy LEE
9 Ian RUSH
10 Terry McDERMOTT
11 Graham SOUWSE (Capt.)
Substitutes

C.S.K.A. SOFIA

- Goalkeeper
1 Georgi VELENGY
2 Georgi VEREZNOSKY
3 Dashi DIMITROV
4 Blagovest TOMANOV
5 Georgi DIMITROV
6 Georgi STILYEV
7 Ivaylo YONCHEV
8 Radoslav ZHELYAZKOV
9 Stoyancho MILEVINSKY
10 Papan HAREV
11 Alcheta DIMITROV
Substitutes

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CSKA'S RECORD IN EUROPE...

THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS CUP

1971-72	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1971-72	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1972-73	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1972-73	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1973-74	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1973-74	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1974-75	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1974-75	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1975-76	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1975-76	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1976-77	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1976-77	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1977-78	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1977-78	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1978-79	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1978-79	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1979-80	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1979-80	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1980-81	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1980-81	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1981-82	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1981-82	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1982-83	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1982-83	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1983-84	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1983-84	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1984-85	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1984-85	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1985-86	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1985-86	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1986-87	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1986-87	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1987-88	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1987-88	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1988-89	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1988-89	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1989-90	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1989-90	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1990-91	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1990-91	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1991-92	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1991-92	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1992-93	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1992-93	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1993-94	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1993-94	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1994-95	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1994-95	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1995-96	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1995-96	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1996-97	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1996-97	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1997-98	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1997-98	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1998-99	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1998-99	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
1999-00	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	1999-00	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2000-01	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2000-01	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2001-02	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2001-02	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2002-03	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2002-03	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2003-04	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2003-04	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2004-05	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2004-05	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2005-06	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2005-06	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2006-07	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2006-07	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2007-08	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2007-08	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2008-09	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2008-09	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2009-10	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2009-10	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2010-11	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2010-11	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2011-12	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2011-12	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2012-13	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2012-13	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2013-14	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2013-14	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2014-15	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2014-15	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2015-16	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2015-16	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2016-17	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2016-17	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2017-18	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2017-18	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2018-19	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2018-19	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2019-20	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2019-20	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2020-21	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2020-21	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2021-22	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2021-22	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg
2022-23	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg	2022-23	1st Round	1-0	1st Leg

THE TOP 10

Wednesday, March 3, 1982

- 1** THE LION SLEEPS TONIGHT
Tight Fit
- 2** MICKEY
Toni Basil
- 3** TOWN CALLED MALICE/PRECIOUS
The Jam
- 4** LOVE PLUS ONE
Haircut 100
- 5** CENTREFOLD
The J Geils Band
- 6** IT AIN'T WHAT YOU DO IT'S THE WAY THAT YOU DO IT
Fun Boy Three and Bananarama
- 7** SAY HELLO WAVE GOODBYE
Soft Cell
- 8** SEE YOU
Depeche Mode
- 9** GOLDEN BROWN
The Stranglers
- 10** JOAN OF ARC (MAID OF ORLEANS)
QMD


when Bruce Grobbelaar came for a cross that was never within his compass, and was left in no man's land as Mladenov took the tie into extra-time.

Liverpool dominated the additional 30 minutes as Whelan missed two wonderful opportunities to win it, Lawrenson hit the post and David Johnson had a header saved. Mladenov got the decisive goal with a deflected shot. Lawrenson was dismissed for retaliation on Yonchev.

Liverpool (first leg):
Grobbelaar, Neal, Alan Kennedy, Whelan, Lawrenson, Hansen, Dalglish, Lee, Rush, McDermott, Souness.

(Second leg): Grobbelaar, Neal, Lawrenson, Alan Kennedy, Thompson, Whelan, Dalglish, Lee, Rush (Johnston), McDermott (Johnson), Souness.

TEAM
TALK
 What the gaffer was saying before previous encounters with CSKA Sofia at Anfield...



Bob Paisley, 1981-82:

The warnings about showing "no complacency, no feeling that it's going to be an easy demolition job" were wise but could not prevent his side from going down to defeat. Paisley's suggestion that Liverpool has been flattered by a 6-1 aggregate win 12 months earlier was given credence by CSKA Sofia's 2-1 aggregate win.

CRUCIAL TO GET THE RIGHT RESULT HERE

THERE IS one thing of which you can be certain of tonight... Liverpool won't be going into this European Cup quarter-final tie thinking that it's going to be easy against CSKA Sofia. The scoreline may have been 5-1 here the last time we met; but I know my players recognised that CSKA were still a good side.

A year ago, just about everything went right for us, as we saw the shots going in. But Liverpool's players acknowledged afterwards that the scoreline made our opponents appear to be a worse side than they really were. So there can be no complacency, no feeling that it's going to be an easy demolition job this time. For my money, it's going to be HARDER.

The Bulgarians have just come back to action after their mid-winter break, which means that we have had only a brief chance to take a close look at them. Yet their record speaks for itself... more than 20 years of European competition, champions twice on the trot... and a victory over Nottingham Forest last season which showed that they can produce results.

CSKA Sofia have just about the same squad of players as they had 12 months ago, so the team is that much more experienced and it will have gained something from being together during the past months.

It may be thought that in knocking out Real Sociedad and Glentoran, CSKA haven't pulled up any trees in the tournament this season, so far; but they have done the job demanded of them, and you cannot ask for more. By the same token, we are through to Wembley in the League Cup—but we haven't won anything yet, so that's all the more reason for us to pull out the stops tonight.

Our experience in the F.A. Cup a few weeks ago should serve to make us wary; and the plain fact is that we know we must apply ourselves for every one of the 90 minutes tonight. It's crucial that we get the right result here. Need I say more?
BOB PAISLEY

LEAGUE CHAMPIONS



EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS

Seasons 1976-77 and 1977-78



TEAM TALK

THIS IS a European Cup-tie where we are really venturing into the unknown, because C.S.K.A. Sofia have been literally strangers to us until tonight. We have been able to watch them in action once, since they have only just resumed playing after their mid-winter break.

In addition, I have taken the opportunity to get a briefing on the C.S.K.A. players from Brian Clough, my opposite number at Nottingham Forest. For the rest, we have to take our opponents on the strength of their performances so far in the European Cup—and those haven't been bad, by any standards.

