

No way through: Liverpool keeper Jerzy Dudek blocks a shot from Yeovil's Colin Pluck



GARY PRAISES CUP BATTLEERS

I'm so proud of my team – Yeovil boss Johnson

We gave Liverpool a game:
Says Johnson

by **ANDY STOCKHAUSEN**

YEOVIL Town manager Gary Johnson today spoke of his "huge pride" after watching his players run FA Cup rivals Liverpool close.

Gerard Houllier's Premiership big guns eventually pulled rank to win a thrilling third round tie 3-0 in front of a record Hush Park attendance of more than 9,300.

But Third Division Yeovil made them fight hard for victory and even suggested the possibility of a giant-killing act before succumbing to second-half goals from England internationals Emile Heskey and Danny Murphy.

And Johnson was full of praise for his young team afterwards, describing them as "a credit to themselves and the whole town".

He said: "I'm proud of the way in which the club staged such a big game and I'm also proud of my players for giving a team like Liverpool such a good game.

"They proved for part of the game that they could compete with Liverpool and some of them proved they might be able to compete at a higher level.

"We may have lost but we also played our part in a great football match. We didn't come to watch Liverpool play for 90 minutes, we made them work hard for their victory."

Yeovil is edged the class gap sufficiently to enjoy the better of

