

TOP 10

He didn't play for us... *did he?*

Blink and you'd have missed them. NEIL HEATH looks back at 10 players whose spell at Forest you might have forgotten...

10 Ian Wright (1999)

I'm sure none of us will forget that Wrighty played for Forest, albeit briefly, but it is hard to believe, isn't it? It was nice to chant "Ian Wright, Wright, Wright" whilst we could.

9 Francis Benali (2001)

Francis Benali was signed on loan from Southampton by David Platt. God only knows why he thought the ageing Benali was the answer to his defensive problems. Thankfully, because Platt had blown his wad on other talentless donkeys, we were unable to sign him and off he trotted back to Hampshire.

8 Mikkel Beck (1999)

Beck was another ineffective loan signing by David Platt. If you were to give him the ball and an empty net, he would still have hit the floodlight, or a cow's arse in Edwalton, or even a barn door in Botswana.

7 Marcus Hall (2002)

Paul Hart offered Marcus a week-to-week contract; it wasn't too long before he left for a club that would give him a proper deal.

6 Carlton Palmer (1999)

He wasn't a bad signing by Atkinson, brought in to add a bit of bite to the Forest midfield. However, he didn't last too long after Big Ron went back to his sun-lounger. Palmer left under a cloud



because David Platt didn't play him in a pre-season friendly. How dare he!

5 John Harkes (1999)

Harkes was another Big Ron favourite that was drafted in to save us from relegation. He played three games. He didn't save us from relegation.

4 Glyn Hodges (1999)

Kevin Campbell was sold to Trabzonspor, Pierre went on strike. We replaced them both with one man - Glyn Hodges. Harry Bassett sent him out to do battle with the famous Arsenal back four. He lasted three games.

3 Hugo Porfirio (1999)

Portuguese international Porfirio didn't want to play for Graham Souness at Benfica. So, in order to revive his career, he joined relegation favourites Nottingham Forest. Big Ron hardly played him and after we were relegated Porfirio

didn't want to play in Division One. He went back to Benfica after Souness had left. So long, farewell...

2 Richard Gough (1999)

The Rangers and Scotland legend Richard Gough was still actually a very good player with a few years left in him. Everton thought so too and Gough left Forest in May 1999.

1 Charlie George (1980)

Charlie played four games for Forest on loan from Southampton. Anyone who has read *Fever Pitch* will know what a legend Charlie George was at Highbury. Like Pearce at Forest and Le Tissier at Southampton, Charlie will always be an Arsenal legend. But, somewhat unbelievably, he eventually turned up at Forest and there he is in the Super Cup team photo standing between Larry Lloyd and John O'Hare.

FOREST GRUDGE MATCH

WARNOCK V MEGSON

'The battle of Bramall Lane' was a match that saw a lot of bad blood between Sheffield United and Megson's West Brom. Sendings off left Sheffield United with eight players. With the Blunts 3-0 down, two more players hobbled off, forcing the game to be abandoned as the Blunts were down to six men. After

the match, Megson accused the whole club of cheating and vowed that, should the FA order the game replayed, his players would line up, kick-off and leave the pitch. The game wasn't replayed, the result stood and Sheffield United were fined heavily for their conduct. Megson was also fined for his comments.