A team which can beat Forest home and away, without conceding a goal themselves, must command respect. And while Bulgarian sides haven't usually been in the forefront of European Cup competition, C.S.K.A. obviously did an impressive demolition job on Szombierki Bytom, after having accounted for Forest.

If there is one good thing about having been drawn against the club from Sofia, it's the fact that—because we don't know too much about them—the Liverpool players are under no illusions. Tonight's game is one we really need to win, and we have to try to gain a convincing lead on home ground.

Of late, Liverpool have been stuttering in a way that has been unusual for us. I have tried not to make injuries the excuse for this, yet I must say that never, in all my time at Anfield, have I known such problems.

At the start of the season, I felt—and said—that we had a squad of players which was as strong as any in the country. I still believe this assessment

Bob Paisley, 1980-81:

Bob's assertion that "we have to try to gain a convincing lead on home ground" was heeded by his players as a 5-1 Anfield win virtually killed the tie.

The majority of his column was devoted to reflection on the injuries affecting the squad. These would be a major factor in the team eventually finishing fifth in Division One.

Seasons 1900-01, 1905-06, 1921-22, 1922-23, 1946-47, 1963-64, 1965-66, 1972-73, 1975-76, 1976-77, 1978-79, 1979-80

**U.E.F.A.
CUP
WINNERS**

Seasons
1972-73
and 1975-76


**F.A. CUP
WINNERS**

Seasons 1964-65
and 1973-74


**CENTRAL
LEAGUE
CHAMPIONS**

Seasons
1956-57, 1968-69, 1969-70
1970-71, 1972-73, 1973-74
1974-75, 1975-76, 1976-77
1978-79, 1979-80


by BOB PAISLEY

*We're under no illusions
about C.S.K.A. Sofia—and
we'll be giving the lot!*

was accurate . . . but the casualty list has grown and grown, as recent weeks have gone by.

Any manager is always aware that injuries can crop up, and he is constantly bearing in mind the need to have reinforcements on hand. But when you lose not only players who are key men in the first team, but players who are earmarked as possible replacements in case of injury, then the whole thing can blow up in your face.

The list of players who have been out of action at various times is well known . . . Phil Thompson, Alan Hansen, Kenny Dalglish, David Johnson, David Fairclough, Alan Kennedy, Avi Cohen . . . I could go on. Quite simply, no fewer than nine players have been under treatment at the same time.

However, I am hoping that we shall be able to field virtually a full-strength side tonight—always assuming that fitness tests have gone according to plan over

the week-end, and that we haven't added to our casualty list!

If we CAN get the men on the field again, and if we have the back-up on the substitutes' bench, then we can also hope to resume winning ways and do the job which we need to do tonight. So I'm keeping my fingers crossed, and I'll just add that I know the players who wear the Liverpool jersey will be giving everything possible in the bid to achieve a comprehensive victory.



**10 MORE
DAYS TO
WEMBLEY
—PAGE 19**



On this week

24.08.1968



Striking while The Iron's hot

TOMMY Smith didn't waste any time getting his name on the scoresheet when Sunderland came to Anfield in August '68. As you can see from the picture some fans were still making their way on to the old Kemlyn Road stand when 'The Anfield Iron' fired past Sunderland keeper Jim Montgomery in the very first minute of the Reds' 4-1 win

Open and shut Case

IT was always going to be a tall order for West Brom to get a result against the Champions of Europe and they fell to a 3-0 defeat at Anfield in August '77.

Jimmy Case is pictured celebrating his late goal to complete the routine victory. Kenny Dalglish and Steve Heighway were the other goalscorers



...where once we watched

On this week

27.08.1977





On this week
26.08.1967

Hunting Magpies

WHEN Roger Hunt shot from such close range the ball generally ended up in the back of the net but not on this occasion as the Newcastle United goalkeeper produced a fine save. Sir Roger, as the Kop christened him, won't have lost any sleep over it though as he scored twice against the Magpies that afternoon and Bill Shankly's boys ran out 6-0 winners. A Tony Hateley hat-trick and a strike from Emlyn Hughes completed the rout



25.08.1986

A salute from the champions

WE know Ronnie Moran used to drum it into the players to forget about what happened the previous season but couldn't the Liverpool players looked a little bit happier to have won the club's first league and FA Cup double? Kenny Dalglish and his side gave a wave to the fans after coming out on to the pitch for their first home game of the 1986/87 season against Man City. They didn't look particularly happy at full-time either. The game finished 0-0

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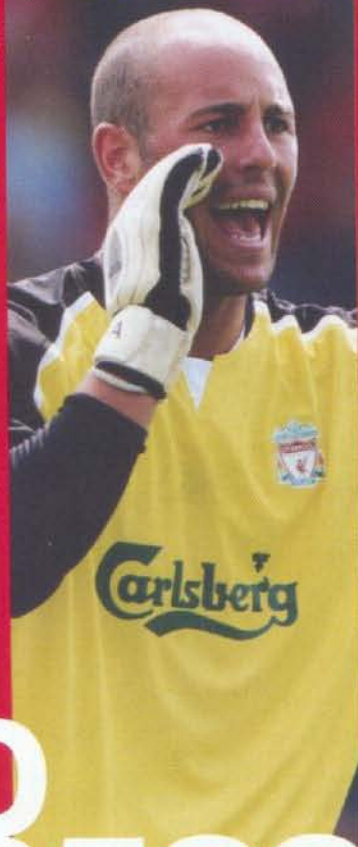
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TERMS AND CONDITIONS OFFICIAL STORES

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A flying visit to Uruguay to see Liverpool play

WHEN Liverpool fan Steve Woods jets off to Uruguay this week he will be taking the club's good name with him.

But as he found out on his last visit, it's already there.

On a business trip to the Uruguayan capital last November Steve came across first division side Montevideo Liverpool and with the help of the LFC Community Department will be taking some kits over with him when he returns on 27th August.

"Montevideo Liverpool has its own clubhouse where local youngsters and others can go and play five-a-side," he explains.

"Just like Liverpool Football Club they are very community focused but the area in which they are based is not particularly prosperous.

