

IT'S THE FA CUP TIE OF THE ROUND AS LIVERPOOL COME TO TOWN:

GLAZERS BASK IN THE LIGHT

Spencer: Yeovil can book a trip to Anfield

By John Lukins

IAN Rush, the Liverpool legend, says that apart from Anfield fans the whole country will be wanting Yeovil Town to win when the Glaziers tackle Gerard Houllier's star-studded side at Hush Park today.

YEOVIL V LIVERPOOL
Today, 1pm BBC 1
Preview by John Lukins

It is a tie that's certainly caught the imagination.

When the time for the third round was made, the book immediately named it their 'six of the seven' and their ever-afloat cut will be heading for a spectacular arrival at Hush Park to join 8,000 other holders to see if the Glaziers can do the unexpected.

Privilege
Inferred has been growing by the day in Somerset.

Stand tickets aren't actually priced at £10 here but are changing hands well into three figures and at least one fan has paid £200 for the privilege of seeing their son in the tie.

The Glaziers' week build-up has been interesting.

On Monday there was a 'Three Lions' CD, an evening slide to a CD, and the next day

the main playing staff were available for interviews and photos leading the FA Cup in a session that brought well over 500 pressmen to the ground. Manager Gerry Johnson, who always does things a bit differently, asked his players how many tickets they wanted, making them promise not to sell them if a goal.

Some wanted more than others. Dromic Adam Stanfield, the striker who joined Yeovil from Exeter, wanted 15.

When all the hype is over, however, Yeovil have been doing some serious training.

Johnnie says: 'We aren't sure whether Michael Owen will be playing or not.

It's hard to say if he is on the way back from his injury, but he's not so far away we have talked about what to do if he doesn't come to do it.'

'We know Simon Gerrard and several others are missing, but this is a club with about 30 internationals as it is strictly a positive talk for us.'

Johnson blasted his



A UP FOR THE CUP: Kevin Gall and Kirk Jackson, ready to beat Liverpool

Photo: Richard Austin

was for their first half goal and every radio for the FA Cup in a session that brought well over 500 pressmen to the ground. Manager Gerry Johnson, who always does things a bit differently, asked his players how many tickets they wanted, making them promise not to sell them if a goal.

He was certainly missed in his absence, although Paul Terry's performance will probably keep him in the starting line-up, perhaps in a back four role. Terry's brother John, the England defender, will certainly be hoping to be making his first trip to Somerset to watch the match.

The other selection powers would appear to be Nick Crosswood, or Andy Lindgaard for a start on the left of mid-

field, and Stanfield or the powerful Kirk Jackson to line up alongside top scorer Kevin Gall to front.

The man who scored the first ever competitive goal at Hush Park will head back to the ground today hoping - and half expecting - to see Yeovil Town get the draw against Liverpool for a second year.

Many Spencer actually tells two records that cover his taken away in 1989 to become the club's first full-time professional and on August 16, 1990 he scored the FA Cup-winning goal against Colchester that was the first of the new stadium.

'I arrived at the ground that day on crutches, but they stepped me up and sent me out and I scored with my left foot. It was brilliant.'

One of Spencer's outbursts was a bit rude to the press, and he remembers some early Yeovil years for the Glaziers that went beyond the usual.

Among the goals he scored was one in an FA Cup-win with West Ham in 1980 which went in with some drama.

'I had to play in the goal, it was the last time I was in the goal, it was incredible for me.'

'They will come here and we'll be waiting to win but I don't think they would be unhappy with a draw and a replay at Anfield.'

Financially, a draw and a big day at Anfield would be great for the Glaziers. And Spencer, who made an on for 104 goals for Yeovil, believes he has a main capable of doing it.

He said: 'I would have loved to have played in this game. I have seen them over the years and they play with such confidence and create so many chances. It's a big thing, it's different. The media

'If Moses Gall and Jackson can better that being the best he achieved at a place in Glaziers history.'

Houllier says Reds will be tuned in

By Paul Walker

GERARD Houllier insists his Liverpool side will be just as motivated as Yeovil to claim victory when the teams meet in the FA Cup third round this afternoon.

The Liverpool chief has been hearing from various quarters that defeat in the third division side would mean his job over since the draw was made.

'I am a footballer who also has shareholders to reassure at the club's AG, so I can assure everyone we will be having a go at it.'

'They may well be a bit at an early on, but I can assure everyone we will be having a go at it.'

'The criticism, we are faced with is the fact that the results are up to the expectation of the people's. Houllier

said, that we know who we are and we will just keep hitting on. The FA Cup is a personal ambition but a personal ambition will be prepared and here the right attitude and commitment needed for that sort of game.

'They will be physically and mentally the way in a game like this you need to win the battle, in fight, and to win the individual challenge and improve our skill.'

'There is something about this cup that players enjoy. There is something about this cup that players enjoy. There is something about this cup that players enjoy. There is something about this cup that players enjoy.'

made rare at the press conference that everyone was wished a 'happy new year' and every radio for the FA Cup in a session that brought well over 500 pressmen to the ground. Manager Gerry Johnson, who always does things a bit differently, asked his players how many tickets they wanted, making them promise not to sell them if a goal.

'He said: 'After the way we went out of the Carling Cup and the disappointing performance against Chelsea, the players were very upset. They were not used to go out of the FA Cup in the same way.'

'There is something about this cup that players enjoy. There is something about this cup that players enjoy. There is something about this cup that players enjoy. There is something about this cup that players enjoy.'

to win it again. This competition is the most prestigious in the world, even in the early days of TV it was there all around the world. When I was a child, lots of people in France knew about football by watching the English FA Cup.

And with Michael Owen in the party after three months sidelined with a thigh injury, Houllier is still confident enough to talk to three of his long-term plans for the club.

'He said: 'My aim for 2000 is to win a trophy, which is what this club is all about, and to improve our position in the league which we need to do. And that means Champions League.'

have got targets to go for. As for the current operation, the players are like no one. They do not care what is being said.

'The players just ignore it, but I did joke with them about it all. I am quite relaxed and confident. It is a nothing new.'

'But it is not about me, it is about the club. The club is more important than me, that is all that matters.'

Dever Marjory is expected to make Liverpool's debut in the win over Chelsea as flexing Dey has an operation on the injury has revealed a more complicated injury than first thought.

'Chris had to have an operation on Monday and could be out for up to two months', manager Gerard Houllier said on the club's official website. www.liverpoolfc.com.

'We thought it was a clear fracture at first but the fracture extends down through the joint so he needed an operation and will be out for longer than we anticipated.'