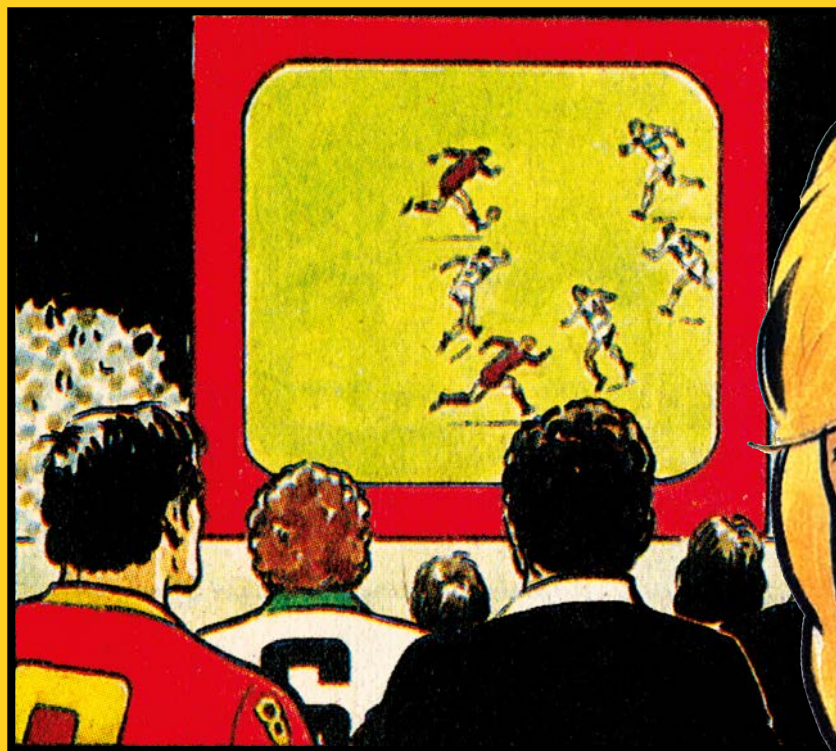


# ***ROY OF THE ROVERS*** <sup>TM</sup>



**ROY INVENTS  
VAR!**



# ROY OF THE ROVERS

MERVYN WALLACE WAS TAUNTED AS HE TOOK THE PENALTY!

ROY'S OFFER OF A LIFT TO SOME ROWDY MELCHESTER FANS ON THE WAY TO OLDFIELD STADIUM, RESULTED IN TWO OF HIS PLAYERS GETTING THEIR POCKETS PICKED. ROY HAD TO GO OFF WITH MILD CONCUSSION DURING THE TENSION-RIDDEN GAME ... AND WHEN HE RETURNED, WITH THE SCORE STANDING AT 1-1 ...



BUT ROY'S YELLS WERE DROWNED BY THE BOOS AND JEERS OF THE OLDFIELD FANS!



AND THEY SUCCEEDED...



ROY GROANED IN DESPAIR...



A FEW SECONDS LATER, THE FULL-TIME WHISTLE BLEW...



MERVYN HAD NO REGRETS ABOUT MISSING THE VITAL PENALTY...



THEN!



ROY COULD HARDLY WAIT TO PASS ON THE GOOD NEWS!



MORE DRAMA IN NEXT WEEK'S EXCITING EPISODE!

My marks out of ten for this story:



# ROY OF THE ROVERS

ROY STAGGERED THE ONLOOKERS WITH AN AMAZING ANNOUNCEMENT!

THE PROBLEM OF HOOLIGANISM AT MELCHESTER ROVERS HAD ALREADY COST THE ROVERS VALUABLE LEAGUE POINTS, BUT PLAYER-MANAGER ROY RACE WAS DETERMINED TO COMBAT THE GROWING MENACE. HE CALLED A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE ROVERS' GROUND...

GOOD GRIEF! YOU'VE INSTALLED GIANT CINE-SCREENS AT EACH END OF THE GROUND, ROY!

A FIRST FOR BRITISH FOOTBALL, EH, GENTLEMEN? BUT THEY ARE NOT CINE-SCREENS...



...THEY ARE TELEVISION SCREENS! IT'S A LITTLE IDEA I PICKED UP WHILE I WAS GUESTING FOR AN AMERICAN SOCCER TEAM, LAST SUMMER!



BUT HOW DOES IT WORK, ROY?

HANG ON A MINUTE AND YOU'LL FIND OUT!

FIRE AWAY, ROY!



LOOK AT THAT! NO WONDER THEY CALL HIM 'CHARLIE THE CAT'!