"After my last visit I thought that it would be a good idea to take some UK LFC kits for the people to use in their

facility."

Steve will be guaranteed a warm welcome. After initially reading about Montevideo Liverpool on the Reds' official website, www.Liverpoolfc.tv, he met up with one of their fans Carlos Fernandez who was happy to show him the sights.

Prior to watching Montevideo Liverpool beat Penarol 4-0, he was shown around the clubhouse and facilities before heading off to the stadium where he swapped club shirts with Carlos.

Steve added: "Although the ground is totally different to Anfield it was clear that Carlos has as much passion for his club as any true Kopite has.

"I had a great time in Montevideo and it was a pleasure to meet both Carlos and his wife Sandra who drove me around.

"I am really looking forward to meeting them again and know the kits will be gratefully received in Uruguay."





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Reserves

McAuley looking for results

RESERVES coach Hughie McAuley says a stronger squad will allow the second-string to perform better this season than last.

The team finished second-bottom in 2004/05, as a thin squad was stretched beyond breaking point and suffered many heavy defeats.

Recent Academy graduates such as Danny Guthrie and Lee Peltier have been augmented by the signings of Antonio Barragan, Godwin Antwi, Miquel Roque and Jack Hobbs, who are expected to feature regularly this season.

Although beaten 3-2 by Everton in the opening league fixture on August 16, the reserves are in good shape, according to McAuley.

"We have more players to work with at Melwood," he said. "We didn't have a squad for the reserve team last season and that presented problems in training and games.

"It's important you can work with most of your players on a daily basis and we are getting towards that now. We are still short of two or three and we are looking at that."

Although a strong believer in a local policy, McAuley says it is vital the team bolsters its ranks with the best young talent, from wherever it may originate.

"Most clubs have evolved at a junior and professional level now and there is a foreign element. It runs alongside the Academy system. There have to be opportunities for the Academy players and the young foreign players who are with us now to mix and learn off each other. They will be given the opportunity to stake a claim to play at a higher level. We have to raise the reserve team level of performance."

McAuley, who is coaching the reserves alongside Paco Herrera, is hopeful his players can follow the example of Stephen Warnock and Darren Potter by stepping up into the first team at some stage.

"It's a bit contradictory when people talk about developing young players and saying results aren't important. For me, results are important and it's important the team go out with the attitude of winning every game. They have to have that winning mentality. If the players improve, you will get the results. You are one team away from the first team and that is about winning every game."

Fixtures

LEAGUE FIXTURES 2005/06

* Liverpool score shown first



16.08.05	Everton	H	2-3
22.08.05	Newcastle United	H	-
30.08.05	West Brom	A	-
14.09.05	Wolves	H	-
19.09.05	Bolton Wanderers	A	-
27.09.05	Leeds United	H	-
19.10.05	Wigan Athletic	A	-
25.10.05	Blackburn Rovers	H	-
01.11.05	Manchester City	A	-
08.11.05	Aston Villa	A	-
23.11.05	Birmingham City	A	-
29.11.05	Sunderland	H	-
05.12.05	Manchester United	A	-
13.12.05	Everton	A	-
20.12.05	Manchester United	H	-
09.01.06	Newcastle United	A	-
17.01.06	West Brom	H	-
24.01.06	Wolves	A	-
02.02.06	Middlesbrough	H	-
09.02.06	Bolton Wanderers	H	-
22.02.06	Leeds United	A	-
01.03.06	Sunderland	A	-
07.03.06	Wigan Athletic	H	-
14.03.06	Manchester City	A	-
23.03.06	Aston Villa	H	-
28.03.06	Middlesbrough	A	-
04.04.06	Birmingham City	H	-
10.04.06	Blackburn Rovers	A	-

All matches KO 19:00 unless stated.

APPEARANCES & GOALS 2005/06

	Appearances	Goals
Godwin Antwi	1	0
Antonio Barragan	1	0
James Frayne	1	0
Danny Guthrie	1	1
Adam Hammill	1	0
Jack Hobbs	1	0
Josemi	1	0
David Mannix	1	0
Danny O'Donnell	1	0
Lee Peltier	1	0
Florent Sinama-Pongolle	1	1
Zak Whitbread	1	0
Ryan Wilkie	1	0
Paul Willis	1	0

