

TOP 10 Crowd-pleasers

NEIL HEATH picks out the players who always got you out of your seat...

10 Franz Carr
“Ooh! Ahh!” Franz Carr will never be hailed as an all-time great, but the tricky winger always used to cause a buzz in the crowd. He was quick and seemingly took on defenders at will.

9 Johnny Metgod
Famed for his bald pate, Dutchman Johnny Metgod was a nifty player for his height (6'4"). Most people will remember that free-kick against West Ham and his subsequent, excitable celebration.

8 Andy Reid
Watching Reidy play was our only morsel of pleasure in the joyless 2003/04 season. With his incredible skills and spectacular goals, comparisons with John Robertson were inevitable, but so was his departure.

7 Pierre Van Hooijdonk
We don't keep this man in our hearts because of his own pathetic self-indulgence. But there seemed to always be a joyful inevitability when he put the ball down to take a free-kick. Still a twat though.



6 Nigel Clough
Nigel was doing the ‘Sheringham’ thing long before even Sheringham was doing it. An intelligent forward who could spot runs and passes from a mile off. He scored 150 goals for Forest – who knows how many he set up!

5 Duncan McKenzie
Of the long-forgotten Forest sides of the early seventies, Duncan McKenzie was the only chink of light. Duncan had flair and an abundance of natural skill. He could score goals too, 28 for the Reds in the 1973/74 season. In his spare time he used to leap over cars for a laugh.

4 Joe Baker
Known as ‘Zigger zagger’ because of his attacking prowess, Joe is one of Forest's all-time greats. He was instrumental in a Reds side that pushed United all the way for the title in 1967 and Forest's cup run of the same year.

3 Stuart Pearce
Stuart Pearce wasn't just a left-back. He was a marauding midfielder, a ruthless striker and a dead ball specialist. His screams at the Trent End were a delight and when he did it there wasn't a place on Earth you'd rather be. As a consequence of our enduring love for Psycho, many of us have developed a bit of a soft spot for Manchester City.

2 Stan Collymore
When Stan got the ball you knew something was going to happen. With a man to beat or space ahead of him Stan in motion was a glorious sight, you knew he would score. Such were the magnificence of his goals you could probably accurately describe each of the 50 he bagged for Forest.

1 John Robertson
JR is the only footballer Brian Clough publicly called a genius. The fans lucky enough to have seen Robbo play say his skills not only baffled his opponents, but the crowd themselves. He will always be overlooked as a true great because he never opened a boutique, dated Miss World or played for a ‘fashionable’ club. He was scruffy, tubby, smoked fags, but did his job – he entertained the crowd and helped Nottingham Forest win trophies.

FOREST GRUDGE MATCH

PEARCE v BOLI

Psycho has a number of reasons to be rueful of the Euro 92 tournament in Sweden – and particularly the game against France.

It finished 0-0, but wasn't without incident as Pearce was blatantly headbutted by Basile Boli.

He almost got the perfect revenge when he smashed a trademark free-kick off the

bar, but Pearce's typically magnanimous response saved Boli from disciplinary action.

At the time of watching, as an impressionable 14-year-old, I remember wishing Pearce had given Boli a good kicking. But now through the safe medium of cartoon I can take my adolescent wishes to the next level! *Alan Fisher*