GREAT SAVE, WASN'T IT? AND IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IT AGAIN...



...JUST TAKE A LOOK AT THE SCREEN...

WHEEEOWWW! AN ACTION REPLAY!

FANTASTIC!



AS AN EXTRA BONUS, I PLAN TO SHOW THE MAIN HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR NEXT GAME, RIGHT AFTER THE MATCH!

BY GLORY, RACEY! IT SOUNDS AS IF THE MELCHESTER FANS ARE REALLY GOING TO GET THEIR MONEY'S WORTH THIS SEASON!

RIGHT! IN MY OPINION, THE SPECTATOR IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE PLAYER! I WANT OUR SUPPORTERS TO FEEL THAT THEY ARE PART OF THE CLUB'S SUCCESS... THAT WE COULDN'T ACHIEVE ANYTHING WITHOUT THEM!





DON'T MISS ROVERS' EXCITING ENCOUNTER WITH EASTGATE!

My marks out of ten for this story:

# ROY OF THE ROVERS

ROY FOUND THE EASTGATE MANAGER IN A DISAGREEABLE MOOD!

**A**S PART OF HIS CONTROVERSIAL PLAN TO DEFEAT THE GROWING MENACE OF HOOLIGANISM AT MELCHESTER ROVERS, PLAYER-MANAGER ROY RACE, HAD INSTALLED GIANT TELEVISION SCREENS AT MELCHESTER STADIUM FOR A LEAGUE MATCH AGAINST EASTGATE. NOT SURPRISINGLY, THE SENSATIONAL EXPERIMENT HAD ATTRACTED NATION-WIDE INTEREST!

WHETHER THE SCREENS TURN OUT TO BE A SUCCESS, OR A DISASTER, YOU'VE GOT TO ADMIRE ROY RACE FOR STICKING HIS NECK OUT...

...THERE MUST BE TEN THOUSAND EASTGATE SUPPORTERS PACKED INTO THE STADIUM, TODAY, AND THE POLICE ARE ON CONSTANT WATCH FOR TROUBLE...



...BUT RIGHT NOW THE RIVAL SUPPORTERS ARE ONLY INTERESTED IN THOSE GIANT SCREENS... SO PERHAPS RACEY'S ASSAULT ON HOOLIGANISM IS ALREADY BEGINNING TO PAYOFF!

MEANWHILE, ROY AND THE EASTGATE MANAGER WERE HAVING A FINAL WORD WITH THE REFEREE...

I CAN'T ALLOW ANYTHING THAT MIGHT AFFECT MY SUPERVISION OF THIS GAME, ROY! I'LL NEED YOUR ASSURANCE THAT ONLY ACTUAL GOALS WILL BE REPLAYED ON THE SCREENS!

YOU'VE GOT IT, REF! IS THAT OKAY BY YOU, NEIL?



NO, ROY, IT ISN'T! I'M TOTALLY OPPOSED TO THIS WHOLE BUSINESS! THOSE THINGS MAY WORK ALL RIGHT IN AMERICA, BUT THIS IS BRITAIN...

NOW WAIT A MINUTE...



WE DON'T NEED CHEAP GIMMICKS TO ENTERTAIN THE CUSTOMERS! THE PLACE FOR THAT, IS DOWN ON THE PITCH!

WE'LL SEE! ONLY TIME WILL TELL!

AS ROY REJOINED HIS PLAYERS...



HEY ROY... WE'VE JUST HAD A THOUGHT! IF WE THRASH EASTGATE OUT OF SIGHT, AND YOU RE-RUN THE HIGHLIGHTS RIGHT AFTER THE GAME, THE EASTGATE FANS MIGHT NOT APPRECIATE IT!

THAT'S WHAT PENNY SAID, VERNON.



BUT IF WE'RE GOING TO THRASH THEM... LET'S THRASH THEM! SCREENS OR NO SCREENS!

THAT'S MY BOY!

BUT ROY WAS WORRIED!



THE LADS COULD BE RIGHT ABOUT UPSETTING THE EASTGATE FANS! BUT APART FROM THAT, I WANT TO SHOW NEIL HAMMOND THAT HE'S WRONG... THAT THE SCREENS COULD ACTUALLY BENEFIT FOOTBALL!

THE FIRST FEW MINUTES AFTER THE KICK-OFF BROUGHT SOME VERY SCRAPPY FOOTBALL!