Appearances

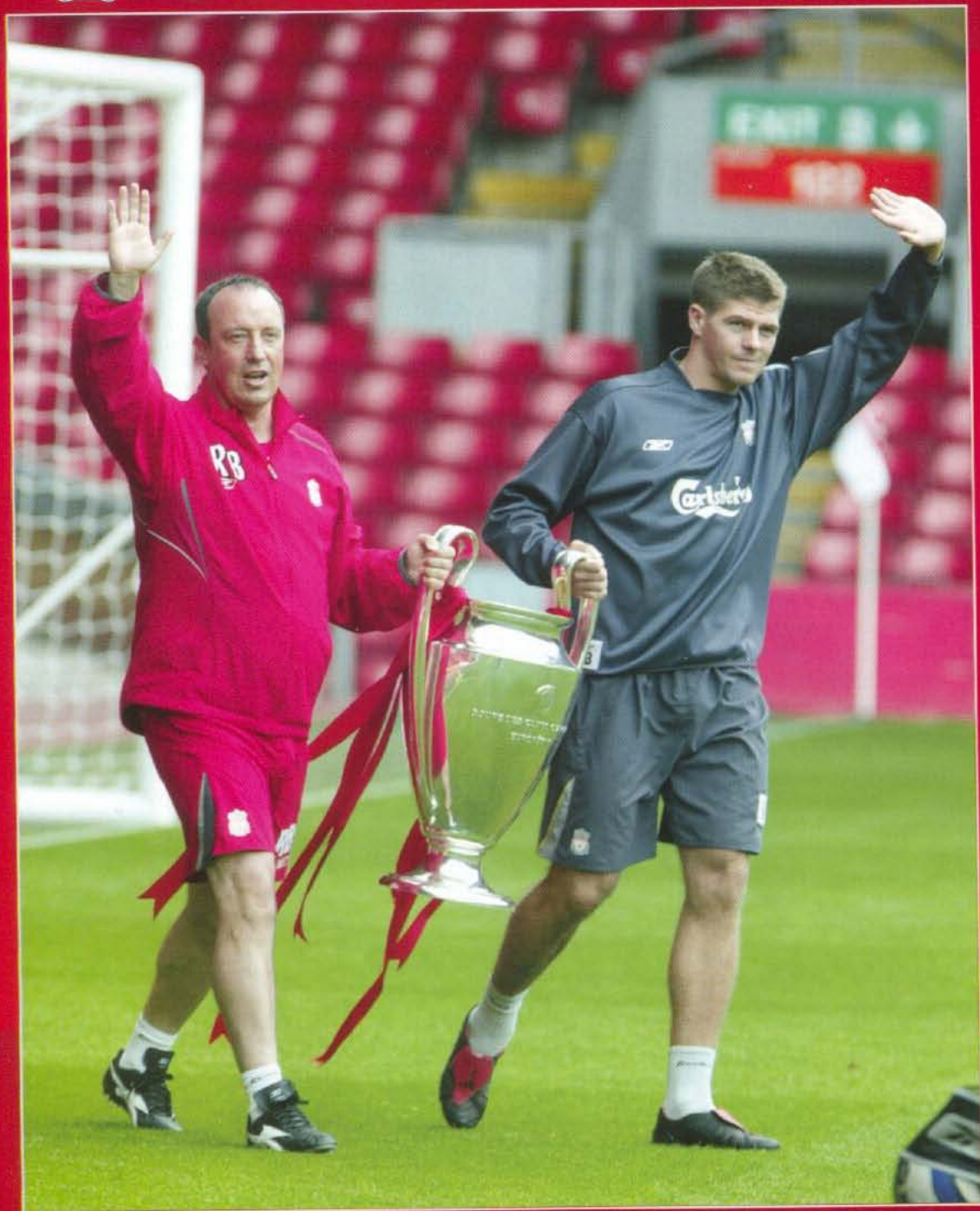


Reserves boss Hughie McAuley





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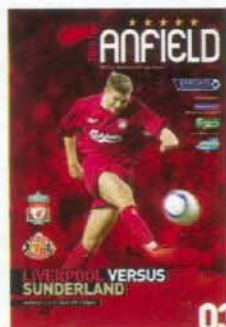
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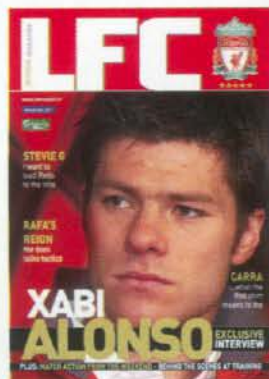


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Academy

Mental toughness and maturity separates the men from the boys

UNDER-18s coach John Owens expects the players who are likely to progress from the Academy to identify themselves very quickly.

Although boys can be full-timers at Kirkby for up to three years, the coach believes those with the necessary qualities should be obvious within six months.

"I would think if he is going to be a player, he will be noticeably more mature than his mates. I don't mean they don't have fun when they're not playing football but as far as the job goes, I would expect them to show a more mature attitude to football and to life.

"It's got to happen quickly. My son or daughter might

well start to make decisions about their future after university at the age of 22. That's a normal growing up pace but these guys are going to be faced with a much tougher existence than their mates and they've got to be ready for that, mentally.

"They've all got the talent. I think a lot of the boys who do fail, it is the mental side of things they don't cope with, whether it be coping with criticism or being told the best way to do certain things, coping with making mistakes and coping with a lack of success when other boys are moving on. There are a lot of areas on the mental side."

Last season was a particularly disappointing one for the



Academy and reserves, with the Under-18s finishing well adrift at the bottom of their regional league. The reserves were only one place better.

Given that these are the main development teams, it does raise questions about the potentially stifling effect on individuals of playing in losing teams. Owens says there is a balance to be struck and it is not always weighted in favour of winning games.

"Results are a problem because we're in a game where, at first team level, you have to win. It's not the same pressure on us because we are about development. Some might say 'Are you hiding behind the development?' We don't want to hide behind it but that is the main function.



John Owens

"For instance, you might have your best right-back and you want him to get through a season and really progress. Yet, you might not have a left-back and he's your best candidate to play there. Do you play him a whole season at left-back? Because as far as the results go that might be better for you. Or do you say it's better for him to play right-back, he's the one who might go through to the first team. For the team to win that game and the next one, it might be to play him at left-back. There's your dilemma.

"The first team have to win the game but, for me, I might end up having won a few more games at the end of that season but I've done the guy a disservice. They're not immaterial but certainly, if the lads are losing every week, it's hard work to come back in of a Monday and build it up, although we do. If you've won the previous Saturday, any team will tell you it's a much better atmosphere. Success does build on success."

LEAGUE FIXTURES 2005/06

* Liverpool score shown first

20.08.05	Cardiff City	A	-
27.08.05	Ipswich Town	H	-
03.09.05	Middlesbrough (12.00)	A	-
10.09.05	Leeds United (12.00)	H	-
17.09.05	Huddersfield Town	A	-
24.09.05	Stoke City	A	-
01.10.05	Everton	H	-
08.10.05	W. Bromwich Albion	A	-
15.10.05	Bolton Wanderers	H	-
22.10.05	Crewe Alexandra	H	-
05.11.05	Blackburn Rovers	A	-
12.11.05	Manchester United	A	-
19.11.05	Manchester City	H	-
03.12.05	Wolverhampton W	A	-
10.12.05	Stoke City	H	-
07.01.06	W. Bromwich Albion	H	-
14.01.06	Bolton Wanderers	A	-
21.01.06	Crewe Alexandra	A	-
04.02.06	Blackburn Rovers	H	-
11.02.06	Manchester United	H	-
18.02.06	Manchester City	A	-
25.02.06	Wolverhampton W	H	-
04.03.06	Everton	A	-
08.03.06	Sheffield United	A	-
11.03.06	Derby County (12.00)	H	-
18.03.06	Sunderland (12.00)	A	-
01.04.06	Sheffield Wednesday	H	-
08.04.06	Sheffield United (12.00)	A	-
22.04.06	Netts Forest (12.00)	H	-

