

At 6'4" tall one unkind pundit said Roger Davies had all the grace of an ice skating giraffe.

They couldn't argue with his results on the pitch, though, as the gangling centre forward went on to play a key role in Derby County's second Championship-winning side under Dave Mackay in 1975.

There was certainly nothing run-of-the-mill about a forward whose CV also included Bridgnorth Town, Gresley Rovers and American side Tulsa Roughnecks as well as a short spell with East Midlands rivals Leicester City.

In all he scored 44 goals in 176 appearances for the Rams and never lost his passion for the club.

He remains a popular and genial face around modern day Pride Park, not least as he is a regular broadcaster on Rams goals on BBC Radio Derby.

Roger Davies, now 60, will be in the Derby corner for our Legends Reunited night at Loughborough College's Futures Restaurant on Thursday, October 6 battling it out – in the nicest possible sense – with Leicester City's Alan Birchenall and Nottingham Forest hero Garry Birtles.

AS someone who was often head and shoulders above his opponents, it's not surprising that Roger Davies experienced the highs and lows of the game.

Plucked from Non League obscurity after a £12,000 move from Worcester City, Davies played himself in as a Derby County reserve.

Then he made his name in 1973 in an FA Cup tie at Tottenham Hotspur. The hosts were leading 3-1 with just over ten minutes left when Davies took the tie by the scruff of the neck. Two goals ensured extra time then Davies completed his hat trick as the Rams stunned a 52,000 White Hart Lane crowd by triumphing 5-3.

Yet a few months later the big man came down to earth with an almighty bump in a European Cup tie immortalised in the controversial Cloughie film *The Damned United*.

Davies was sent off in the second leg of the semi final against Italian club Juventus – a clash more famous for allegations of corruption that still echo around certain parts of the East Midlands to this very day.

Davies' own initial Derby story ended on a happy note with a League title medal in 1975 and, although he wasn't the same force during a later spell at the Baseball Ground, nothing could come between him and his devotion to the club where he made his name.

Roger Davies will be our Derby County legend, sharing great memories and clashing verbal swords with Alan Birchenall, of Leicester City, and Garry Birtles, of Nottingham Forest, at our Legends Reunited night at Loughborough College's Futures Restaurant on Thursday, October 6.