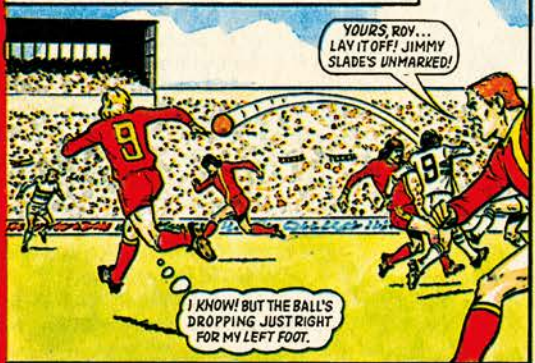


OOOOOOPS!

NEITHER TEAM SEEMS TO BE ABLE TO SETTLE DOWN! MAYBE THE SCREENS ARE PUTTING THEM OFF!

FORGET THE GIMMICKS AND PLAY SOME FOOTBALL, EASTGATE!

THEN, AS THE BALL REBOUNDED FROM A RUCK OF PLAYERS...



YOURS, ROY... LAY IT OFF! JIMMY SLADE'S UNMARKED!

I KNOW! BUT THE BALL'S DROPPING JUST RIGHT FOR MY LEFT FOOT.

'RACEY'S ROCKET'!



IT MUST BE... AND IT IS!

GOOOAAAAAAL!

IT WAS THE KIND OF GOAL THAT EVEN THE EASTGATE FANS COULD ENJOY ALL OVER AGAIN...



LOOK AT THAT! OUR 'KEEPER' DIDN'T EVEN SEE IT!

WHAT A SHOT! THERE IT GOES!

AS IF SPURRED BY THE ACTION-REPLAY, EASTGATE HIT BACK POWERFULLY, AND...



IT'S IN... GREAT GOAL!

THEY WENT STRAIGHT DOWN THE PARK, AND EQUALISED!

RAAAAAAY!

BUT...



TAKE A LOOK, IVOR... YOU'LL BE ON THE TELLY IN A MINUTE!

WAAAAAY! ROLL THEM! LET'S SEE HOW I DID IT!

NOTHING'S HAPPENED! THEY'RE NOT GOING TO SHOW THE REPLAY!

BOOOOOO!

COME ON, MELCHESTER! WE HAD TO STAND AND WATCH YOUR GOAL ALL OVER AGAIN... NOW IT'S OUR TURN!

BUT ROY HAD SPOTTED A FRANTIC SIGNAL!



A RED FLAG... BEING WAVED FROM THE CONTROL-BOX! THE ACTION-REPLAY SYSTEM HAS TEMPORARILY BROKEN DOWN!

THE EASTGATE FANS WILL NEVER BELIEVE IT, ROY...

... YOU'D BETTER THINK OF SOMETHING FAST, OR THEY'LL BE OVER THE BARRIERS!

WILL THE FANS INVADE THE PITCH? FIND OUT NEXT WEEK!

My marks out of ten for this story:

# ROY OF THE ROVERS

THE MAN-IN-THE-MIDDLE THREATENED A TV BLACK-OUT!

AS PART OF HIS CONTROVERSIAL PLAN TO DEFEAT THE GROWING MENACE OF HOOLIGANISM AT MELCHESTER ROVERS, PLAYER-MANAGER ROY RACE HAD INSTALLED GIANT TELEVISION SCREENS AT MELCHESTER STADIUM FOR A LEAGUE MATCH AGAINST EASTGATE. THE IDEA WAS TO SHOW INSTANT ACTION-REPLAYS OF THE GOALS AND HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GAME STRAIGHT AFTER THE MATCH, BUT WHEN EASTGATE SCORED AN EQUALISER... THE SYSTEM BROKE DOWN!

8000000!

YOU'RE A FRAUD, RACE! YOU SHOWED A REPLAY OF THE MELCHESTER GOAL, BUT WHAT ABOUT OURS?

THE EASTGATE FANS ARE GETTING SET TO RIOT! THEY JUST WON'T BELIEVE THAT THE REPLAY SYSTEM HAS TEMPORARILY BROKE DOWN...

... SO MUCH FOR MY WONDERFUL GIMMICK TO INVOLVE THE FANS AND CUT OUT HOOLIGANISM...

... IT'S ABOUT TO MAKE THINGS WORSE THAN EVER!

THEN...

... AND AFTER THE GAME, WHAT ABOUT A VISIT TO YUNG HO'S CHINESE TAKE-AWAY EMPORIUM? WE SERVE THE FINEST CHIPS IN MELCHESTER...

WHAT'S THAT?

I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

AND JUST IN CASE YOU MISSED THE NAME...

OH, MY STARS! THEY'RE SHOWING AN ACTION-REPLAY OF A CHAP EATING CHIPS WITH CHOPSTICKS!

HA! HA! HAAAAA!

