

MEMORIES OF THE SPORTING YEAR  
RECALLED - SEE PAGE 58

# Glovers will feel they can win it - Johnson



**TROPHY TRAINING:** Yeovil Town boss Gary Johnson got his hands on the FA Cup on Tuesday. The famous trophy was on display at Huish Park when the Glovers staged the second of their Press days ahead of their third-round fixture with Liverpool this weekend. And Johnson could not resist trying out lifting the silver pot - good training in case his team are successful in the final at the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff. *Picture by Len Copland.*

by Adam Summers  
FOOTBALL

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MANAGER Gary Johnson says that his Yeovil Town side will not be running scared when they face Liverpool's international stars at Huish Park on Sunday.

The former Lutvia boss has ensured that his players will be going into the televised FA Cup third-round clash against the Premiership giants with only thoughts of a win on their minds.

"It is a one-off game which we want to win," said Johnson.

"If we do not go out there with that mentality then we are going to come unbacked. We cannot put 11 men behind the ball and hope the referee helps us out in some way. We have got to go out there and do what we do

best. We want to show everyone that we have some good footballers here. A lot of our players look at the Premiership sometimes and say that they could do that - well, here is their chance."

"We have got to believe that we can win it and I think this group of players will."

"We have got to take away the household-name syndrome. Any of our players can go past Danny Murphy as much as they can go past someone in the third division. It is a case where the league-tables say that we are a million miles apart but we have to show that we are not. Players like Michael Owen are at the top because they are more consistent but in a one-off game consistency does not matter."

A capacity crowd are expected to welcome the Glovers into the new year with a bang.

"The fans will ensure there is a great atmosphere," said Johnson. "This game is a horrible one for Liverpool and they are bound to feel a bit uncomfortable about it and that is why it will be interesting to see how they come out and play. Our supporters will prove once again that they can rise to the occasion and I am sure it is going to be a great day for everyone."

"Pride is very important and regardless of the result we want to put on a performance. We want to be in the game right through the 90 minutes. The lads have got to set themselves a platform where they have to say 'I am going to be bold, I am going to be confident and I am going to show my ability' - and that is all they need. If my players have the mental toughness

to do that then we will give Liverpool a good football match."

A media frenzy is expected to hit Huish Park over the next couple of days and several big names are expected to be at the game.

The Match of the Day team of Gary Lineker, Peter Schmeichel, Alan Hansen, Mark Lawrenson, Barry Davies and Trevor Brooking will be fronting BBC's coverage while Chelsea defender John Terry will be in the Main Stand. The England international is travelling to Somerset to

support his brother Paul Terry who could start for the Glovers.

Johnson is well aware of the attention being placed on his team but he is confident that they will put on a good show. He said: "We are representing our town and we are representing ourselves."

"Everyone has got pride and it does not matter who you play against, you do not want to lose that. We have worked hard to build up a reputation and this is our chance to keep that and even enhance that."