All matches kick off at 11.00am unless stated

APPEARANCES & GOALS 2005/06

	Appearances	Goals
Charlie Barnett	-	-
Paul Barratt	-	-
Stephen Behan	-	-
Michael Burns	-	-
Stephen Darby	-	-
Ryan Flynn	-	-
James Frayne	-	-
Adam Hammill	-	-
Jordan Holmes	-	-
Paul Lancaster	-	-
Craig Lindfield	-	-
Josh Mimms	-	-
Michael Nardiello	-	-
Conal Platt	-	-
Jonathon Pringle	-	-
Raymond Putterill	-	-
David Roberts	-	-
James Ryan	-	-
Francis Smith	-	-
Jay Spearing	-	-
Robert Threlfall	-	-
Ryan Wignall	-	-
Calum Woods	-	-
Lee Woodward	-	-

Appearances



Swedish champions hoping to avoid Thun and games

As the Reds look to secure their passage into the group stages tonight, one of the surprise packages of the tournament so far will also be hoping to make home advantage count and capitalise on a first leg lead.

Swiss Football League runners-up FC Thun are on the brink of a first appearance in the UEFA Champions League group stage following a first-leg win in their third qualifying round tie at Swedish champions Malmö.

Brazilian Adriano Pimenta scored the only goal eleven minutes before half-time, latching on to a delicate right-wing cross from Andreas Gerber to fire in from the edge of the area.

Meanwhile, Polish champions Wisla Kraków are favourites against Panathinaikos after coming back from a goal down to take a 3-1 lead to Greece.

Udinese and Real Betis take slender 1-0 leads into their matches.

Udinese won 1-0 at Sporting Lisbon thanks to Vincenzo Iaquinta's 29th-minute penalty, while a dramatic last-minute winner from Edu gave Real Betis a slender advantage to take to Monaco.

Tonight's other three games are evenly poised after the first legs.

Celtic's second qualifying round conquerors Artmedia Bratislava visit Partizan Belgrade looking for an

away goal after a goalless first leg.

Rosenborg will be favourites against Steaua Bucharest after a 1-1 draw in Romania a fortnight ago and Lokomotiv Moscow host Rapid Vienna with an away goal to their credit following another 1-1 draw.

There are a further eight matches tomorrow with Manchester United, 3-0 first leg winners against Debrecen, firm favourites to secure their passage to the group stages in Hungary.

Inter Milan should also overcome Shakhtar Donetsk after winning 2-0 in the Ukraine thanks to second-half goals from Obafemi Martins and Adriano.

Rangers should also be in the hat after securing a 2-1 win against

Udinese's
Vincenzo
Iaquinta



A look around

Cypriot side Anorthosis to take into their tie at Ibrox.

Everton have it all to do in Villarreal if they are to overcome a 2-1 first leg deficit, but Bruges will be hopeful of overturning a 1-0 first leg defeat when they host Norwegians Valerenga.

Slavia Prague and Werder Bremen have the chance to put respective 2-1 first leg defeats at Anderlecht and FC Basel behind them when they host the second legs of their ties.

Finally, there should be an intriguing match in prospect at the



e continent...

TONIGHT

Liverpool 3 v CSKA Sofia 1
Monaco 0 v Real Betis 1
Panathinaikos 1 v Wisla Kraków 3
Udinese 1 v Sporting Lisbon 0
Thun 1 v Malmö 0
Partizan 0 v Artmedia 0
Rosenborg 1 v Steaua 1
Lokomotiv Moscow 1 v Rapid Vienna 1

TOMORROW

Bruges 0 v Valerenga 1
Rangers 2 v Anorthosis 1
Debrecen 0 v Man United 3
Villarreal 2 v Everton 1
Slavia Prague 1 v Anderlecht 2
Ajax 2 v Brøndby 2
Werder Bremen 1 v Basel 2
Inter Milan 2v Shakhtar Donetsk 0

UEFA Champions League
third qualifying round second leg

CRUCIATE INJURY RETIRES PATRIK

FORMER Sweden and Blackburn Rovers defender Patrik Andersson has announced his retirement after suffering a cruciate ligament injury.

The 33-year-old, capped 96 times by Sweden, fell awkwardly and twisted his left knee in the 88th minute of Malmö's recent 1-0 home defeat by Swiss side FC Thun in the UEFA Champions League third qualifying round first leg.

Amsterdam ArenA, where Ajax entertain Brøndby.

The first leg in Denmark ended in a pulsating 2-2 draw with Markus Rosenberg putting the Dutch side in front after 31 minutes only for Morten Skoubo to level two minutes later.

Ajax thought they had secured the win when youngster Ryan Babel netted 20 minutes from time but an own goal from Julien Escudé in added time gave Brøndby hope of progressing to the group stages.

Inter Milan's
Obafemi Martins



He underwent surgery the following day - which would have entailed a seven-month spell on the sidelines - but decided against returning to action.

Manchester United • Barcelona • Ajax • Bayer Leverkusen • Inter Milan • Benfica • Tottenham • Deportivo La Coruña • Fiorentina

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Born 'N' Bred



This is Amber Smith who was 13 months old on the morning after our Champions League final victory. Getting ready to go to nursery there was only one shirt amber could wear that day!



Patric eyeing European Cup

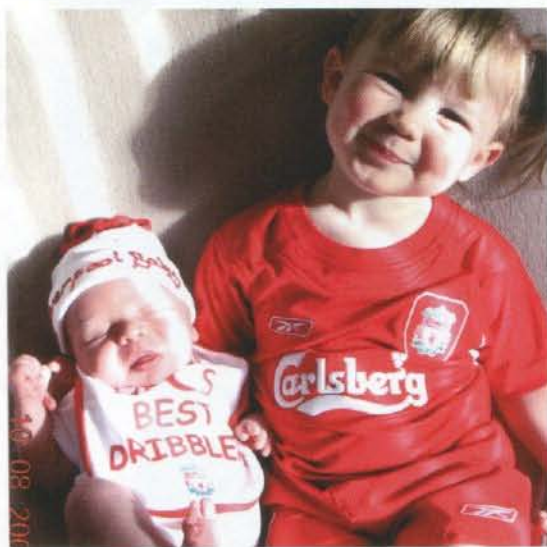
This is our son Patric Wilson a fanatic Liverpool fan. His dream is to win the European Cup with Liverpool just like Stevie G



This is Daniel Roberts who celebrated his 13th birthday watching the Reds from the Kop against Sunderland with his dad Craig



Belated happy birthday to Guto Roberts from Aberystwyth love from dad, mam and Delun



Welcome to Anfield Billy

This is Billy Fallows who arrived during the close season. Big sister Bethany wasted no time dressing him in the red of Liverpool. Dad Mark is a safety steward at Anfield in the Premier Lounges of the Centenary Stand

Happy birthday to Emma McDermott who celebrated her 18th birthday on Sunday.
Love always, Dave



Belated happy 17th birthday to Mathew Thomas of Holyhead. Lots of love from fellow Reds supporter mum, Kim



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

This Is Anfield, c/o Sport Media, PO Box 48
Old Hall Street, Liverpool L69 3EB
or email thisisanfield@sportmedia-tm.com
N.B No more than 25 words to accompany your picture please

Gary sinks to new depths for the love of Liverpool

DIVER Gary Kyriacou took his love of the Reds to new depths this summer.

When some CSKA Moscow fans asked him how low he would go to support his team, he replied: "About 30 metres actually!" - and was promptly pictured holding his Liverpool scarf in front of a yellow submarine like the one made famous by the Beatles.

Gary explained: "I used to work the summers in a diving school in Larnaca, Cyprus. One of my jobs was to dive on the submarine and feed the fish and do a bit of a show for the passengers inside.

"I kept asking the crew of the submarine to paint it yellow. Being Russian, they could not see the connection of the yellow submarine, so it was left white.

"While out there on holiday in July I saw they'd painted it yellow. Being a mad Liverpool supporter all my life I always have a Liverpool scarf with me, so I took it down on the submarine and took some photos.

"I had some banter with the Russians who are CSKA Moscow fans and they reckoned they would beat us in the Super Cup final, but hopefully we can wrap the game up early without needing to use a super 'sub'!"



Gary in his red shirt with the CSKA Moscow fans



AIB
Merseyside
Branch
Secretary

Les Lawson

I WOULD like to wish good luck to Vladimir Smicer and Igor Biscan at their new clubs.

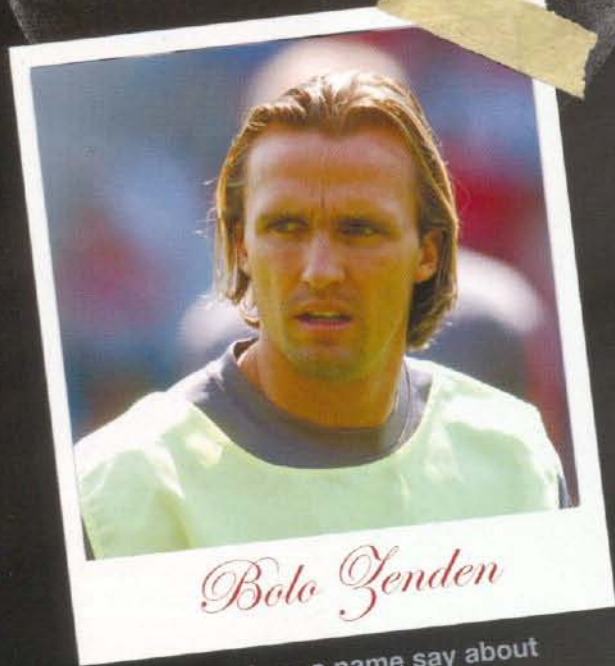
No Liverpool supporter who witnessed the Champions League final will ever forget the contribution that Vladi made that night. He was a genuine nice guy and I was especially pleased that he will be remembered as a Champions League winner. As for Igor, I think it is fair to say that he looked a different player under Rafa and although he never got onto the pitch in the final, he played his part in getting us there with magnificent performances against Deportivo, Juventus and Chelsea.

On behalf of the committee and members of the Merseyside Branch I would like to congratulate former committee member Steve Cavanagh on his marriage to Joanne Cliffe who works in the club shop at Anfield. Steve and Joanne were married on the 25th of June. We hope you have a great life together and we wish you both all the happiness for the future. At this moment in time I am unable to confirm the date of the September meeting of the Merseyside Branch. Please look out in the local press for details or you can e-mail

llnw40603@btueyond.co.uk



Class of
05/06



Bolo Zenden

What does a name say about
a player's personality?
David Randles asks the questions...

BOOS

Were you surprised at the reception you received on your return to Middlesbrough?

Going back to the Riverside on the first day of the season was quite a coincidence but let's just say my reception could have gone one of two ways.

Maybe it was a compliment because some people were disappointed that I left the club. Maybe they wanted me to stay.

It wasn't all boos though. I had a lot of people come up and thank me for helping bring some fantastic times there.

ORANGEBOOM

Is it a lager or a tune?

Pardon!?

It's a Dutch lager that uses this line as part of its advertising campaign.

Oh, I've never heard of it. But then I'm not a drinker. I've never really liked alcohol.

So you don't go out to bars that much?

Not really because I don't drink. If I do I'll drink something like 7-Up or another soft drink.

Would you say that is quite common among European players?

I'm not sure about that. I know quite a few players in Europe who definitely like a drink.

LANGUAGES

How many can you speak?

I like to speak different languages and can get away with five.

I can speak English, Dutch, French, Spanish, some German.

In Holland you learn English from an early age because as soon as you cross the border nobody else



speaks Dutch.

I learned French and German at school as well but I also have a French girlfriend so that helps too.

OVER

What will you do when you're playing career is over?

I've not thought about it too much as I hope to be playing for quite a few more years yet. I do as much as I can to look after myself and keep my body in order so I can play at the highest level for as long as possible.



How about something with your languages?

Yes, I'm sure they could come in handy and I enjoy using them. I'm really not sure yet. Maybe I'll start a business or something.



ZODIAC

What star sign are you?

Leo. I've just had my birthday.

Do you pay much attention to your horoscope?

No, no. I don't really read them in the papers but then maybe if I'm in a waiting room or something and there is a magazine lying around I'll have a quick look at them but not by habit.



EUROPEAN UNION

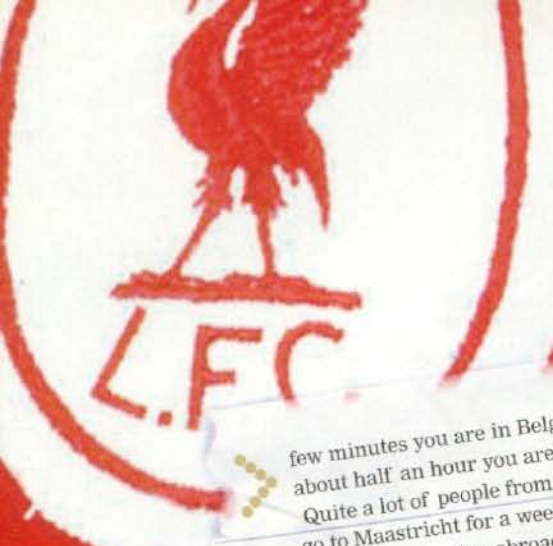
You were born in Maastricht where the 1992 treaty was signed. What is it like there?

Ah the Treaty, that put us on the map.

Maastricht is in the deepest south of Holland. If you go any further you end up in Belgium. Within a



Class of 05/06



few minutes you are in Belgium and after about half an hour you are in Germany. Quite a lot of people from the north will go to Maastricht for a weekend break. For them it's like going abroad as there is a slightly different atmosphere from the north.

NICKNAME

Where does the name Bolo come from?

When I was younger my brother used it a lot. We used to be into skateboarding and would give each other nicknames and Bolo came up.

Then whenever we went abroad on holiday we would play with other kids but there was often a language barrier. Whenever they asked me for my name it

was always a long story to explain Boudewijn so I would just tell them Bolo. It's the same in football. I remember when Ronaldo arrived at PSV and I explained to him then he took it over with the other players. Then when I went to Barcelona it was the same.

It's always easier to explain than Boudewijn. I'd say about ninety per cent of people call me Bolo.

Is Boudewijn a popular name in Holland?

It's an easy name back home. I wouldn't say it was that common but it is easy to pronounce there. If you go anywhere else it becomes difficult. Plus out on the pitch Bolo is much quicker and easier than Boudewijn.

DUTCHMEN

Did you have any boyhood heroes?

I enjoyed watching all sorts of quality football. In Holland it would often be PSV and Ajax who had good players, some of whom went on to play for clubs like Barcelona. The likes of Johan Cruyff went there and the Dutch manager Rinus Michels was also once in charge at the Nou Camp.

Then there was the famous trio at AC Milan, Ruud Gullit, Marco van Basten and Frank Rijkaard. They probably stick more in my mind because of my age.

It wasn't just Dutch players though. I think everybody looks to the likes of Pele and Maradona as fantastic players also.

EUROPE

Is there a big difference between the Champions League and the UEFA Cup?

Yes I think so, especially from a media point of view.

The way the Champions League is projected and brought to the fans is much, much bigger than the UEFA Cup.

The UEFA Cup is always pushed back on to a Thursday evening and nine times out of ten on an open channel whereas the Champions League is always on Pay Per View.

There is more of a circus created around the



Champions League and this makes it seem more special.

What about the standard of football between the two?

Well of course, the teams are always different as you have to achieve more to get into the Champions League even if you don't have to be champions to get there anymore.

NETHERLANDS

Are you hopeful of making your country's World Cup squad?

I've no idea. I've got 55 caps and have played in three big tournaments so far - one World Cup and two European Championships - so like any other player you want to take part in these. But I am not the one making the decision. My main focus will be Liverpool and anything that comes out of that will be a bonus.

It will be a very long season but that is what we like.



Class of 2005/06 REGISTER

Name	Register Number
Jerzy Dudek	1
Steve Finnan	2
Sami Hyypia	3
Milan Baros	4
John Arne Riise	5
Harry Kewell	6
Steven Gerrard	7
Djibril Cisse	8
Luis Garcia	9
Xabi Alonso	10
Peter Crouch	14
Dietmar Hamann	15
Josemi	16
Fernando Morientes	17
Scott Carson	19
Djimi Traore	20
Mohamed Sissoko	21
Jamie Carragher	22
Florent Sinama-Pongolle	23
Jose Reina	24
Stephen Warnock	25
Boudewijn Zenden	28
David Raven	30
John Welsh	31
Neil Mellor	32
Darren Potter	33
Antonio Barragan	34
Zak Whitbread	36
Robbie Foy	37
	42



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BUYING TICKETS:

To buy tickets for Premiership matches at Anfield by post or phone you must apply 18 days in advance

BY POST

Send a letter stating the match and number of tickets you require, with a stamped addressed envelope, to LFC Ticket Office, PO Box 204, Liverpool L69 4PQ. You can pay by cheque, postal order, credit or debit card. Cheques must be made payable to Liverpool Football Club. If you want to pay by credit or debit card, include your card number and expiry date, plus debit-card issue number where applicable. If the number of applications exceeds the number of tickets, they will be allocated through a ballot.

BY PHONE

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

IN PERSON

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

AWAY MATCHES

Tickets for away fixtures go on sale first to Liverpool season-ticket holders. Priority will be based on a loyalty system i.e. priority will be given to supporters on the number of away FAFL fixtures attended during season 2002/03 and also may include the number of fixtures attended in the current season. The number of matches attended will be determined from the information held on the Ticket Office database.

TICKET OFFICE

Open weekdays 8.15am to 5.30pm, weekends 9am – 1pm and matchdays 9.15am to kick-off and for 15 minutes after the final whistle.

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

FIRST DATE OF SALE:

fixture date	opposition	PTS (25 days)	c/c hotline and post (and e-season) (18 days)	windows (11 days)
18.09.05	Man Utd*	24-Aug	31-Aug	07-Aug
02.10.05	Chelsea	07-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep
15.10.05	Blackburn	20-Sep	27-Sep	04-Oct
29.10.05	West Ham	04-Oct	11-Oct	18-Oct
19.11.05	Portsmouth	25-Oct	01-Nov	08-Nov
03.12.05	Wigan	08-Nov	15-Nov	22-Nov
10.12.05	Middlesbrough	16-Nov	22-Nov	29-Nov
26.12.05	Newcastle	01-Dec	08-Dec	15-Dec
31.12.05	West Brom	06-Dec	13-Dec	20-Dec
14.01.06	Tottenham	20-Dec	28-Dec	03-Jan
31.01.06	Birmingham	06-Jan	13-Jan	20-Jan
25.02.06	Man City	31-Jan	07-Feb	14-Feb

* Matches against Manchester United and Everton may be subject to alternative selling arrangements

OFFICIAL LIVERPOOL SUPPORTERS CLUB

Join the OLSC and become a part of Liverpool FC. Members receive exclusive benefits and discounts and much more. Adult and Junior memberships are available. Call 08707 02 02 07 or visit www.liverpoolfc.tv to join today.



TICKET PRICES:

	CAT A*	CAT B
Kop	£30 (Over 65's £22.50)	£28 (Over 65's £21)
Main Stand	£32 (Over 65's £24)	£30 (Over 65's £22.50)
Centenary	£32 (Over 65's £24)	£30 (Over 65's £22.50)
Paddock	£32 (Over 65's £24)	£30 (Over 65's £22.50)
Anfield Road	£32 (Over 65's £24)	£30 (Over 65's £22.50)

*CATEGORY A MATCHES

Arsenal, Aston Villa, Blackburn Rovers, Chelsea, Everton, Manchester City, Manchester United, Newcastle United, Tottenham Hotspur

FAMILY TICKETS

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

ANFIELD TRAVEL CLUB

DATE	FIXTURE & K.O (3pm unless stated)	D.TIME	FARE £
10.09.05	TOTTENHAM	07.30am	21.00
24.09.05	BIRMINGHAM (12.45pm)	08.00am	12.00
22.10.05	FULHAM	07.30am	22.00
05.11.05	ASTON VILLA (12.45pm)	08.00am	12.00
26.11.05	MANCHESTER CITY	11.30am	08.50
17.12.05	SUNDERLAND (5.15pm)	11.00am	15.00
02.01.06	BOLTON	TBC	08.50
21.01.06	MANCHESTER UNITED	11.30am	08.50
04.02.06	CHELSEA	07.30am	22.00
11.02.06	WIGAN	11.30am	08.50
11.03.06	ARSENAL	08.00am	22.00
18.03.06	NEWCASTLE	09.00am	14.00
01.04.06	WEST BROM	10.30am	12.00
15.04.06	BLACKBURN	11.00am	08.50
22.04.06	WEST HAM	07.30am	22.00
07.05.06	PORTSMOUTH	07.00am	25.00

*Charlton Athletic match to be confirmed

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

SEE THE REDS IN STYLE

Various corporate hospitality packages are still available on matchdays in the Lower Centenary Stand, with prices starting from just £50 per head. For further details CALL 0151 263 9199 Or FAX 0151 260 0981

SOCCERBUS

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

Soccerbus tickets can be bought at the same time as your rail ticket, for just £1 extra return. Merseytravel prepaid tickets are also accepted. Call 0151 330 1066 for further details.



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

Stephen Warnock
 Boudewijn Zenden
 David Raven
 John Welsh
 Neil Mellor
 Darren Potter
 Antonio Barragan
 Zak Whitbread
 Robbie Foy
 Anthony Le Tallec
 Carl Medjani

Stats



27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 42

BARCLAYS PREMIERSHIP TABLE 2005/06

Team	HOME						AWAY						Pts	GD
	Pd	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A			
Charlton	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	3	+2	
West Ham	1	1	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	+2	
Arsenal	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	+2	
Man Utd	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	3	+2	
Tottenham	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	3	+2	
Chelsea	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	3	+1	
Aston Villa	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Bolton	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	1	0	
Birmingham	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	
Fulham	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Liverpool	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	
Man City	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Middlesbro	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
West Brom	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	
Wigan	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	
Blackburn	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	-2	
Sunderland	1	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	-2	
Everton	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	-2	
Newcastle	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	-2	
Portsmouth	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	-2	

• Barclays Premiership table upto and including Sunday, August 14th

GAMES AND GOALS 2005/06

	PREMIERSHIP GAMES/GOALS	FA CUP GAMES/GOALS	LEAGUE CUP GAMES/GOALS	EUROPEAN GAMES/GOALS	TOTAL GAMES/GOALS
Xabi Alonso	1/0	0/0	0/0	4/0	5/0
Milan Baros	1/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	1/0
Antonio Barragan	0/0	0/0	0/0	1/0	1/0
Jamie Carragher	1/0	0/0	0/0	4/1	5/1
Scott Carson	0/0	0/0	0/0	1/0	1/0
Djibril Cisse	1/0	0/0	0/0	5/4	6/4
Peter Crouch	0/0	0/0	0/0	2/0	2/0
Jerzy Dudek	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
Steve Finnan	1/0	0/0	0/0	4/0	5/0
Robbie Foy	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
Luis Garcia	1/0	0/0	0/0	4/0	5/0
Steven Gerrard	1/0	0/0	0/0	5/7	6/7
Dietmar Hamann	0/0	0/0	0/0	3/0	3/0
Sami Hyypia	1/0	0/0	0/0	5/0	6/0
Josemi	0/0	0/0	0/0	1/0	1/0
Harry Kewell	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
Anthony Le Tallec	0/0	0/0	0/0	2/0	2/0
Neil Mellor	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
Fernando Morientes	1/0	0/0	0/0	4/2	5/2
Darren Potter	0/0	0/0	0/0	4/0	4/0
David Raven	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
Jose Reina	1/0	0/0	0/0	4/0	5/0
John Arne Riise	0/0	0/0	0/0	4/0	4/0
Florent Sinama-Pongolle	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
Mohamed Sissoko	1/0	0/0	0/0	3/0	4/0
Djimi Traore	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
Stephen Warnock	1/0	0/0	0/0	3/0	4/0
John Welsh	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
Zak Whitbread	0/0	0/0	0/0	2/0	2/0
Boudewijn Zenden	1/0	0/0	0/0	4/0	5/0

Due to print deadlines this does not include stats for the Sunderland game

REMINDER: The draw for the group stages of the UEFA Champions League will take place in Monaco at 3pm (BST) on Thursday