OKAY, ROY... WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

ER, THAT'S ONE OF THE COMMERCIALS THAT I'D PLANNED TO RUN AT HALF TIME, REF! THE SCREEN OPERATOR MUST HAVE... SLIPPED IT IN TO KEEP THE CROWD HAPPY!

WELL, IT'S NOT MAKING ME VERY HAPPY! IF THERE'S A REPEAT PERFORMANCE, I'LL HAVE TO ASK YOU TO SHUT DOWN THE WHOLE SYSTEM!

FAIR ENOUGH, REF! S-SORRY ABOUT THAT!

SORRY? YOU SHOULD BE DELIGHTED, RACE! LISTEN TO THOSE EASTGATE FANS!

HA! HA! HAAAAA!

THEY'RE... STILL LAUGHING...

... THAT STUPID COMMERCIAL TICKLED THEM SO MUCH, THEY'VE FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT THE GOAL-REPLAY!

BUT THE EASTGATE MANAGER, NEIL HAMMOND, DIDN'T FEEL LIKE LAUGHING!



OOO-OOPPS!

WHAT A SHAMBLES! RACE AND HIS GIANT SCREENS HAVE GOT THE PLAYERS SO UNSETTLED THE MATCH IS DEGENERATING INTO A FARCE!

... NEITHER DID SOME OF THE MELCHESTER DIRECTORS...



I'M BEGINNING TO WISH WE HADN'T GIVEN ROY PERMISSION TO INSTALL THESE GIANT SCREENS!

YES! THANK GOODNESS IT'S ONLY FOR A TRIAL PERIOD!

ANY MORE INCIDENTS LIKE THAT AND EVERY OTHER CLUB IN THE COUNTRY WILL BE LAUGHING AT US!

BUT AT THAT MOMENT...



A BIT OF DECENT FOOTBALL AT LAST! NICE ONE, RACE!

HE'S LAID IT OFF TO GERRY HOLLOWAY...

AND AS ROY WENT THUNDERING ON...



GERRY'S PLAYED IT STRAIGHT BACK TO HIM! HE'S CLEAR!

THE EASTGATE 'KEEPER RUSHED OUT, BUT...



AA-AAAACH!

WHAT A SIDE-STEP... ROY'S DUMMIED HIM...



... AND IT'S THERE! TWO-ONE!

RACEY'S SEVENTH OF THE SEASON!

BUT HOWLS OF PROTEST WERE GOING UP FROM THE EASTGATE PLAYERS!



COME OFF IT, REF... RACE WAS MILES OFFSIDE WHEN THE BALL WAS PLAYED!

AND THE LINESMAN AGREES WITH US! LOOK AT HIM!



ALL RIGHT, EASTGATE, TAKE IT EASY! I'LL GO AND HAVE A WORD!

NO, REF... WAIT A MINUTE!

WHAT THE...?

AS ROY WENT CHARGING AFTER THE REFEREE...



ROY DOESN'T THINK IT WAS OFFSIDE... AND HE'S GOING TO ARGUE THE POINT WITH THE REFEREE!

MY STARS! IF THIS IS HIS IDEA OF SETTING AN EXAMPLE TO THE HOOLIGANS, WE'VE NO CHANCE...

... NOT IF THE MANAGER OF MELCHESTER ROVERS BEHAVES LIKE ONE HIMSELF!

IS ROY GOING TO BE IN TROUBLE? FIND OUT NEXT WEEK!

My marks out of ten for this story:

# ROY OF THE ROVERS

ROY SUGGESTED SOMETHING THAT HE THOUGHT WOULD HELP THE REFEREE!

AS PART OF HIS CONTROVERSIAL PLAN TO DEFEAT THE GROWING MENACE OF HOOLIGANISM AT MELCHESTER ROVERS, PLAYER-MANAGER ROY RACE HAD INSTALLED GIANT TELEVISION SCREENS AT THE STADIUM, FOR A LEAGUE MATCH AGAINST EASTGATE. WITH THE SCORE AT 1-1, ROY GRABBED A GOAL THAT WAS DISPUTED BY THE EASTGATE PLAYERS AND AS THE REFEREE WENT TO CONSULT A LINESMAN



ROY GAVE A SIGNAL TO THE SCREEN OPERATOR...



THE REFEREE GASPED!



A DELIGHTED ROAR BURST FROM THE EASTGATE FANS!



BUT THE MELCHESTER FANS HAD MIXED FEELINGS...





THE EASTGATE MANAGER THOUGHT SO, TOO!



NEXT WEEK: FOLLOW MELCHESTER IN THE EUROPEAN CUP!

My marks out of ten for this story: