

official matchday programme - £2.50p

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Saddlers

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Saturday, 3rd September 2005 - Kick-off 1.00pm

Coca-Cola League One - Walsall v Swindon Town



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action!

THE LESS said about our last game on home soil the better as a second half collapse saw us go down by five goals to two at the hands of Swansea City for our first League One defeat of the season.

Despite the scoreline, we managed to carve out our fair share of chances but our visitors were clinical and took what opportunities came their way to make it an afternoon to forget.

We were given an immediate opportunity to make amends on Bank Holiday Monday with a trip to AFC Bournemouth, a side fancied to do well this term.

With the sun beating down and The Saddlers forced to make a last-minute change with the withdrawal of Steve Staunton, who got injured in the warm-up, we were given a further obstacle to overcome towards the end of the first half when Julian Bennett was red carded.

The expected pressure from the home side came throughout the second period but we showed a level of hard-work, commitment and resilience that we know we are well capable of, to grind out a hard-earned point and keep a morale-boosting clean sheet in the process.

It really was a team effort and the loyal band of travelling supporters, who were in good voice throughout the game, showed their appreciation at the end with a rousing round of applause.

The lads gave their all and will hopefully take this into today's game against a Swindon Town side that sit just behind us in the table after a win and a defeat over the Bank Holiday weekend.

Andy King's side are sure to pose us a few questions this afternoon, but if we can work for each other then we will give ourselves every chance of making a return to winning ways.

Now is not the time to dwell on what happened seven days ago. The best way to get that defeat out of our system is by claiming the three precious points come the final whistle.

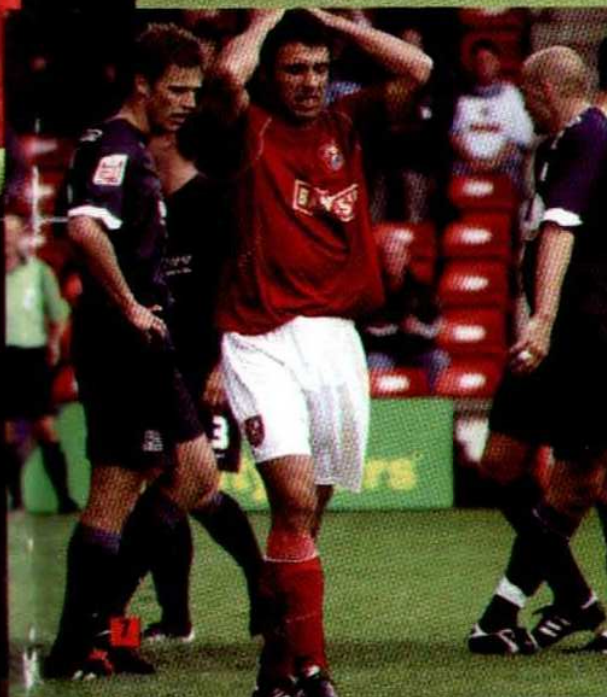
COME ON YOU
SADDLERS!

ANDREW POOLE
Editor



**Walsall 2
Southend United 2**

*Saturday
13th August, 2005*



"The lads worked so hard to get back into the game and I feel sorry for them that they gave it away needlessly at the end..."

— paul merson

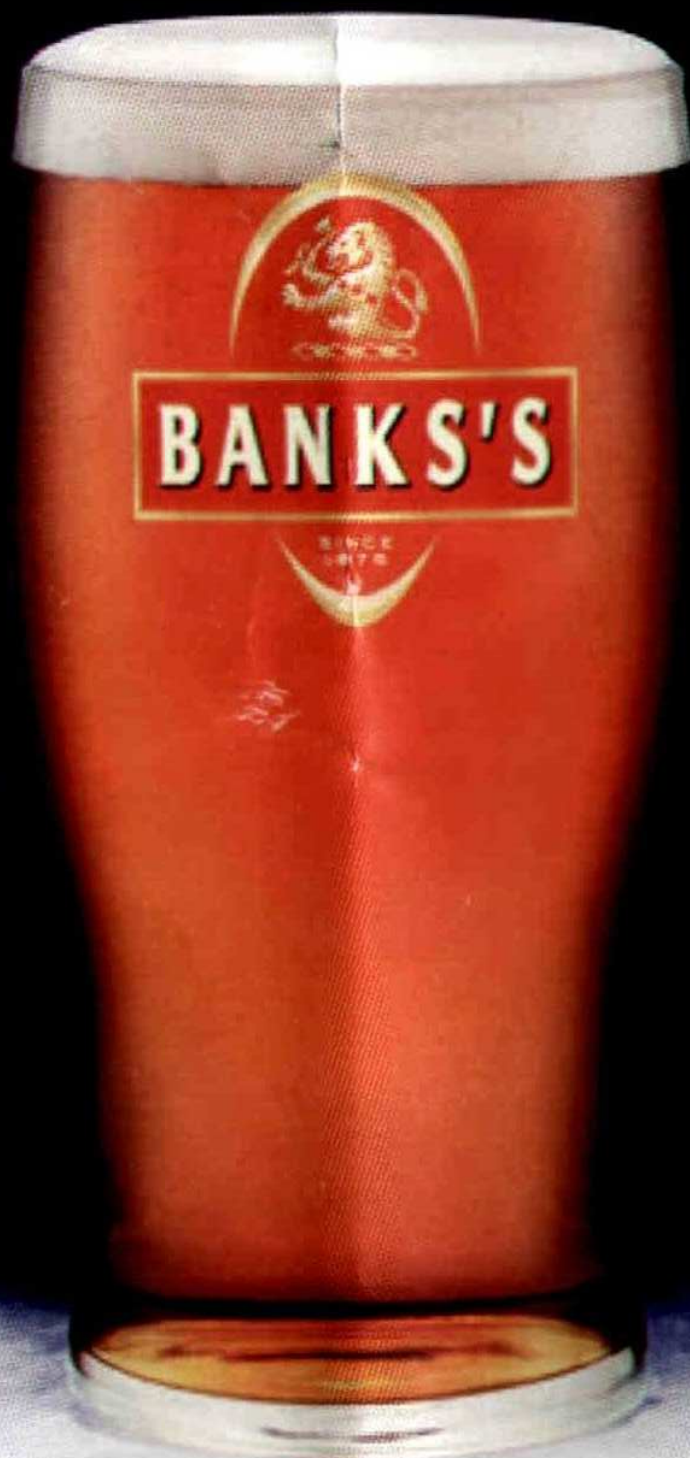
- 1 - Paul Smith battles for possession in the midfield
- 2 - Mark Wright goes on the charge
- 3 - Matty Fryatt heads towards goal
- 4 - Jorge Leitao helps Matty Fryatt celebrate his goal
- 5 - Mark Wright takes a tumble
- 6 - Kris Taylor challenges in the air
- 7 - Jorge Leitao sees his last-gasp header well saved

 **DAVID LINNEY**
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paul merson

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GOOD afternoon and welcome to Bescot Stadium as we play host to Swindon Town.

The Bank Holiday weekend was a decidedly bitter-sweet affair as we crashed to an extremely disappointing home defeat at the hands of Swansea City, only to follow it up with what I would consider to be the best result that I have had since I have been in charge at the club two days later at AFC Bournemouth.

We actually had plenty of scoring opportunities against The Swans, but our defending was suicidal. I didn't think that Swansea played particularly well and I can't see them challenging for promotion or anything like that, but they took advantage of our poor play and were clinical.

That is what makes the defeat so hard to swallow, but it was good to have a game so soon afterwards in order to get the defeat out of our system. It was one of those strange results that sometimes occur at every level of the game, except maybe the Premiership.

I told the lads in the dressing room immediately afterwards that all good teams are able to bounce back straight away from such results and, credit to them, they were able to do that at Dean Court.

To have to make a last-minute team change just prior to kick-off, then have a man sent off during the first half and also have to deal with such hot, unforgiving weather conditions, required so much extra concentration and commitment from everyone involved and thankfully that is what we got to bring home a richly-deserved point and keep a clean sheet in the process.

I was so proud of the lads; it was phenomenal to bounce back in the way we did and I was pleased for the supporters who had made the long Bank Holiday



trip and gave us fantastic backing from start to finish. We didn't keep the ball well enough in the first half, but we improved after the break and our defensive play was outstanding.

I would have settled for a goalless draw at the start, but to do it after being reduced to ten men was brilliant. I was also pleased, from a personal point of view, to come through the full 90 minutes. I did consider taking myself off in the second half, but with the way the game was shaping up, I decided against it.

What we must do now is build upon that performance this afternoon against a Swindon Town side that have some dangerous players in their side. Obviously our approach to the game will be different to what it was on Monday, but nevertheless we need to make sure that we remain concentrated and fully focussed on the task at hand or else we will get punished again.

We have had a good week of preparation and hope that we can count upon our fans, who will be situated behind both goals today, to inspire us on to what would be a welcome return to winning ways and three precious points.

PAUL MERSON



"...it was phenomenal to bounce back in the way we did and I was pleased for the supporters who had made the long Bank Holiday trip..."



Bescot Stadium, Bescot Crescent,
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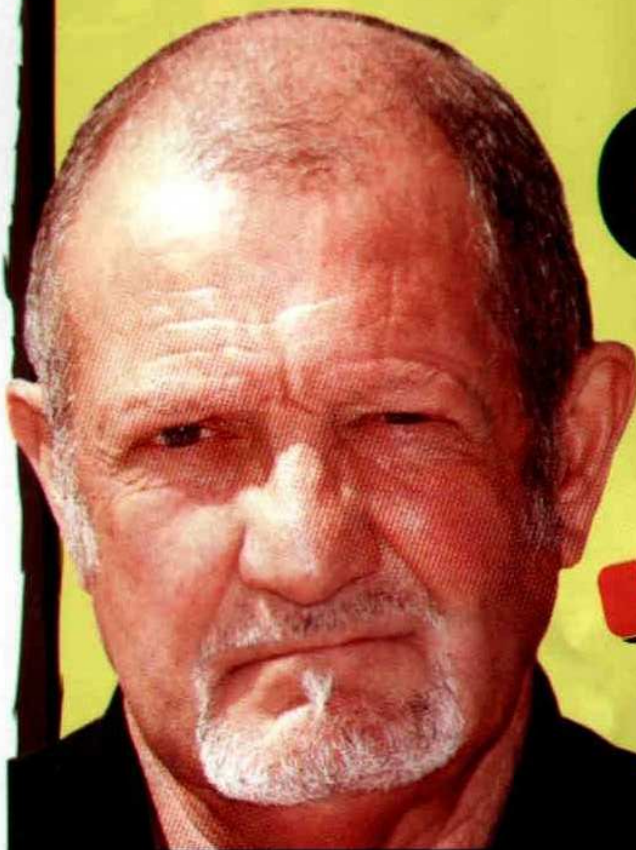
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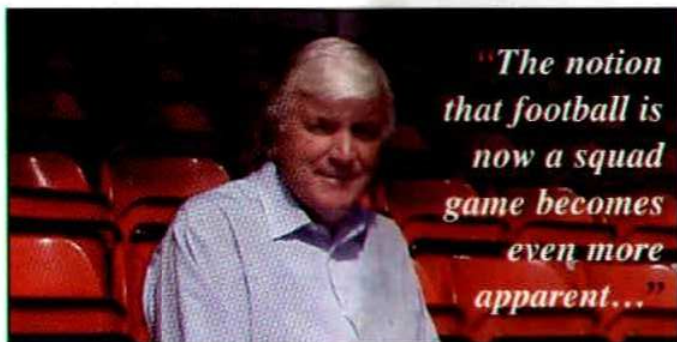
jeff bonser

IT SEEMS strange to talk about the implications of the transfer window so early into a new season but, as many of you will be aware, the first transfer deadline of the season has now passed.

Traditionally Transfer Deadline Day has always taken place towards the end of March for any given season. However, as of this season we are now bound by the FIFA regulated window and not by the more traditional domestic window.

This is not a new phenomenon. Leagues throughout Europe have been using this system and, since the start of the 2003/04 season, so too have The Premier League. This transfer window means that there are just two registration periods (or 'windows') - the first being the close season until August 31st, and the second occurring throughout the month of January.

So the squad Paul Merson has assembled will not change until at least the New Year as these implementations not only apply to permanent transfers, they also apply to loan deals. Players can only be loaned in or out for a minimum duration that covers the period between the two windows. For example, clubs are unable to loan a player for a month or two, it has to be for the entire period of when the transfer window is



closed, say August to January or January to the end of the season or at it's lengthiest, a season-long loan. This is now known as a Standard Loan and we have already made use of this system, allowing Taiwo Atieno to join Kidderminster Harriers until January 2006, whilst allowing Dean Coleman to join Halesowen Town until the end of the season. The other type of loan is an Emergency Loan, which is explained later on in this column.

Another change to the loan system is that of the number of Standard and Emergency Loans a club can make during the transfer window. In the past, clubs were only allowed three long-term loans (now known as Standard Loans) per season and could only sign players on this type of contract

who were 23 or under. Clubs could also make eight short-term loans (now replaced with Emergency Loans). However, the new regulations mean that there is no limit to the number of loans (of any type) and there are also no age restrictions.

One thing that has not altered in terms of loans is that there is still a limit of five loans of any category appearing on a club's team sheet for any single match.

So, you may say, basically from this moment onwards we will not be able to sign or sell a player - be it a loan deal, permanent transfer or renewed contract - until the transfer window reopens in January.

But, as with all regulations, there is an exception that makes the rule. There is a provision for an

Emergency Loan, which will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of The Football League, who will in turn refer to The Football Association's notion of exceptional circumstances. The prime example of this could be the signing of a goalkeeper as cover if all the professional goalkeepers at a club are certified as being injured. In this case, a club will be able to sign a goalkeeper on an Emergency Loan for a minimum of seven days and a maximum of 93 days.

This obviously came as a major relief to ourselves and other clubs as we are now able to go into the closed period of the transfer window safe in the knowledge that should such an occasion arise, we will be able to bring in the necessary cover.

I hope that this makes the system a little easier to understand. The notion that football is now a squad game becomes even more apparent. Gone are the days when the same players appear week in, week out on the team-sheet. Strength in-depth plays a major role in a club's fortunes, whether you are playing your trade in the Premier League or Football League and I believe that our current squad both in quality and quantity is as good as any other in League One.

nameandshame

Club ask for your help in tackling distasteful element...

FOLLOWING ugly incidents both before and after The Saddlers' trip to Wrexham early last season, a number of so-called Walsall 'supporters' have been given exclusion orders banning them from attending all football grounds in the country.

Whilst these exclusion orders will last for anything between two and six years, The Saddlers have taken the step of handing lifetime bans from Bescot Stadium for those convicted. It is a policy which applies to any person convicted of football-related offences.

Throughout the 2005/2006 season a 'Name and Shame' column will appear here in The Saddlers' Matchday Programme in a bid to make sure that this distasteful element is kept well away from the club. "I am ashamed to be involved with a club where a handful of so-called 'fans' took part in such terrible incidents as those both before and after our game at Wrexham back in October 2004," said Walsall FC Chairman, Jeff Bonser. "The police have been fantastic and have managed to track down a lot of those involved, with all but one being processed through the court procedure and receiving heavy fines and exclusion orders banning them from all football grounds in the country for several years."

"As a club we do not want to be associated with these 'supporters' ever again and will do all that we possibly can to keep them out of Bescot Stadium. Obviously, it is not always easy to spot them in a crowd of five or six thousand and that is why, through this Name and Shame column in the Matchday Programme, we are making people aware of those banned and asking all decent Walsall supporters to help us by contacting myself, a steward, the Police or anyone else at the club, in total confidence, if they are spotted in the ground."

"We are not able to print their photographs at the moment, but it is possible to include names, ages and addresses."

"If anyone is proven to have broken an exclusion order they will be taken back to court and face the prospect of a prison sentence. From the clubs point of view, any of our supporters who cause trouble either here or away from home will be handed a lifetime ban without discussion."

"I hope that this sends out a clear message that Walsall FC are doing all that we can to remove this unsavory element from the club. We can't let these morons win and we will take immediate action if they are spotted."

"It is these people who are keeping our police bills high. Last year we spent almost £70,000 on policing, money that could be used on strengthening the squad, so we need to work together to rid this element from the club and let them know, in no uncertain terms, that they are not welcome here."

PERSONS RECEIVING EXCLUSION ORDERS:
CARL LARGE, 43, OF BLOXWICH
GRAHAM CROSS, 28, OF BEECHDALE ESTATE
JONATHAN BAGAN, 23, OF THE DELVES
JOSHUA KELLY, 17, OF RUSHALL
WAYNE JOHNSON, 24, OF LEAMORE
MATHEW PENKO, 20, OF ALDRIDGE
STUART ASTBURY, 23, OF BLAKENALL
ROBERT ASTBURY, 26, OF BLAKENALL
MARK BLAND, 35, OF WALSALL
VENNIE ARROWSMITH, 22, OF WALSALL

If you spot any of the above at Bescot Stadium today please make a note of where they are sitting and either inform a steward or police officer. Alternatively you can contact the club, in total confidence, on 01922-622 791.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

bescotbeat

a round-up of all the latest
club news with roy whalley...

A BUSY DAY FOR FOOTBALL FANS

Early kick-offs for League One and Two clubs seem to be becoming increasingly familiar as more and more England International matches are played on a Saturday afternoon. Today is such an occasion and we are grateful to Swindon Town for agreeing to today's 1.00pm kick-off.

My view is that clubs should not be put into this position. I can think of no reason why England International games cannot be played, like International events in other sports, on a Sunday afternoon. After all, football supporters want to watch both their club and International team and should not be forced into a position where they have to choose one over the other.

When faced with this dilemma, our options are extremely limited. At Bescot Stadium, Friday evenings are out because the hospitality suites have been booked for events and Sunday afternoons are avoided when at all possible as not to interrupt the Bescot Stadium Sunday Market, which is a valuable income stream to the club. Therefore, we are left with Saturday and to maintain a 3.00pm start would decimate the attendance, so as you can see, we had little option but to elect for an earlier start today.

We are grateful to the Express and Star who are sponsoring a 'Two For A Tenner' promotion for today's game. These offers are usually very popular and we expect to see the Healthland Stand busy with supporters who have taken advantage of this special offer. Also, we are sure that the Walsall players will be pleased to have home support behind both goals.

Our match will finish just moments before the Wales v England World Cup Qualifier is due to begin and there are many

places that Saddlers supporters can watch the game. Supporters in the Flooors-2-Go Middle and Upper Tiers will be able to watch the game on the giant screen in the Stadium Suite, where a fully licensed bar will be in operation. Similarly, Priory Lounge pass holders can watch the England game unfold in The Bonser Suite and The Bescot Bar will also be open. The Saddlers Club will also be showing the game to its members.

IAN GETS TOP GROUND JOB

With Paul Mason departing recently (a full interview with our former Stadium Manager can be found on page 21 of today's Matchday Programme), we are pleased to announce that Ian Hipkiss has been appointed Head Groundsman. Ian has been a member of the ground staff team for the past three years after a spell as Head Groundsman at Kidderminster Harriers FC.

He has worked hard to earn this promotion and supporters will no doubt join us in wishing him every success in his new role.

We would also be pleased to announce that Ian's assistant will be Brian Springthorpe, who has also been promoted to this new position. Ian and Brian are joined by Adrian Murcott, who has recently arrived at Bescot Stadium to complete our ground staff team.

When we think of the work of the ground staff, we immediately think of the Bescot pitch. While this is understandable, it is only a small part of the work undertaken by the team. The ground staff also look after our synthetic pitch, the Delves Green Road training ground and help maintain the pitches at St. Thomas More School in Willenhall, where the Walsall FC Centre of Excellence teams play their home games. However, it is not just pitch maintenance that the ground staff



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catch the england game after the final whistle today... hipkiss gets top ground staff job... help yourself and the club with the walsall fc credit card... youth team given stern cup test later this month...

team specialise in. Whenever a light needs changing or a table, chair or door needs fixing then it is they who are called upon. After matches, the stadium has to be swept clean, the toilets cleaned and the whole of the car park area needs to be tidied. Advertising boards have to be installed, hedges on Bescot Crescent have to be pruned and so the list goes on.

Being a member of the ground staff would not suite anybody who likes a 9-5 job, they have to be here as and when required. This means that on matchday it is an early start followed by a late finish. It is a job in which you must work anti-social hours and we are grateful that now, as we have had in the past, we have a dedicated team who fulfil a vital role at the club

THE WALSHALL FC CREDIT CARD

Most of our adult supporters will be credit card holders so we are hoping that they will be interested in the Walsall FC Credit Card.

We have joined forces with MBNA to offer a Platinum Plus credit card that provides substantial benefits, excellent service and convenience as well as featuring the Walsall FC logo. Interest rates are competitive with other cards at 15.9% APR and moreover, you can save up to £927 on balance transfer as well as taking advantage of the 59 days interest free on all card purchases. There is also a fraud protector facility,

meaning that customers will not be held responsible for any fraudulent use of the card.

There is a 24-hour helpline as well as the facility to access your account online. The card can also be used in over 630,000 ATM machines around the World.

Application forms for the Walsall FC credit card will be on every turnstile at today's game as well as from the public area throughout Bescot Stadium.

Representatives from MBNA will also be on hand in the Stadium Suite should you require further information. We hope that this new initiative will prove to be as popular as our Saddlers Saver Account (more details on page 31) and will help provide the club with another important revenue stream.

The Walsall FC Platinum Plus credit card not only benefit supporters, it will also benefit the club as we receive commission on all card purchases, so help yourself and help Walsall FC.

FIRST LEAGUE TRIP TO YEOVIL

A little bit of history will be made next Saturday as we make our first-ever League visit to Yeovil Town.

Some of our long-standing supporters may recall going to Huish Park in 1991 for an FA Cup tie but for the vast majority of our supporters, next Saturday will represent a first opportunity to see The Saddlers take on The Glovers.

Please note that, although there is plenty of terrace accommodation, the club have been given just 40 covered seating spaces, which have been prioritised for OAP and disabled supporters. Please contact the Bescot Stadium Ticket Office for more information.



Supporters looking to attend the game should also note that you could save £2 by purchasing your ticket in advance. The Bescot Stadium Ticket Office will be open after today's game for the sale of tickets and coach travel for our trip to Somerset.

But remember, if you can't make the game, or any other one for that matter, our Official Web-site - www.saddlers.co.uk - offers live match commentaries from EVERY Saddlers game, in association with BBC WM.

LES MASON

We are sad to report the recent death of Les Mason, a lifelong

Saddlers' supporter who did a lot of work on the pitch at our former home, Fellows Park, over the years.

Sincere condolences go out from everyone here at Walsall FC to his family and friends at this very sad time.

YOUTH TEAM IN CUP ACTION

Those of you who enjoy watching our young players in action should note that there is a fascinating Cup encounter taking place here at Bescot Stadium on Wednesday, September 14th as we play Shrewsbury Town in the Midland Youth Cup first round (kick-off 7.00pm).

Shrewsbury are the current holders of the Cup so this should be a stern test for our Under-18 team. Admission for the match is £2 (adults) and £1 (concessions). Season-tickets are not valid for this game.

Come along and support The Saddlers' stars of the future in what we hope will be a prolonged run in the Midland youth Cup.

Thank you for your support...

ROY WHALLEY



Youth Team to play Shrewsbury Town on the 14th September at Bescot



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YEOVIL TOWN v WALSALL
Saturday, September 10th 2005

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Tue, 16th Sheff Wed (away) (7.00pm kick-off) 0-2
Wed, 24th Stoke City (home) (7.00pm kick-off) 2-3

SEPTEMBER

Wed, 7th Oldham Athletic (away) (7.00pm kick-off)
Mon, 19th Barnsley (home) (7.00pm kick-off)

OCTOBER

Mon, 3rd Bradford City (home) (7.00pm kick-off)
Tue, 25th Rotherham United (away) (kick-off TBA)

NOVEMBER

Wed, 9th Nottm Forest (away) (kick-off TBA)
Mon, 14th Huddersfield Town (home) (2.00pm kick-off)
Wed, 30th Sheff Utd (away) (kick-off TBA)

DECEMBER

Mon, 12th Sheff Wed (home) (2.00pm kick-off)

JANUARY 2006

Mon, 9th Oldham Athletic (home) (2.00pm kick-off)
Wed, 25th Barnsley (away) (kick-off TBA)

FEBRUARY

Mon, 6th Sheff Utd (home) (2.00pm kick-off)
Wed, 22nd Stoke City (away) (kick-off TBA)

MARCH

Tue, 7th Bradford City (away) (kick-off TBA)
Mon, 27th Rotherham United (home) (7.00pm kick-off)

APRIL

Mon, 3rd Nottm Forest (home) (7.00pm kick-off)
Wed, 19th Huddersfield Town (away) (7.00pm kick-off)

All home games are played at Bescot Stadium until otherwise stated.
Admission to evening home games is £2 (adults), £1 (concessions) and
free for season-ticket holders on production of 2005/06 season-ticket
booklet.

PONTIN'S HOLIDAYS LEAGUE TABLE AS AT 27/8/2005

| | | Pld | W | D | L | F | A | GD | Pts |
|----|--------------------|-----|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|
| 1 | Stoke City | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 2 | +2 | 6 |
| 2 | Sheffield Wed. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | +2 | 4 |
| 3 | Sheffield United A | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 3 | +1 | 4 |
| 4 | Huddersfield Town | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | +5 | 3 |
| 5 | Oldham Athletic | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 2 | +3 | 3 |
| 6 | Nottingham Forest | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 | +3 | 3 |
| 7 | Rotherham United | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | -1 | 1 |
| 8 | Barnsley | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | -5 | 1 |
| 9 | WALSALL | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | -3 | 0 |
| 10 | Bradford City | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 8 | -7 | 0 |



THE SADDLERS' second string went down by three goals to two against Stoke in opening home game in the Pontin's Holidays League Division One Central.

The Saddlers came out of the blocks strongly and within two minutes, Dario Larrosa had hit a powerful shot that was pushed out by the visitors' keeper.

The Argentinean then had another opening shortly afterwards as the ball fizzed about inside the area but he was off target this time.

After a couple of minor scares at the other end, Eric Bowen got on the end of a cross from the right to fire in a powerful shot on 20 minutes that the 'keeper pushed out. The loose ball eventually fell to Mark Bradley who saw his effort fly narrowly wide.



Just before the half-hour mark some hesitation between skipper Scott Dann and goalkeeper, Dean Coleman ended with the 'keeper bringing down the on-rushing Stoke forward. The referee had no hesitation in pointing to the penalty spot and Martin Paterson stepped up to fire home and make it 1-0.

The Saddlers pressed for an equaliser and with ten minutes to go until the interval it finally came as some good build-up play ended with Jay Sztobel crossing low into the path of Larrosa who turned sharply and found the back

of the net.

The second period began with the visiting 'keeper pushing a teasing Sztobel cross into the danger zone, but as Larrosa and Demontagnac applied the pressure he redeemed himself by gathering the ball.

Stoke got their noses back in front on the hour when some powerful running by Leroy Williams saw him beat Anthony Gerrard and get to the by-line before pulling the ball across for Paterson who made no mistake from close range for his second goal of the evening.

Another foul by Coleman on Paterson led to the second penalty of the night which the Stoke number ten duly took himself to complete his hat-trick and make it 3-1.

We managed to grab a late consolation goal when Larrosa picked out Sztobel in space on the right side of the area and he fired home with a low strike but it was too little too late.

WALSALL: Coleman, Bradley, Bowen (Leaver), Gerrard, Roper, Dann, Kinsella (Toughy), Broad (Hanna), Larrosa, Demontagnac, Sztobel.
Sub not used: Tilt.

PONTIN'S HOLIDAYS LEAGUE APPEARANCES & GOALS 2005/2006

| Player | (Apps/Goals) |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Dean Coleman | 2 / 0 |
| Anthony Gerrard | 2 / 0 |
| Jonny Harkness | 1 / 0 |
| Ian Roper | 2 / 0 |
| Scott Dann | 2 / 0 |
| Mark Kinsella | 2 / 0 |
| Michael Toughy | 1 (1) / 0 |
| Shaun Leaver | 0 (2) / 0 |
| Joe Broad | 2 / 0 |
| Dario Larrosa | 2 / 1 |
| Eric Bowen | 1 (1) / 0 |
| David McDermott | 1 / 0 |
| Graham Deakin | 0 (1) / 0 |
| Ishmel Demontagnac | 2 / 0 |
| Mark Bradley | 1 / 0 |
| Jay Sztobel | 1 / 1 |
| Chris Hanna | 0 (1) / 0 |

THE SADDLERS' youth team chalked up their first win of the season with a 2-1 victory at Port Vale.

After a bright start we took an early lead when a four-man move ended with Jay Szybel sweetly striking the ball home.

We continued to play some good football and were further rewarded on ten minutes with a second goal as Chris Hanna latched onto a through-ball before calmly rounding the 'keeper and stroking home.

As the first half progressed we should have added to our tally as we were well on top, but in the final minute of the half a Port Vale free-kick took a wicked deflection to beat the 'keeper and bring our hosts right back into the game.

They started the second period strongly but we were able to weather the storm with the Doran twins outstanding in defence and Luke Tilt making a superb save.

With Ishmel Demontagnac looking more lively we started to get back on top near the end and finished worthy winners. "We were extremely pleased with the way the lads acquitted themselves," said Youth Development Officer, Bill Jones. "They hadn't played well in the previous game and we did a lot of hard work on the training ground to iron out the problems.

"It has paid off because we looked a much better side and put in an all-round solid team performance."

WALSALL: Tilt, Leaver, Phil

Doran, Peter Doran, Smith, Bradley, Szybel, Taundry, Hanna, Demontagnac, Bowen. Subs not used: Harris, Quarles, Meakin-Richards, McKeown.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE APPEARANCES & GOALS 2005/2006

| Player | (Apps/Goals) |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Rene Gilmartin | 1 / 0 |
| Shaun Leaver | 2 / 0 |
| Phil Doran | 2 / 0 |
| Leon Quarles | 0 (1) / 0 |
| Mathe Smith | 2 / 0 |
| Mark Bradley | 2 / 0 |
| Eric Bowen | 2 / 0 |
| Jay Szybel | 2 / 1 |
| David McDermott | 1 / 0 |
| Charlton Davies | 1 / 0 |
| Chris Hanna | 1 (1) / 1 |
| Richard Taundry | 2 / 0 |
| Ishmel Demontagnac | 2 / 1 |
| Harry Harris | 0 (1) / 0 |
| Luke Tilt | 1 / 0 |
| Peter Doran | 1 / 0 |



Jay Szybel

youthonourside

FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE FIXTURES 2005/2006

AUGUST 2005

Sat, 13th Rochdale (home) 1-1
Sat, 20th Port Vale (away) 2-1

SEPTEMBER

Sat, 3rd Chester City (home)
Sat, 10th Oldham Athletic (away)
Sat, 17th Wigan Athletic (home)

OCTOBER

Sat, 1st Carlisle United (home)
Sat, 8th Burnley (away)
Sat, 15th Macclesfield Town (home)
Sat, 22nd Preston North End (away)
Sat, 29th Stockport County (away)

NOVEMBER

Sat, 5th Shrewsbury Town (home)
Sat, 12th Bury (home)
Sat, 19th Tranmere Rovers (away)
Sat, 26th Blackpool (home)

DECEMBER

Sat, 3rd Wrexham (away)
Sat, 10th Carlisle United (away)
Sat, 17th Burnley (home)

JANUARY 2006

Sat, 7th Macclesfield Town (away)
Sat, 14th Preston North End (home)
Sat, 21st Stockport County (home)

FEBRUARY

Sat, 4th Shrewsbury Town (away)
Sat, 11th Bury (away)
Sat, 18th Tranmere Rovers (home)
Sat, 25th Blackpool (away)

MARCH

Sat, 11th Wrexham (home)
Sat, 18th Rochdale (away)
Sat, 25th Port Vale (home)

APRIL

Sat, 1st Chester City (away)
Sat, 8th Oldham Athletic (home)
Sat, 15th Wigan Athletic (away)

All games kick-off at 11.00am unless otherwise stated.
Home games are played at the Birmingham County FA Ground, Ray Hall Lane, Great Barr.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE AS AT 26/8/2005

| | Pld | W | D | L | F | A | GD | Pts |
|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Oldham | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 1 | +14 | 6 |
| Tranmere | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 3 | +3 | 6 |
| Burnley | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 3 | +2 | 6 |
| WALSALL | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | +1 | 4 |
| Wigan | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 3 | +1 | 3 |
| Chester | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 3 |
| Carlisle | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 3 |
| Port Vale | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| Preston | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| Blackpool | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | -1 | 3 |
| Shrewsbury | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 12 | -9 | 3 |
| Bury | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5 | -1 | 1 |
| Stockport | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | -1 | 1 |
| Rochdale | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | -1 | 1 |
| Wrexham | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 8 | -4 | 0 |
| Macclesfield | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 5 | -4 | 0 |

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MICK HALSALL, Centre of Excellence Director
BILL JONES, Youth Development Officer
ERIC McMANUS, Youth Recruitment Officer
PIP NASH, Centre of Excellence Administrator

ALL Centre of Excellence teams are eagerly awaiting the start of the new season which kicks off tomorrow when our opponents will be Wrexham.

The Under-10s will play at home on the Bescot Stadium field turf, whilst the Under-12s, 14s and 16s will play at St. Thomas More School in Willenhall.

All games will kick-off at 11.00am tomorrow morning and you are all invited to come along to either venue and check out the potential stars of the future.

Our Player/Parent Evening went well earlier last month, with over 300 people in attendance.

The guest speakers on the night were Alan Gormley, who gave a speech on diet and nutrition, Ian Denning from the West Bromwich Building Society and Clint Osborne who spoke at length about child protection issues, something that is regarded as an extremely important area within the Centre of Excellence.

Our new training kits were also on display. These have been kindly sponsored by Dean Twist of The Phone Shop (Midlands) Ltd. who we thank most sincerely for the backing that they are giving the Centre of Excellence this year.

Don't forget that details of games and travel details for all teams are given out in The Bescot Bar each Thursday evening.

BILL JONES



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the 'gentlemen of the press' have their say...

pressing matters



SHORTLY before 3pm today millions of football fans will settle down in front of their television sets to watch England take on Wales. Many of them will wish they were somewhere else, and countless others who would have liked the chance to see the World Cup qualifier will not get it.

Football club Chairmen the length and breadth of England will count the cost - and the empty seats - caused by the clash of the Home Nations, and their players, coaches, managers and matchday employees will curse the change to their time-honoured Saturday routine. In fact, it is difficult to think of anyone with an interest in

football who is happy with the decision to stage the Millennium Stadium clash on a Saturday afternoon.

We should not be surprised by the lunacy. Whoever is ultimately responsible for the scheduling of International fixtures, the kick-off times no doubt come from a similar direction as the fourth official - the footballing equivalent of the traffic warden who often feels the need to justify his presence on the touchline by jockeying his way into the game. Then there is the tool of his trade, the electronic substitutions board, which is apparently now an essential part of the game. The fact that the digits are close to invisible in strong sunlight, or that conventional numbers are still needed as an emergency back-up, seem not to have dissuaded the rule-makers. These are, after all, the people who brought us, a few seasons ago, new rules to govern the way in which substitutes can warm up. Only three subs from each team can now make use of the touchline at any one time. And thank-heavens the powers-that-be were on hand to

save the game from the menace of multiple warm-ups.

Somewhere in the corridors of power at The FA there must be an office set aside for the Department of Superfluous Rules. It should be treated with the dismissive giggle it deserves, but the people next door in the Contempt for Supporters Bureau must be taken far more seriously. The majority of England's weekend matches in the last couple of seasons have taken place at 3pm on Saturday. At each juncture the decision has been opposed by almost everyone with an interest in the game, and each time their views have been treated with indifference at best.

The traditional football fan, who would have relished the chance to watch his club side on Saturday afternoon and the national team at some other time, is being scandalously ignored. It is further proof that the armchair fan with a passing interest is now considered more important than the men, women and children who make the effort to watch the game in the flesh, from Premiership to West Midlands League and beyond. And

all the old fashioned fan can do is continue making their voice heard, in the desperate hope that some day someone will listen.

It may not be a battle that can be won. But it should be fought all the same.

STEVE MADELEY
Express & Star



Standing up for the old-fashioned fan.

saddlers serving their country

HERE'S a section of Paul Merson's not-so-barmy Army! A group of soldiers from the 1st Battalion the Staffordshire Regiment show off their own fire power as they line up on an AFV - an armoured fighting vehicle - in Iraq.

All seven are Walsall FC supporters and they proudly display a red Saddlers' shirt to prove it.

Top right in the picture is Captain Michael Kearns, son of Mick Kearns, The Saddlers' popular Community Officer and goalkeeping coach. Capt. Kearns, from Aldridge, is a Recce Platoon Commander with the Staffords Battle Group who are a central element of Taskforce Maysaan based in Al-Amarah, about 200 km north of Basra, as part of Operation Telic VI.

The Battalion, on a seven-month tour of duty in Iraq, are due to return home in October.

Sgt. Jason Rollins, from Bloxwich, said: "The lads on the photo are all Saddlers fans and we have been able to follow the team's decent start to the season on the Internet and via Satellite TV.

"We shall be cheering them on to what we hope will be a promotion push when we are back in the UK."



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SaddlersTV

AN EXCITING new television channel has been launched here at Bescot Stadium.

Dedicated to all things Walsall FC, SADDLERS TV consists of highlights from previous games, features and interviews with a host of key club personnel plus live full-match action from the Premiership and Football League and a comprehensive half-time results service.

The channel is broadcast around the stadium on matchdays and will add to your matchday experience...

setting the scene

SOMETIMES it's hard being a football fan. Generally, I don't consider supporters of the likes of Chelsea or Manchester United to be football fans. They are supporters of success. Look a bit further down the table to the likes of Charlton or Bolton and you will find real football fans. Why? Because occasionally they are teased with the prospect of success but know that disaster is but a few bad results away.

To support The Saddlers in recent seasons, you had to be a real fan. Remember New Year's Day 2004. Very comfortable in mid-table just seven points behind Wigan in the last play-off place. And then, disaster. Last season the hope, nay prospect, of an instant return to the Championship ended by dicing with relegation again. Even then, we won our last five games straight as if to say 'Watch out for us next season'.

And here we are - 2005/06. A tough start to the season but excellent results and undefeated after four games. Next, Swansea at home, a team below us in the League who had lost two League games in a row, three in all. Whilst few games are easy, nevertheless, a great chance to consolidate. These are teams we must surely beat to remain viable promotion material. Swansea had other ideas and that hint of possible success was cruelly smashed by five goals conceded, with only a penalty and a goal worthy of Nat Lofthouse in reply. I will say no more of the game because it still pains me.

However, 48 hours later, another turnaround. Playing away against Bournemouth, never an easy place to go, and then above us in the table on the back of a fine away win at Bradford. Julian Bennett sent off after 37 minutes. How can we possibly keep a clean sheet in these circumstances when just two days before we surrendered five at home? Well we did - and gained a well-deserved point. Funny old game!

So, in short, what can I say about the August Bank Holiday games? I think the Swansea match was an aberration. We have the quality to challenge for promotion. I prefer to be teased with success than face disaster and, unless you have a maiden Aunt living there, you were a true Saddlers fan if you went to Bournemouth.

PETER LAWRENSON

THE LADS put in a determined performance at Bournemouth to right the wrongs from the previous display against Swansea City.

Against the Welsh side we were picked off so easily on the counter attack but full credit to the boys for returning back from Dean Court with a point and a clean sheet, especially being down to ten men for almost an hour of the game.

We welcome Swindon Town here today. The Robins are currently bobbing along in 14th position with seven points, however, they are yet to score on their travels in the League this season.

The sides over the years have been evenly matched with 27 League wins each and 20 draws. Last season's meeting ended in a 3-2 victory for The Saddlers. Swindon had raced into a two-goal lead, but two goals from Jorge Leitao and a late

winner from Gary Birch sealed the points for Merson's men. In fact, the last time Swindon were victorious in Walsall was a 2-0 win in April 1969.

Robins' manager, Andy King has some useful players at his disposal. The midfield could consist of former Crewe and Bradford man, Gareth Whalley and recent acquisition Colin Heath, the highly-rated youngster being on loan from Manchester United. Also arriving on loan from Old Trafford is goalkeeper, Tom Heaton. With the manager favouring a 4-5-1 formation it would appear the striking role will be a straight choice between Rory Fallon and

former Reading man, Jamie Cureton who, although not yet off the mark for his new club, is closing in on 150 career goals.

Next Saturday sees us travelling to Yeovil, who find themselves bottom of the table being one of only two teams, along with MK Dons, who are yet to register a win this term. Even at this early stage no team remains unbeaten, which is probably an indication of how tight League One is going to be throughout.

We were all bitterly disappointed last Saturday and left the ground shell-shocked but every team in this division will have a 'shocker' at some point, so we need to consign it to the history books and three points today, followed by a comfortable win for England in Cardiff, will have us all feeling much better.

COME ON YOU SADDLERS!

GRAEME LYNCH



The Saddlers will be hoping to build upon Monday's point at AFC Bournemouth.

IF YOU enjoy today's game, don't forget that match videos can be ordered via The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre for every home match.

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Throughout the 2005/06 season there will be many promotional drinks offers, making the Stadium Suite THE place to be:

- Fosters - £1.80 per pint,
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- Banks's Bitter, Mild and Smoothpour - £2.10 per pint.

FOR YOUR VIEWING PLEASURE TODAY

The Stadium Suite will be open from 12.00noon today. Look out for the following on Saddlers TV:

- Live coverage of Bristol City's clash with Colchester United,
- The contenders in the Banks's Goal Of The Month competition,
- A round-up of all the latest news from Bescot Stadium,
- Live coverage of England's big World Cup qualifier in Wales.

FORTHCOMING GAMES

Saddlers TV will be broadcasting its usual range of Walsall FC-related features before our next home game against Chesterfield on Saturday, September 17th. This service is becoming increasingly popular, so why not take a look for yourself. It is broadcast on all the TV monitors around the stadium on matchdays.



Pete Lawrenson and Graeme Lynch are SADDLERS TV commentators.

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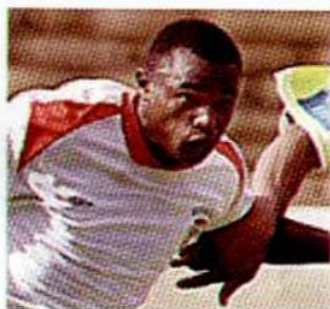
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Jet-setting Saddler, Neil Morris studies the good, bad and ugly clubs of the world...

clubs of the world



TODAY we concentrate on Africa. Caf, African football's governing body, undertook a four-day visit of Ghana last week to assess preliminary work being done for the 2008 Cup of Nations, which the country is hosting.

The delegation, led by Seyi Memene, Caf's first vice-president, held talks with business executives and media organisations on innovative ways to market the tournament.

Caf's team also visited the proposed venues for new stadia in Tamale and Sekondi.

The stadia in the capital Accra and Kumasi, where the last three Cup of Nations tournaments hosted by Ghana took place, were also visited.

Although Caf is not expected to make a firm statement on Ghana's readiness for the 2008 event, the Ghanaian media has followed the activities of the organising committee with keen interest.

Kenya's coach has said that he will not select striker, Dennis Oliech (pictured above) for future World Cup qualifiers after he went AWOL from the last game against Tunisia. "I will have to think twice about selecting him again," said a disappointed Mohammed Kheri, after his side lost 1-0 in Tunis. "He's shown he's not patriotic to his country and it now appears that we cannot rely on him."

The Qatar-based Oliech refused to travel to Guinea for a qualifier in June because of a pay dispute with the Kenya Football Federation, but he was accepted back into the team for the following match after he apologised.

Kenya host Tunisia in the return match today, but it will be played behind closed doors following the death of a 15 year-old boy outside the Nairobi Stadium before their game against Morocco.

Only 120 people will be allowed into the stadium. This number includes players, technical staff, medical staff and media from both teams.

Egyptian club, Zamalek have appointed Frank Gaffar as their new coach. Gaffar replaces Mohamed Salah who was in charge of the side for less than 24 hours.

Salah replaced German coach, Theo Buckner last week but was sacked after they drew their opening game in the Egyptian Championship. There was no reason given for his hasty departure.

The South African Premier Soccer League (PSL) Disciplinary Committee set a precedent last week when Kaizer Chiefs became the first top-flight club to be condemned to play two home games behind closed doors as a punishment for violent behaviour by their supporters.

It means that their fans will not be allowed to attend the high-profile encounter with Mamelodi Sundowns later this month.

The decision comes after Chiefs supporters destroyed thousands of Soccer City seats after visitors, Bloemfontein Celtic beat them 2-1 in the quarter-finals of the SAA Supa 8.



"Kaizer Chiefs became the first top-flight club to be condemned to play two home games behind closed doors as a punishment for violent behaviour by their supporters..."

Ben Lowe keeps his eye on local footballing matters...



closer to home



BIRMINGHAM City came out on top in the first Midlands derby of the Premiership season with an encouraging 3-2 victory for Steve Bruce, who quashed rumours earlier in the week that he would walk away from his post if results do not improve. Emile Heskey opened the scoring at The Hawthorns but Geoff Horsfield, who spent three successful years at Birmingham, cancelled out his effort within two minutes. The visitors regained the lead just before the half-hour mark through debutant, Jin Jarosik. Czech midfielder Jarosik, on a season-long loan from title favourites Chelsea, nodded Jermaine Pennant's lofted free-kick past Chris Kirkland at the far post. Pennant was again the provider on 33 minutes when Heskey added his second, another trademark header. To send The Blues in at the break with a deserved two-goal advantage, Horsfield once again haunted his former employers when he capitalised on Damien Johnson's sliced clearance midway through the second half. Albion threw the kitchen sink at their local rivals but in the end had to rue missed opportunities as Graham Poll blew the final whistle. "As a team we were very poor. That is seven goals we have conceded in two games and that is just not good enough," fumed Baggies chief Bryan Robson.

Milan Baros (pictured above) made a dream start to his career at Aston Villa when he netted the only goal of the game to hand David O'Leary's side all three points against Blackburn Rovers. Fellow new-boy, Kevin Phillips split the back four wide open as Baros finished with aplomb on 11 minutes.

Wolves duo Keith Lowe and

Chris Cornes have been shipped out on loan to gain valuable first-team experience. Promising defender Lowe, 19, has moved to Steve Cottenill's Burnley on a one-month deal while Port Vale have brought in 18 year-old Cornes after striker, Hector Sam broke his leg in the final stages of their Carling Cup defeat to Rotherham United.

Brixton-born powerhouse, Taiwo Atieno found himself on the scoresheet once again as Kidderminster Harriers got the better of high-flying Cambridge United at the Abbey Stadium. Atieno, making only his second start since joining on a five-month loan deal from The Saddlers, headed Wayne Hatswell's pinpoint cross beyond West Ham loanee Darren Behcet. Substitute Gareth Sheldon wrapped up the points for Kidderminster when he struck from distance with four minutes remaining.

Tamworth's 14-game unbeaten run in the Conference was brought to an end on Saturday by Graham Westley's pacesetter Stevenage Borough. The Lambs were 2-0 down when centre-back, Matt Redmile headed home on 75 minutes but just when salvaging a point seemed achievable, Boro captain Jason Goodliffe rose highest to head number three from close range. "The lads know they have let themselves and the supporters down," seethed boss Mark Cooper at the end.

Southern League basement boys, Rushall Olympic crashed out of the FA Cup at the hands of minnows Gedling Town last weekend. Ben Richardson and Drew Hatton were on target with the goals at Dales Lane.

"Brixton-born powerhouse, Taiwo Atieno found himself on the scoresheet once again as Kidderminster Harriers got the better of high-flying Cambridge United..."



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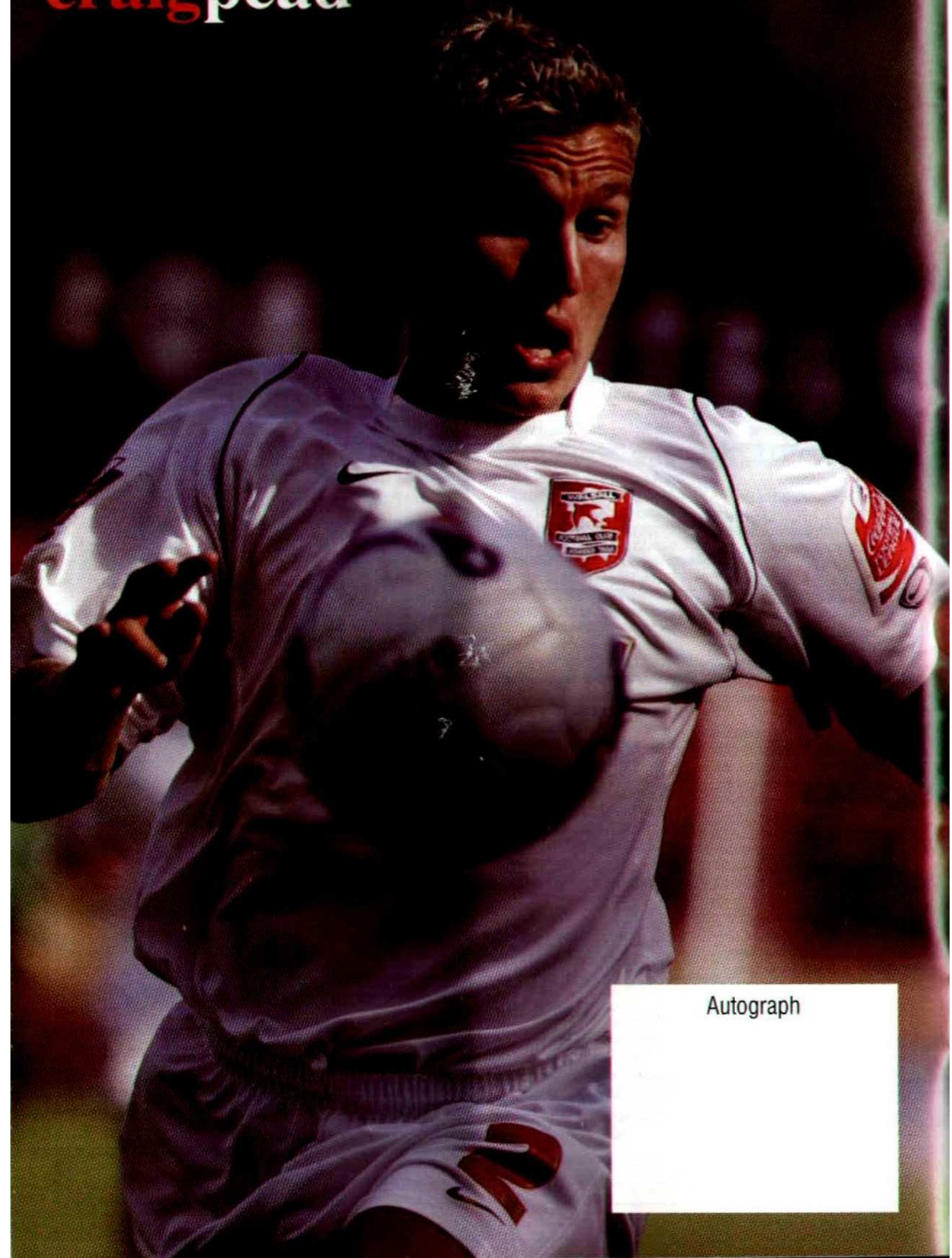


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KRIS TAYLOR
Sam

craigpead



Autograph

mason moves on topasturesnew

AFTER a 15-year association with Walsall Football Club, Stadium Manager, Paul Mason, recently moved on to pastures new.

Starting as a young hopeful in the Walsall FC Centre Of Excellence, Paul had aspirations of one day appearing on the hallowed Bescot Stadium turf and when he joined the ground staff team 13 years ago, that ambition was fulfilled - all be it not quite how he had originally planned!

Instead of showing his silky skills off to The Saddlers' faithful, the lifelong Walsall fan had to settle for the different, if not just as important, role of maintaining the pitch. "I had hopes of becoming a footballer and it would have been a dream come true to pull on a Walsall shirt," explained Paul on his final day as a Walsall employee. "I'm a red through and through and it's been a difficult decision to leave. But I'd like to think I've played a small role in some of the good times we've had in recent years."

Paul began his working life at Bescot Stadium as part of Mick Kearns' Community Department before joining the ground staff under then Head Groundsman, Roger Johnson. When Roger retired in 2001, Paul took over the role and, as he explained, has enjoyed every minute of it. "Roger taught me an awful lot and I'm very grateful to him," he added. "I've made plenty of friends and had a great time here and the only reason I'm moving on is because I want to spend more time with my family. I have three young children and I just want to spend more time with them."

If players and fans remember great moments on the pitch, as a Groundsman, or Stadium Manager as his Official title was, it is surely the way in which the pitch plays that would give the most satisfaction. During Paul's time with The Saddlers there have been a few highs and, admittedly, a few lows. "The pitch is in excellent condition at the moment," he said. "It's probably as good as it's been in all my time here. I remember the dark old days of the early 1990s when it would cut up really bad and if the fans can forget the Jimmy Walker incident a few years ago against Wolves, then I definitely will!"

"Seriously though, since the pitch was completely resurfaced at the end of that 2002/03 season, we haven't had any major problems and, as I say, I think I'm leaving it in excellent condition."

So, as you look out on to the pitch today, spare a moment to think of all the hard work that goes into preparing for a match. As Paul succeeded Roger Johnson, his former assistant, Ian Hipkiss, has now taken up the position of Stadium Manager and Paul is sure his protégé will carry on the good work. "Ian is a very experienced groundsman," he reasoned. "He joined us from Kidderminster Harriers and I'm sure he'll do really well. With Ian, Brian Springthorpe and new-boy, Adrian Murcott, the Bescot pitch is in good hands."

"I don't plan to be a stranger anyway and hopefully, I'll be back at Bescot soon. Although, I'll only be a supporter and I won't have to worry about getting my pitchfork out!"



"I'm a red through and through and it's been a difficult decision to leave."

But I'd like to think I've played a small role in some of the good times we've had in recent years."

saddlers shorts

COLEMAN GOES OUT ON LOAN

THE SADDLERS have allowed young reserve goalkeeper, Dean Coleman to join Southern League Premier Division outfit, Halesowen Town on loan until the end of the season.

The 19 year-old has come through the ranks at Bescot Stadium, appearing regularly for both the youth and reserve teams in recent seasons as he looks to carve out a career for himself in the game.

Winning the Young Player of the Season award at the end of last season, he will be hoping to benefit from regular competitive action. "I am looking forward to the opportunity of playing regular first-team games," he said. "I enjoyed my time at Redditch United last season and it really helped in my development as the standard at that level is good."

"Hopefully I can do well at Halesowen and prove what I am capable of."

WESTWOOD CONFIDENT

SKIPPER Chris Westwood is confident as to what the future holds in store for The Saddlers. "We have a good team and I have no doubt that we will grow and get stronger together as the season goes on," he said.

"There are a lot of young lads and new faces here, but I am confident about what the future holds in store for us."

"I wouldn't have come here if I didn't think we would be up there challenging. It's something that I have experienced throughout most of my career and I expect it to be the same this season."



GILMARTIN GIVEN PLACE ON BENCH

IRISH youngster, Rene Gilmartin received the necessary clearance to be able to take his place on the substitutes' bench for our last two games.

The highly-rated teenage goalkeeper joined the club in the summer and has a couple of youth team games to his name so far.



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EXCLUSIVE - OFFICIAL - UNMISSABLE COMPREHENSIVELY COVERING THE SADDLERS

saddlers world – the only place for highlights, commentaries & exclusive interviews

THE SADDLERS have teamed up with our Official Club Sponsor, Banks's, to bring you an exclusive Goal Of The Month competition.

Every calendar month throughout the 2005/06 season, we will select three goals and allow you, the supporters, to pick your favourite! The goal with the most votes will be awarded the title of Banks's Goal Of The Month and every supporter who has voted for that strike will be entered into a Prize Draw to win a crate of Banks's!

Banks's Goal Of The Month - August 2005

The Saddlers have scored ten times this month and below are our top three short-listed goals:



GOAL A - MARK WRIGHT vs. NOTTINGHAM FOREST, 09/08/05

After replacing Michael Standing during the half-time interval, Mark Wright's first contribution to the game was to hit an unstoppable shot past Forest 'keeper, Rune Pedersen in the 50th minute of this Midlands derby. The 23 year-old cut inside his marker before lashing the ball into the net, levelling the scores in a game that we eventually went on to win 3-2.

GOAL B - JORGE LEITAO vs. SOUTHEM UNITED, 13/08/05

A well-worked set-piece was finished off by Jorge Leitao to give The Saddlers a 2-1 lead in a game that ended all square at two apiece. A quick free-kick by Steve Staunton found Darren Wrack in The Shrimpers' 18-yard box. Wrack stretched to put the ball into Leitao's path and the Portuguese Man of Goals made no mistake from close range.



GOAL C - CHRIS WESTWOOD vs. HARTLEPOOL UNITED, 20/08/05

On his return to Victoria Park, former Hartlepool defender Chris Westwood bulletted The Saddlers in front with a textbook header. Kris Taylor whipped a dangerous corner into The Pool's area and Westwood rose highest to power his header past the helpless Konstantopoulos.



You can check out the goals in all of their glory on Saddlers World and on Saddlers TV

To enter our competition, simply text WALS plus the letter of your chosen goal to 88442. So, if you think that Mark Wright's strike was the pick of this impressive bunch, text WALS A to 88442 and so on. The voting lines will be open until 9.00am on Wednesday, September 21st.

Due to the nature of the prize, this competition is open to persons over the age of 18 only. Texts cost 25p and remember to always ask the bill payers permission before texting in. Vodafone, T-Mobile, O2 and Orange customers can all participate in SMS competitions. However, the service is currently not available to Virgin or 3 customers. No purchase necessary. The winner will be notified by a representative of Banks's by telephone on 21/09/2005

subscribe to **SADDLERS WORLD** for just **£34.99**
a year, that's less than 70p per week!

have the world at your fingertips!

SADDLERS World has been revamped for the 2005/06 season, making our interactive service even more user friendly!

SADDLERS WORLD is the audio/visual aspect of www.saddlers.co.uk, allowing subscribers to get up close and personal to all of their Walsall FC heroes.

With SADDLERS WORLD you will never miss any of the action again. For just £34.99 you can access:

- Daily TV news bulletins - Featuring interviews with a whole host of club personalities.
- Comprehensive match highlights - From EVERY game home or away.
- Interactive live match console - With audio commentary from EVERY Saddlers game.
- Video archives - Re-live all the action from the past four seasons.
- Great Games archive - Featuring some of the most important matches in the club's recent history from the Milk Cup adventure of 1983/84 all the way through our Millennium Stadium victory in 2001.
- Living Legends Section - Watch exclusive interviews with players who have written their names in Walsall FC folklore.
- Interactive archive - Watch any goal from any player in The Football League over the past four seasons.

And all you need is access to a PC and the World could be yours!

Hear the views of Paul Merson with weekly interviews from The Saddlers boss, plus exclusive footage from all his pre-match and after-match press conferences.

Watch exclusive interviews with all our latest signings before anybody else, listen to all the live match commentary, in association with BBC WM, and watch the exclusive match highlights throughout the season... If you were any closer to the action, you'd be in the team!

Visit www.saddlers.co.uk for more details...



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ELSEWHERE THIS WEEKEND

TODAY

Bristol City v Colchester United
Hartlepool United v Yeovil Town
Nottingham Forest v Brentford
Port Vale v Rotherham United

TOMORROW

Southend United v Oldham Athletic

for all the
games
for all the
goals
and all the
news

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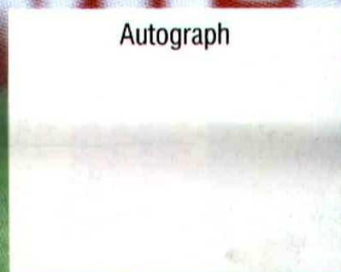
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Autograph



take a trip down memory lane

Blast From The Past DVD and 1983/84 Milk Cup retro shirts now available... Have you got yours?

• RE-LIVE THOSE MAGICAL MOMENTS TIME AND TIME AGAIN

THE SADDLERS have been involved in some titanic battles over the years. We all know that promotion, epic Cup runs and fighting against the odds are all part-and-parcel of life as a Saddler.

But now, thanks to our brand new DVD / video, you can relive some of the best and most memorable games from decades gone by. Matches that reflect just what it is to be a Walsall supporter.

Blast From The Past takes an in-depth look at seven magnificent moments from our recent history, from that epic Milk Cup adventure

in 1983/84, all the way through to our glorious 4-1 victory over West Bromwich Albion on the opening day of the 2003/04 campaign.

Experience again the thrills and spills of victory at Arsenal, those monumental clashes with Liverpool, our Play-Off Final victory over Bristol City, that promotion-clinching 3-1 triumph over Oldham Athletic, our Millennium Stadium win and derby day trouncing of the Baggies.

This DVD / video is a real must for any Walsall supporter, with footage from games that has rarely been seen since. As well as reliving all the action, we hear the views of some of the key figures who have written their names into Walsall FC folklore.

Copies are on sale now from The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre and here at Bescot Stadium at a cost of £21.99 for the DVD and £16.99 for the video.



• MILK CUP RUN REMEMBERED

IT WAS a Cup run that really captured the imagination and is still talked about with great affection some 21 years later.

The Saddlers' Milk Cup exploits of 1983/84 saw us battle our way through to the final four of a major domestic Cup competition and sit just 90 minutes away from a place in Europe.

Hard-fought two-legged victories over Blackpool and Barnsley and a narrow last-gasp 2-1 triumph over neighbours, Shrewsbury Town set up a daunting trip to Highbury, home of Arsenal in the fourth round.

With a large following making the journey down to north London, Walsall displayed grit and determination from the very first whistle to the last to secure a 2-1 win that shocked the football world.

The rather less glamorous surroundings of Rotherham was the reward in the next round as a brace from Mark Rees helped us on our way to a 4-2 victory and a place in the semi-finals where we were pitted against the all-conquering Liverpool side over two legs.

The Reds were reigning League Champions, a well-oiled machine that had made the League Cup their own with a hat-trick of back-to-back successes.

In front of over 30,000 spectators at 'fortress' Anfield, The Saddlers defied the odds to take a 2-2 draw back to Fellows Park.

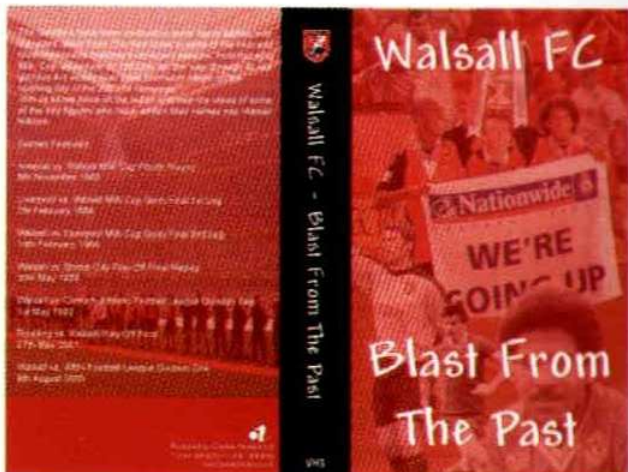
The romance of the Cup was certainly in evidence on Valentine's Day 1984, but despite a spirited display in front of a packed and expectant house, Liverpool proved just too strong to make it into their fourth Final in as many years.

Alan Buckley's team of heroes had certainly made their mark on the footballing map. Mick Kearns... Phil Hawker... Kenny Mower... Craig Shakespeare... Lee Sinnott... Peter Hart... Mark Rees... Ally Brown... Kevin Summerfield... David Preece... Colin Brazier... Alan Buckley... Ron Green... Paul Jones... Richard O'Kelly... Brian Caswell... and Gary Childs had all written their names into Walsall FC folklore.

To mark the 21st Anniversary of this fantastic feat, the club have commissioned replicas of the shirts that were worn on that never-to-be-forgotten adventure.

The classic red with white pinstripe that we wore when beating Shrewsbury Town and playing host to Liverpool and the alternative blue with white pinstripe that graced both Highbury and Anfield.

Both shirts are now available from The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre and here at Bescot Stadium, priced at just £29.99 each.



a warm walsall welcome to

swindontown

HOME GROUND: County Ground MANAGER: Andy King
CURRENT LEAGUE POSITION: 14th

classic campaigns



FOOTBALL historian LEIGH EDWARDS selects eight Swindon Town 'Classic Campaigns' from 60 post-war seasons...

1962/63

Swindon Town won promotion to the second division for the first time in 1962/63. Bert Head's young side won just one of their first six games, then top scorer Ernie Hunt netted a hat-trick in a 5-1 victory over Brighton. Cliff Jackson scored three times in a 4-3 win at Millwall and Jack Smith did likewise in a 5-0 victory over QPR as Swindon overcame the 'Big Freeze' to maintain their promotion challenge. They hammered Colchester 6-1 and clinched promotion with a 1-0 win at home to Shrewsbury. Keith Morgan and John Trollope were ever-present, while other stars included Mike Summerbee and Bobby Woodruff.

1968/69

Don Rogers starred as Swindon Town achieved an epic League Cup and promotion 'double' in 1968/69. Early pace-setters in the third division, they lost 1-0 at home to Watford in the title 'decider' watched by 28,898 and finished runners-up on goal average. Swindon defeated Torquay 2-1, Bradford City 4-3, Blackburn 1-0, Coventry 3-0, Derby 1-0 and Burnley 3-2 in the League Cup before beating Arsenal 3-1 after extra-time in the Wembley Final. The lined up as follows: Peter Downsborough, Rod Thomas, John Trollope, Joe Butler, Frank Burrows, Stan Harland, Don Heath, Roger Smart, John Smith

(Willie Penman), Peter Noble, Don Rogers.

1969/70

Swindon Town challenged strongly for promotion to the top-flight in 1969/70. Fred Ford replaced Danny Williams as manager and Arthur Horsfield was signed from Newcastle, starring as Swindon were among the early leaders. Peter Noble grabbed a hat-trick as they beat Charlton 5-0 and maintained their promotion challenge with a 14-match unbeaten run. Swindon finished fifth in the second division, their highest position at the time. They also defeated Blackburn 4-0, Chester 4-2 and Scunthorpe 3-1 in the FA Cup before losing 2-0 to Leeds United in the sixth round, then beat Napoli 3-0 in the Anglo-Italian Cup Final.

1979/80

Bobby Smith guided Swindon Town to the League Cup semi-finals in 1979/80. Swindon had narrowly missed promotion the previous season and Alan Mayes scored twice in an early 4-0 win over Brentford. They defeated Portsmouth 3-1, Chester 2-1, Stoke City 2-1, Wimbledon 2-1 and Arsenal 4-3 in the League Cup before losing 4-3 to Wolves in the semi-finals. Andy Rowland and Alan Mayes formed an exciting partnership as Swindon gained four successive wins, then trounced Bury 8-0. They took Spurs to an FA Cup fourth round replay but finished mid-table despite signing David Peach and Glenn Cockerill.

1985/86

Swindon Town stormed to the fourth division title with a record 102 points in 1985/86. Lou Macari's side made a poor start in the League but defeated Sunderland and Sheffield Wednesday en route to the Milk Cup fourth round. Kenny Allen arrived from Torquay and former Saddler, Dave Bamber from Portsmouth as Swindon soared to the top of the table with 14 wins in 16 matches. They set a club record of 13 consecutive home victories with a 3-1 win over Burnley and clinched the title with a 1-1 draw at Mansfield. Charlie Henry and Colin Gordon scored 35 goals between them, while skipper Colin Calderwood was ever-present.

1986/87

Lou Macari plotted Swindon Town's 1986/87 third division play-off Final triumph. Colin Gordon was sold to Wimbledon, while newcomers included Jimmy Gilligan, Mark Jones, Fraser Digby and Bristol Rovers pair Tim Parkin and Steve White. Six victories in eight games catapulted Swindon into the promotion race, then Jimmy Quinn returned from Blackburn and Phil King arrived from Torquay. They starred as Swindon gained seven straight wins and qualified for the play-offs in third position after remaining undefeated in their last 11 matches. Swindon beat Gillingham 2-0 in the play-off final replay after a 2-2 aggregate draw.

1992/93

Player-manager Glenn Hoddle was a key figure in Swindon Town's 1992/93 first division play-off Final success. Swindon were early pace-setters and new signing Craig Maskell grabbed a hat-trick in a 4-1 win over Cambridge United. They went second after a 5-1 demolition of

Notts County, then overcame a lean spell with Ross MacLaren's return inspiring a run of seven victories in nine games. Dave Mitchell netted three times in a 6-4 win at Birmingham and Swindon qualified for the play-offs in fifth position. They defeated Tranmere 5-4 on aggregate, then gained a thrilling 4-3 win over Leicester in the Wembley Final.

1995/96

Swindon Town stormed to the second division title under player-boss Steve McMahon in 1995/96. They had plummeted from the Premier League to Division Two and newcomers included Wayne Allison, Steve Finney and Mark Seagraves. Swindon were early leaders, winning seven of their first nine games, and Kevin Horlock netted a hat-trick in a 4-1 victory at Bristol Rovers. They remained in pole position and took Southampton to an FA Cup fifth round replay. Ian Culverhouse and Mark Robinson were ever-present, while leading scorer Wayne Allison and Shaun Taylor also starred as they won the title by nine points.



Swindon Town lifted the League Cup in 1968/69



LAST TIME AT BESCOT STADIUM:
Walsall 3 Swindon Town 2, 30/8/2004.

the robins

introducing the players of
swindon town fc...

Rhys Evans

The promising young 'keeper joined Leyton Orient on a three-month loan deal in August 2002 for his first taste of League action. He proved to be an excellent shot-stopper and showed good command of his area for someone so young.

Unfortunately to pick up a leg injury, which cut short his period at Brisbane Road and saw him return to Chelsea. Later in that season he made his debut for the England Under-21 side against Serbia, but was eventually released by Chelsea.

Town manager Andy King swooped for the young stopper in 2003 to give first choice 'keeper, Bart Griemink more competition for the number one shirt. Since then Evans has been a regular between the posts and has turned in many match-saving performances. Currently on the sidelines.

Sean O'Hanlon

After impressing during an eight-game loan spell, the Liverpool-born youngster signed in March 2004 on a permanent basis from Everton.

Having come up through the youth ranks at Goodison Park, O'Hanlon left Merseyside in search of first-team football and was a rock in the centre of defence towards the end of the 2003-04 season and is surely one of Town's brightest prospects.

A composed customer, O'Hanlon has captained the side on a number of occasions.

Jack Smith

Signed from Watford in the summer of 2005, he adds higher level experience despite his tender years.

Due to the departure of Paul Robinson to West Bromwich Albion he was thrust into the first-team spotlight at Watford and coped admirably, registering two goals - the first of which was a 'Goal of the Season' contender at Sheffield United in front of the Sky Sports cameras.

Having made his debut towards the end of the 2002/03 campaign, the 21-year-old arrives with a point to prove.

Nicky Nicolau

A former Arsenal youngster, who came through the ranks at Highbury before being allowed to link up with Southend United, initially on loan, in March 2004 after finding his path to the first-team blocked with The Gunners.

Equally at home in defence or midfield, he made a permanent switch to Roots Hall during the summer of 2004 and appeared in a total of 22 League games for The Shrimpers as they secured promotion.

Allowed to leave the club this summer, the 21 year-old was soon snapped up by The Robins.

Jerel Ifil

The powerful defender joined Town in the summer of 2004 from Watford after enjoying three previous loan spells with the club.

Became a fan's favourite during his brief stays in Wiltshire and signed on a permanent basis in June 2004, putting in some solid performances during the following season.

Following Matt Heywood's summer defection to Bristol City, Ifil will now be looking to pin down a regular first-team berth in the Town backline.

Steve Jenkins

Capped by Wales on 16 occasions, 'Jenks' was signed at the end of November 2004 and has provided added experience to the Town back-line.

After beginning his career at Swansea, he has also served Huddersfield,

Birmingham, Cardiff, Notts County and Peterborough.

After falling out of favour at London Road under Barry Fry, Town boss, Andy King moved quickly to sign the player after impressing during his four-game loan spell.

A reliable performer who made the right-back slot his own during the latter part of 2004/05.

Gareth Whalley

Signed for Swindon Town in July 2005 from Wigan Athletic on a free transfer.

Originally a trainee at Crewe, he made over 200 first-team appearances for the Greysted Road outfit before signing for Bradford City in July 1998 for £600,000. He was a regular during their two-season spell in the top flight and in March 2002 went back to Crewe on loan for a few months.

Joining Cardiff City at the start of the 2002/03 campaign, injury kept him out from early-November 2002 until mid-April 2003 but he returned to play a significant role in the club's promotion via the play-offs.

Leaving the Welsh club in September 2004, he joined Wigan Athletic on a free transfer and subsequently made nine appearances for The Latics in their march to promotion to the Premiership.

Signed a three-year deal at the County Ground this summer and has been a regular in the engine room of the side so far, putting his experience and know-how to good use.

Rory Fallon

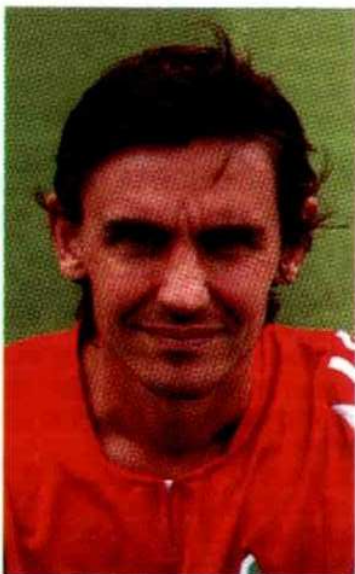
Signed from Barnsley, the big striker has made quite an impression against Town in the past, scoring on many occasions and catching the eye of Town boss, Andy King in the process.

He joined Barnsley as a professional in 1999 after moving up through their trainee programme and had just begun to cement his place in the first-team when he suffered a stress fracture of his foot.

Allowed to join Shrewsbury Town on loan in December 2001, he finally left Oakwell on a permanent basis in November 2003 when signing for Town for an undisclosed fee.

Having waited patiently for his chance, he has gone on to score a number of goals, including a brilliant over-head kick from the edge of the box to secure a point against Bristol City in early April 2004 - one of the best goals ever seen at The County Ground.

Fallon spent a one-month loan spell at Yeovil Town in February, scoring once in six appearances, but he returns to Swindon after a strenuous summer spent training in his native New Zealand in preparation for the new season.





Missed the opening two games of the season with suspension after being sent off at Huddersfield Town last season, but has since figured in five games this term, scoring twice.

Tony Thorpe

The talented striker made the switch from QPR in the summer of 2005, signing a one-year deal.

Having started as a junior at his home-town club, Leicester City, Thorpe then moved to Luton Town where he established himself as potent finisher, scoring 50 League goals in 120 appearances, before attracting a £800,000 transfer move to Fulham.

A short spell at Craven Cottage was followed by a move to Bristol City, with the 'Thorpedo' now attracting a £1million fee for his signature. Again the striker proved a valuable buy, scoring 51 League goals in 128 appearances for the Robins.

However, his time at Bristol City was punctuated by loan spells with Reading and then again with Luton, where he later made his move permanent.

QPR paid Luton Town £50,000 for his services in August 2003 and he went on to score ten goals in 26 League starts for Rangers before making his switch to Wiltshire in June.

31-year old Thorpe's overall goalscoring record stands at 136 strikes in 277 starts and he also scored one goal in five appearances for Rotherham United during a loan period at the end of last season.

Has notched one goal from three outings so far this term.

Stefani Miglioranza

A product of the American College football system in which the most promising players are drafted into Major League Soccer.

Helping St. John's University win the 1996 NCAA Division I Championship, he went on to play for MLS team Chicago Fire before joining Everton on trial.

They were keen to sign him but no deal came about. Portsmouth then out jumped Liverpool in inviting him for a trial and signed him soon afterwards.

A Brazilian-born American who holds an Italian passport, he is a versatile performer who can play in defence or as a central midfielder, a position that he more commonly used in.

Last season saw him go from strength-to-strength at the heart of Town's midfield and after chipping in with his fair share of spectacular goals, he has quickly become the heartbeat of Andy King's team.

A player of undoubted talent and strength who is calm on the ball and possesses good shooting ability, he

made his first appearances of the season over the Bank Holiday weekend.

Jamie Cureton

A summer signing from QPR where he scored six goals in 20 League starts to take his overall goalscoring record to 134 strikes in 274 League starts.

A front-man with plenty of pace, Cureton lists his previous clubs as Norwich, Bournemouth, Bristol Rovers, Reading and Pusan Icons and over the years has earned a reputation as sharp-shooter, finding the net regularly against The Saddlers.

After failing to settle in Korea following his move to K-League outfit, Pusan Icons, he joined QPR in February 2004. Making 46 appearances for Rangers, the 29-year-old joined Swindon Town in July 2005 on a two-year deal and he will no doubt become an important player for The Robins.

Ricky Shakes

A tricky winger with plenty of pace, Shakes arrived from Bolton Wanderers in a deal which also saw Charlie Comyn-Platt join the club.

Shakes spent time on loan with Bristol Rovers and Bury during the 2004/05 season and impressed manager, Andy King during a reserve team outing towards the end of last season.

The 20 year-old arrived at the County Ground on a permanent basis in July 2005 and will be out to prove what he can do in League One.

Andy Nicholas

'Nicho' was a regular member of Liverpool's successful Under-19 team in 2003 and won plaudits with his consistent performances at left-back.

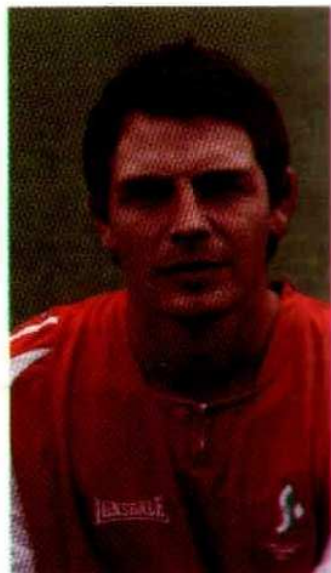
At the time, his path into the first-team at Anfield seemed blocked and upon his decision to leave, he was soon snapped up by The Robins in the summer of 2003.

After working his way into the manager's starting line-up with some hard work in training, the young defender has given a number of solid performances.

Possessing good height, pace and one of the longest throw-ins in The Football League, he spent the final few months of last season on loan at Chester City and has just one outing to his name so far this term.

Kyle Lapham

A tough-tackling former Centre of Excellence player, the local lad progressed through the ranks and made a number of appearances for



the reserve team last season before signing a professional one-year deal in the summer.

Sustained a knee injury at Cirencester Town in pre-season but is now back to fitness and eager for first-team action.

Charlie Comyn-Platt

Joined the Bolton Wanderers Academy in the summer of 2002 after a long association with the club.

The assured defender was called into the first-team for the first time in September 2003 as he made a substitute appearance against The Saddlers in the League Cup.

He was loaned to Tony Adams' Wycombe Wanderers in mid-September 2004, spending a month with the club before returning to Bolton and eventually being released in the summer of 2005.

He made the switch to The County Ground on a one-year contract soon afterwards and has one outing to his name so far.

Christian Roberts

The Cardiff-born striker joined Town in a £50,000 switch from local rivals Bristol City in October 2004.

He is an aggressive runner who has added real presence to The Robins' front-line.

Formerly with Exeter City where he scored 18 goals in 67 league starts for the Grecians between 2000 and 2002.

Made a tremendous start to his Town career, scoring the winner on his debut against Oldham Athletic but was then ruled out with a hernia operation.

Now back to fitness after pre-season, Roberts opened his account for the season with Town's first goal of the new campaign at home to Oldham on August 9th. He also found the net in the victory over Yeovil Town last weekend.

Michael Pook

An energetic box-to-box midfielder who was awarded a professional contract during the summer.

A consistent and reliable performer for the youth and reserve teams in recent years, he managed to find the net for his first senior goal in the recent Carling Cup defeat at the hands of Wycombe Wanderers.

This is going to be a big season for the 19 year-old as he looks to establish himself in the first-team.

Patrick Collins

Arrived on loan from Sheffield Wednesday in the week before the opening day of the season and has been involved in the opening games of the campaign.

The athlete north-easter came through the ranks at Sunderland

without breaking into the first-team. Joined Sheffield Wednesday in readiness for the 2004/05 campaign, he gained plenty of experience in his first season at senior level, amassing a total of 33 appearances and operated both at right-back and centre half and helping the club reach the Play-Off Final.

Collins has represented England 15 times at youth level, scoring for the Under-17 team on his first outing against Portugal - in which he was deployed to mark Manchester United star Cristiano Ronaldo.

He will be hoping to have a productive loan spell at the County Ground.

Ben Wells

One of three Centre of Excellence players who were signed on as first-year scholars in June 2004.

An energetic midfielder who impressed for the Under-17s last season, he had a good pre-season and was rewarded with a place on the substitutes' bench for the opening game of the season. Figuring in the final seven minutes of that game, he was also given nine minutes at the end of Monday's clash with Tranmere Rovers.

A player to keep an eye on in the future.

Colin Heath

A very highly-rated player who can operate up front or out wide on the right.

Put in some impressive displays for the Manchester United second string last term as well as spending time on loan at Cambridge United.

He joined Town in August on a six-month loan deal and made his debut for the club at Blackpool on August 20th. Scored his first goal for the club in the recent 4-2 victory over Yeovil Town.

Tom Heaton

The England Under-20 International goalkeeper is another highly-rated youngster to join the club on a six-month loan spell from Manchester United.

Displaying maturity beyond his years, the 19 year-old is expected to carve out a good career for himself in the game and is keen to continue his development with The Robins.

Andy Gurney

An experienced performer who returned to the club on loan last week from League One rivals, Swansea City after failing to establish a regular first-team place with the Welsh club.

Comfortable on the ball, he is a versatile defender who can play in a number of different positions.

Staring his career with Bristol Rovers, he has also given service to Torquay United and Reading.



4 4 2

KIDS GO FREE!*

TO LEGOLAND®

WINDSOR

5 NEW ATTRACTIONS

INCLUDING 3 NEW RIDES



2 Free Kids* Vouchers mean you can enjoy a great '4 for the price of 2' family day out to LEGOLAND Windsor with 'Coca-Cola'.

Visit in 2005 and join us for our 10th season. We're celebrating with five new attractions including three new rides - brave the LEGO brick dinosaurs when you ride the Dino Safari, take a spin on the Dino Dipper, or grab the water-pumps at the Fire Academy for some active fun! Plus, check out the new Cape Canaveral section in Miniland!

LEGO Vikings Fireworks: 22 & 23, 28 - 30 October & 5 November 2005

To celebrate the end of LEGOLAND Windsor's 10th season, don't miss our stunning LEGO Vikings themed firework displays that will light-up the sky over the park! This year's event will run over six nights so you can't afford to miss it!

*When accompanied by one full paying adult.

'Coca-Cola', 'Coke' and the Dynamic Ribbon device are registered trade marks of The Coca-Cola Company. LEGO, LEGOLAND and the LEGO logo are trademarks of the LEGO Group. ©2005 The LEGO Group.



Kids Go Free (with a full paying adult, excluding August)

Terms & Conditions:

This voucher entitles one child (up to and including 15 years of age) free entry to LEGOLAND Windsor when accompanied by a full paying adult.

Only one free child entrance ticket per voucher.

Entrance for children under three years of age is free.

This voucher must be presented upon entrance to LEGOLAND Windsor.

Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer, reward/loyalty program.

2 Day Pass, Annual Pass, group booking, on-line tickets, rail inclusive offers or an exclusive event or concert.

Guests are advised that not all attractions and shows may be operational on the day of their visit.

Height, age and weight restrictions may apply on some rides.

Guests under the age of 14 or those that do not meet the height restrictions, must be accompanied by a person aged 18 or over.

This voucher is not for re-sale, is non-refundable and non-transferable.

The park opens for the 2005 season on 12th March and closes on 5th November.

Valid for admissions from 12th March to 5th November 2005, excluding the month of August and other selected dates in the season - please visit www.legoland.co.uk in advance to confirm excluded dates.

Offer is limited to one per household.

This offer will apply irrespective of the entrance price at the time of use.

LEGOLAND Windsor will be closed on selected weekdays in March, April, May, September, October and November.

PLEASE visit www.legoland.co.uk in advance to confirm dates and prices.

For great hotel offers go to www.legoland.co.uk/accommodation



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commercial matters

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR MATCH SPONSOR - ONTEL

Today we welcome Craig Lang and his company, Ontel as our Match Sponsor.

Last year Craig donated and installed a completely new telephone system at the stadium worth in excess of £40,000. This was a magnificent gesture on top of his commitment to the matchday sponsorship and hospitality here at Bescot Stadium.

Ontel offer expert consultation to companies with regard to new telephone and communication systems and are based in Burbage, Wiltshire. Their close proximity to today's opponents, Swindon explains the reason behind Craig's choice to sponsor today's game.

We would like to thank Craig for his support and hope that he and his guests enjoy both our game against Swindon and the Wales versus England game that follows.

A WARM WELCOME TO TODAY'S MATCHBALL SPONSOR - BANKS'S

We are delighted to welcome our main commercial partners back to Bescot Stadium today as our Matchball Sponsor. Once again, we have Nigel Buet to thank for arranging today's sponsorship.

The relationship between Walsall Football Club and Banks's remains as close and supportive as ever. The club strives to provide Banks's with as high a profile as possible and hopefully offer a high standard of hospitality on occasions such as this.

In addition, we also promote and sell Banks's products from the bars at Bescot Stadium and we are hopeful that, as a result of the Stadium Suite coming on board during the year, that our barrellage will reach record levels during the 2005/06 season.

We would like to welcome Nigel and his guests and hope they enjoy their afternoon with us.

A WARM WELCOME TO TODAY'S MATCHDAY MASCOT - JESSICA LANG

Leading out The Saddlers this afternoon will be five year-old Jessica Lang from Burbage. She is being sponsored by her dad, Craig Lang.

The Saddlers-mad youngster attends Hungerford Primary School and rates Darren Wrack as her favourite Walsall player. She enjoys attending matches here at Bescot Stadium with her dad and we hope that she has another memorable afternoon with us.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK FOR WALSALL FC?

The club are looking for agents over the age of 16 to collect our Goalden Gate Weekly Draw tickets in the Tamebridge area. You will be required to work once a month and must have your own transport. Interested? Call Gemma on 01922 651-412.

The Goalden Gate Weekly Draw offers 32 prizes ranging from £5 to a first prize of £1,000, for an entry fee of just £1 per week. Members are also entered into a weekly Birthday accumulator jackpot draw. Entry forms for the Goalden Gate Weekly Draw are available from Bescot Stadium and The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre or alternatively telephone Gemma on 01922-651 412.

IAN ROPER TESTIMONIAL DINNER

The first evening in the Ian Roper Testimonial Year takes place in the Stadium Suite on Thursday, October 20th featuring one of Britain's favourite comedians, Stan Boardman, who will be accompanied by former Liverpool hard-man, Joey Jones.

Tickets are £30.00 and include a five-course meal. It should be an entertaining night and will be a great start to Ian's Testimonial Year.

You can book your place by calling The Ticket Office on 0870-442 0111 or 0870-442 0222. Cheques should be made payable to the Ian Roper Testimonial Fund.

BOXING RETURNS IN OCTOBER

Once again we have joined forces with Pleck Amateur Boxing Club to present a great evening of amateur boxing action on Thursday, October 13th.

The evening includes a five-course meal, comedian Ian 'Sludge' Lees and a full programme of boxing.

Tickets are just £27.50. Call The Ticket Office now on 0870-442 0111 or 0870-442 0222.

A GREAT NIGHT FOR ROCK 'N' ROLLERS - THE BILLY FURY STORY

Billy Fury was one of the greatest rock 'n' roll performers. They said he was 'sex on legs' and was regarded as Britain's answer to Elvis.

His story is recalled in our next Cabaret Evening on Friday, September 30th. 'Half Way To Paradise' features Colin Gold as Billy Fury and the original members of 'Fury's Tornadoes'. Also appearing is comedian John Stiles.

This show is always extremely popular here at Bescot Stadium. Tickets are £17 for the show only

or £27.50 to include a four-course meal. Call The Ticket Office on 0870-442 0111 or 0870-442 0222 to book your place for this great evening of live entertainment.

SADDLERS SAVER ACCOUNTS CONTINUE TO GROW

At the time of writing, there are around 1,400 Saddler Saver Accounts with the West Bromwich Building Society.

This is very encouraging, especially since the money invested in these accounts has risen from £4,346,000 to £4,600,000 - an increase of £214,000. Last April the WBBS presented the Walsall FC Youth Development Fund with a cheque for £44,000 and if we can maintain the current levels of investment, then we will receive a cheque for £46,000 in April 2006.

However, if more people open a Saddlers Saver Account, then we may be able to surpass the magical £5million-mark.

The money we receive from the WBBS allows the club to continue funding the Youth Development Programme here at Bescot Stadium so there can be no better way of supporting Walsall Football Club than opening a Saddlers Saver Account.

You can open an account with as little as £25 and there are many benefits such as a signed football and hospitality package available for new account holders. The nearest branch of the WBBS is located in Bridge Street, Walsall.

MORE GREAT HOLIDAY OFFERS FROM HARVEY WORLD TRAVEL

The Saddlers Holiday Club continues to go from strength-to-strength and there are plenty of great deals available for all our supporters. For further information telephone 08704-101 347 or e-mail saddlers@harveyworldtravel.co.uk.

50/50 MATCHDAY DRAW

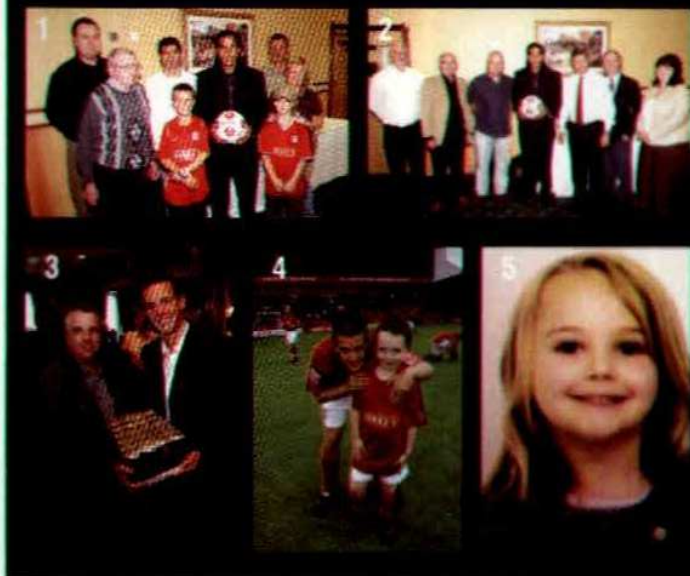
The result of our 50/50 Draw at the game against Swansea City on Saturday, August 27th was, as follows:

- FIRST PRIZE: £278.70 - No.: 05892 - WINNER: James Stringer, Pelsall.
- SECOND PRIZE: £25 - No.: 05716 - WINNER: John Watkins, Wales.
- THIRD PRIZE: £25 - No.: 06110 - WINNER: Brett Antil c/o WBBS.

The competition continues today. Tickets are £1 each and will be on sale before the game. Results are announced at half-time and winnings can be collected from the Reception Office after the game.

ROY WHALLEY

- 1 - Match Sponsors for our game against Southend United were our good friends from Ontel and here we see their guests alongside Man of the Match, Chris Westwood.
- 2 - The skipper was also on hand to present Matchball Sponsors, Walsall Football Supporters Club with their signed Walsall FC football.
- 3 - Over in The Swifts Club, Matty Fryatt took the Man of the Match honour and here we see him claiming his prize.
- 4 - The teenage hot-shot was also on hand to meet The Saddlers' mascot prior to the game.
- 5 - Leading out The Saddlers' today is Jessica Lang.



youth on our side

jay sztybel

date-of-birth:

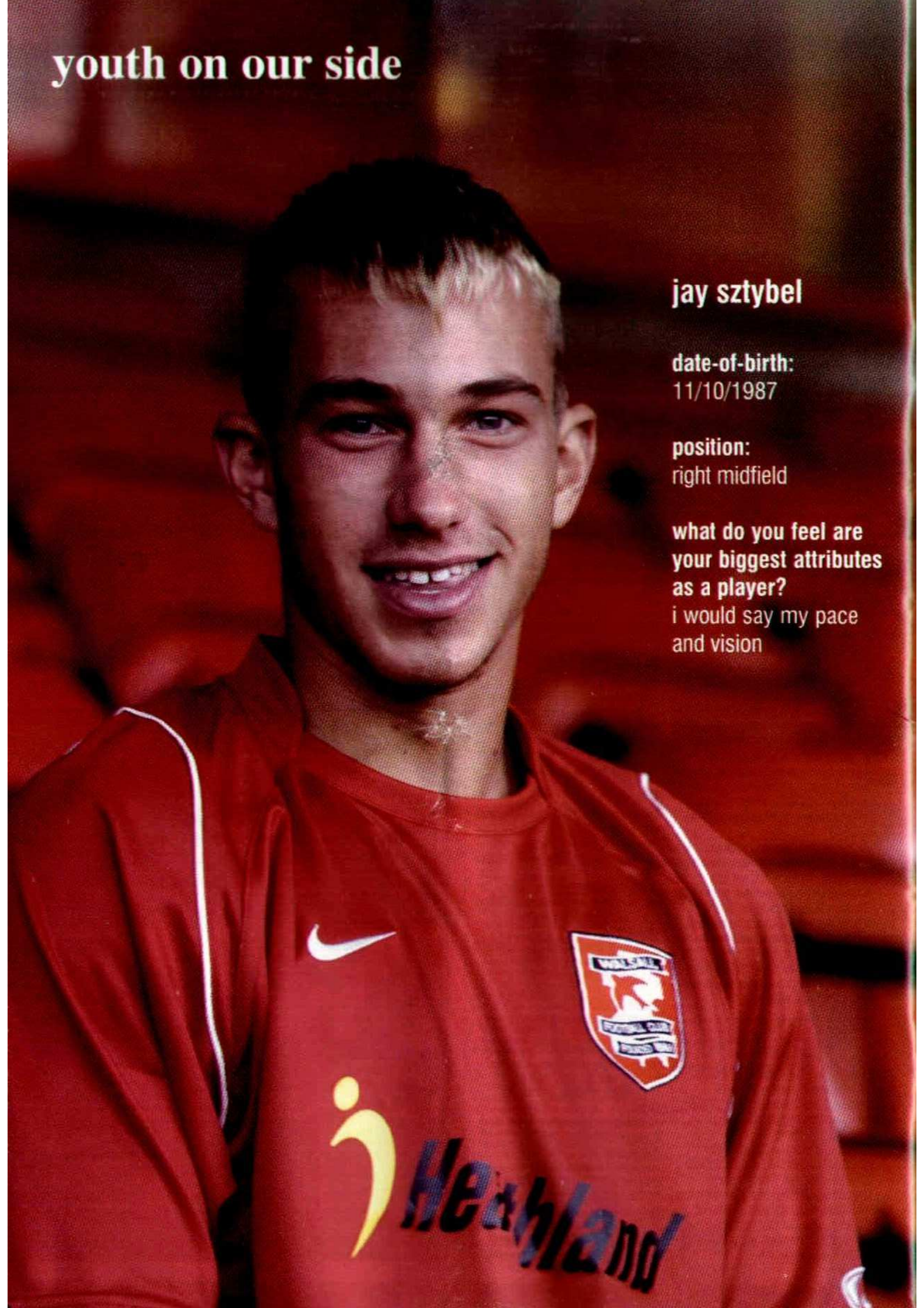
11/10/1987

position:

right midfield

**what do you feel are
your biggest attributes
as a player?**

i would say my pace
and vision



end of an era for saddlers fanatic

Long-serving Head Teacher given a Walsall FC-themed send-off...

IT WAS the end of an era at Whitehall Junior Community School this week as Head Teacher, Tony White moved on after 13 and-a-half years in the job.

The final few days of the summer term back in July were filled with plenty of surprises, including a Leavers' Assembly, part of which was dedicated to Mr. White. The biggest shock he had - apart from having to perform a karaoke song - was a feature about his fanaticism for The Saddlers and a special guest in the form of one of Tony's all-time heroes was also invited to play a role in the assembly.

Imagine his face when a member of the audience was invited to participate and it turned out to be former wing wizard, George Meek!

A lifelong Walsall supporter, it made Tony's day! All the teachers at the school know exactly how deep his love for the club runs. Every staff meeting contains some reference or other to his beloved Saddlers and security codes on all the doors were significant dates in the clubs history.

Tony started following the club when he was at junior school as a pupil, accompanying his brother, Keith to home matches at Fellows Park. He still attends almost every home match to this day and as many away games as his work commitments allow.

So keen is Tony that for one of the school's charity non-uniform days recently, he suggested that everyone turn up in football kits and promised to donate £1 for everyone who was wearing a Walsall shirt!

Tony has also encouraged youngsters at the school to participate in all kinds of sporting activities, with Walsall FC a regular provider of training and fun for them. Tours of the ground have taken place regularly and will continue to do so by both the children of the school and Tony himself, who despite leaving for a job at Nottingham University, will continue to be a regular at Bescot Stadium.

We thank him most sincerely for his fantastic support of the club and all the good work that he has done at one of our local schools. Best wishes in your new job....



George Meek - put in a special guest appearance.

saddlers shorts

LINK MEN

Five players who have played for both Walsall and Swindon Town in the last 50 years:

JIMMY KELLY
WILLIE PENMAN
JOHN SMITH
DAVE SYRETT
FITZROY SIMPSON (pictured)



IN SAFE KEEPING

Five players who have appeared in over 200 games in goal for The Saddlers:



HARRY WAIT
JACK LEWIS
BOB WESSON
MICK KEARNS
(pictured)
JAMES WALKER


HEAD-TO-HEAD

Matches between the two clubs have resulted in 27 League wins for The Saddlers and 27 League wins for Swindon. There have also been 20 draws.

The Robins' last visit to Bescot Stadium resulted in a dramatic 3-2 win for Walsall on August Bank Holiday Monday last year when Brian Howard and Darius Henderson gave the visitors a two-goal lead within the opening 25 minutes, only for a Jorge Leitao brace and a Gary Birch goal on 87 minutes to win the day in front of a crowd of 5,951.

There was also a late winner on Swindon's previous visit on New Year's Day 2001 with that man Leitao finding the net with 89 minutes on the clock.

 **SEAN PLATT**
The Golden Gate Weekly Draw
Win Cash Prizes
01922-651 412

 **IAN ROPER**
Walsall Football Supporters Club

 **MICHAEL STANDING**
It Girls UK Model Agency
<http://www.it-girls.net>

THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO WALSALL FC 2005/2006

NOW ON SALE

**84-page information-packed Handbook out now...
a must for any Saddlers' fan**

SADDLERS supporters will have a wealth of club information at their fingertips throughout the season ahead with 'The Essential Guide to Walsall FC 2005/2006'.

The full-colour, 84-page glossy Handbook is a must for any Walsall fan, with in-depth articles on all aspects of club life, plus all the facts and figures that you need from the previous campaign from Centre of Excellence through to the first-team. There is also a comprehensive Away Ground Guide featuring directions, admission prices and all the other information you will need when following Paul Merson's men around the country as well as detailed biographies on the players who will be attempting to take the club back into The Championship.

On top of all that, there is also the opportunity to win a VIP day out for two at Bescot Stadium with pre-match meal, the best seats in the house, half-time refreshments and access to The Priory Lounge both before and after the game. Meanwhile, our younger supporters will have the chance to win a place at one of the ever-popular Walsall FC Soccer Schools.

'The Essential Guide to Walsall FC 2005/2006' is priced at £7.99, or £5.99 to season-ticket holders on production of their season-ticket booklets, and is available from The Football Shop at Bescot Stadium and in Walsall Town Centre, The Programme Shop (situated at the Healthland Stand end of the ground) or alternatively send a cheque for £9.99 (made payable to Walsall FC) to Andrew Poole, Walsall FC, Bescot Stadium, Walsall WS1 4SA.

Manager, Paul Merson couldn't wait to get his hands on his copy. "No Walsall fan should be without this book," he said after studying the action-packed pages. "Make 'The Essential Guide to Walsall FC 2005/2006' your regular travelling companion throughout the adventure that lies ahead over the next nine months."

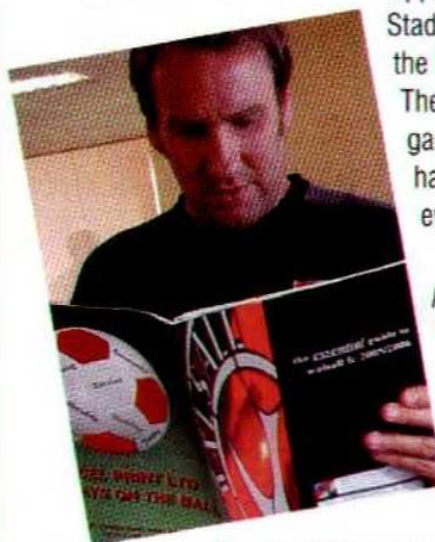
BUILD YOUR SADDLERS' DVD / VIDEO COLLECTION

Goals Of The Season 04/05 is now available on video and DVD from The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre.

Featuring every goal from the 2004/05 campaign, this is a real must-have for any Saddlers fanatic.

There were some memorable strikes during the campaign - from Matty Fryatt's wonder volley against Huddersfield Town to Julian Joachim's stunning hat-trick against Hull City.

Goals Of The Season is on sale now, priced at just £19.99. Also available we have Highlights Part I and Part II from the 2004/05 campaign, priced at £19.99 each, whilst for those of you who enjoy nostalgia, Blast From The Past features action and reaction from some of our most memorable games of recent years. Priced at £21.99 (DVD) and £16.99 (video), it is a special item of Saddlers' memorabilia that no true fan should be without.



for ticket information & bookings call 0870-442 0111 or 0870-442 0222

just the ticket

OPENING HOURS: Bescot Stadium Ticket Office - Monday to Friday, 9.00am - 4.30pm.
The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre - Monday to Saturday (except Wednesday), 9.00am - 5.00pm.

next at home

WALSALL v CHESTERFIELD -
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH -
KICK-OFF 3.00pm

WALSALL v BRENTFORD -
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH -
KICK-OFF 7.45pm

- H. L. Fellows Stand

Adult £16.00 (advance price), £18.00 (matchday price), Concession (Blocks J & K only) £11.00 (advance price), £13.00 (matchday price).

- Banks's Stand

Family ticket (1 Adult / 1 Junior) £18.00 (advance price), £20.00 (matchday price), Adult £16.00 (advance price), £18.00 (matchday price), Additional Junior for Family ticket £5.00 (advance price), £6.00 (matchday price), Junior £8.00 (advance price), £10.00 (matchday price), Senior Citizen £10.00 (advance price), £12.00 (matchday price).

- Floors-2-Go Stand Middle & Upper

Family ticket (1 Adult / 1 Junior) £19.00 (advance price), £21.00 (matchday price), Adult £16.00 (advance price), £18.00 (matchday price), Additional Junior for Family Ticket £5.00 (advance price), £6.00 (matchday price), Junior £10.00 (advance price), £12.00 (matchday price), Senior Citizen £10.00 (advance price), £12.00 (matchday price).

- Floors-2-Go Stand Lower

Adult £12.00 (advance price), £14.00 (matchday price), Concession £8.00 (advance price), £10.00 (matchday price).

NO SMOKING BLOCKS

- Banks's Stand - All Blocks
- H. L. Fellows Stand - N Block and Q Block
- Floors-2-Go Stand Upper - NU1, NU6 and NU7
- Floors-2-Go Stand Middle - NM1, NM2 and NM6

Please note that concessionary rates apply to adults over the age of 60 and juniors under the age of 16 at the time of purchase. Proof of age may be required. Also note that student concessionary rates are NOT available on a matchday basis.



getting away

YEOVIL TOWN

HOW TO GET THERE: Exit the M5 at junction 25 (signposted 'Taunton'), then take the first exit at Blackbrook Roundabout onto the A358. Take the first exit at the Southfields Roundabout onto the A303 (signposted 'Andover'). Take the second exit at the next roundabout before taking the third exit onto the A3088 at the Cartgate Roundabout.

Continue along the A3088 then take the first exit onto Bunford Lane. At the Preston Road Roundabout take the second exit onto Western Avenue (signposted 'Abbey Trading Estate') and after the next roundabout turn left into Copse Road for the ground.

Both railway stations are on the opposite side of town and it is advised to get a taxi from them to the ground. Yeovil Junction is three miles out of town and Pen Mill Junction is around a mile from the town centre.

PARKING: There is a fair-sized car park at the ground plus street parking.

TOTAL DISTANCE: 157 miles.

Tickets can be purchased in advance from the Bescot Stadium Ticket Office or The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre, alternatively you can order by telephone, with credit card, on 0870-442 0111 or 0870-442 0222.

There will be a cash turnstile open on a first-come-first-served basis for Block 6 of the Floors-2-Go Lower Tier only (341 seats), otherwise you must purchase tickets on the day of the game from The Ticket Office.

The Bescot Stadium Ticket Office is open after all Saturday first-team home games.

away we go

YEOVIL TOWN v WALSALL -
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH -
KICK-OFF 3.00pm

Tickets for this game are available to purchase in advance from the Bescot Stadium Ticket Office and The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre up until 12.00noon on Friday, September 9th.

Walsall supporters have been allocated 1,500 uncovered terrace tickets in the Copse Road End and 40 covered seats in the Yeovil College Stand. Due to the small allocation of seating tickets, priority will be initially given to senior citizens, families with children under the age of 12 and the disabled.

Pre-match seating tickets are priced as follows: £16 (adults), £13 (senior citizens over the age of 65 and full-time students), £6 (juniors under the age of 16). Pre-match terrace tickets are priced as follows: £14 (adults), £9 (senior citizens over the age of 65 and full-time students), £5 (juniors under the age of 16).

Please note that these prices will increase by £2 on matchday.

Any wheelchair supporters wishing to travel to the game can purchase tickets directly from the Yeovil Town Ticket Office on 01935-423 662. Tickets are priced at £13 for the wheelchair supporter and free of charge for the carer.

The Official Walsall FC Away Travel Service will be running coaches to the game at a cost of £14 per person, departing Bescot Stadium at 10.00am.

SCUNTHORPE UNITED v WALSALL -
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH -
KICK-OFF 3.00pm

This game is NOT all-ticket. Walsall supporters will be accommodated behind the goal, with a total allocation of 1,678 unreserved seats available. It is pay on the turnstiles on matchday.

Ticket prices are £16 (adults) and £9 (juniors under the age of 16 and senior citizens over the age of 65).

Any disabled supporters wishing to travel to Glanford Park, please contact Scunthorpe United on 01724-747 670.

The Official Walsall FC Away Travel Service will be running coaches to the game at a cost of £14 per person, departing Bescot Stadium at 11.00am.



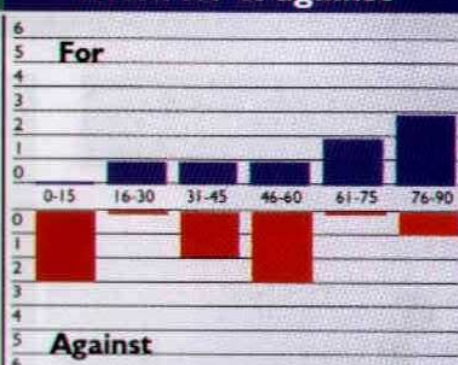
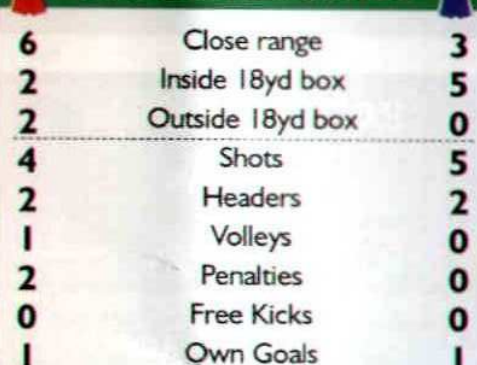
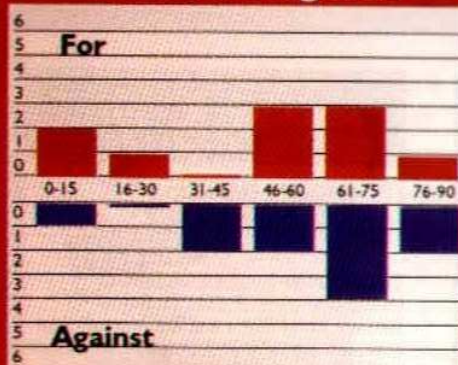
Walsall v. Swindon Town



When for & against

Where & how scored

When for & against

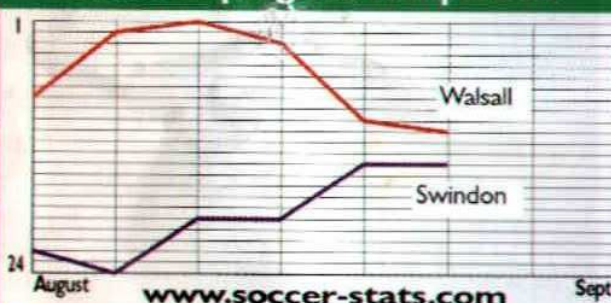


Last 6 results

Seasonal progress comparison

Last 6 results

| Opponents | H/A | Score |
|-------------|-----|-------|
| Bournemouth | A | 0-0 |
| Swansea | H | 2-5 |
| Hartlepool | A | 1-1 |
| Southend | H | 2-2 |
| Forest | H | 3-2 |
| Rotherham | A | 2-1 |



| Opponents | H/A | Score |
|-----------|-----|-------|
| Tranmere | A | 0-1 |
| Yeovil | H | 4-2 |
| Blackpool | A | 0-0 |
| Forest | H | 2-1 |
| Oldham | H | 2-3 |
| Barnsley | A | 0-2 |

Swings

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Won when Behind | 1 |
| Drawn when Behind | 1 |
| Drawn when Ahead | 2 |
| Lost when Ahead | 0 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Best winning sequence | 2 | Best winning sequence | 0 |
| Worst losing sequence | 0 | Worst losing sequence | 2 |

Swings

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Won when Behind | 1 |
| Drawn when Behind | 0 |
| Drawn when Ahead | 0 |
| Lost when Ahead | 0 |

Discipline

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| Fouls committed | 77 |
| Average per game | 12.83 |
| Yellow cards | 11 |
| Red cards | 1 |

Last meeting at Bescot 30/8/04

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--|--|
|  | 3-2 | |  |
| | Leitao 28, 34 Birch 87 | Howard 5 Henderson 25 | |
| Attendance | 5,951 | Referee | Atkinson |
| Paston, Embilen, Bazeley, Bennet, Aranalde, Osborn, Broad (Standing), Wrack, Birch, Leitao, Merson | | Evans, Nicholas (Fallon), Gurney, Ifil, Yeates (Robinson), O'Hanlon, Hewlett, Duke, Howard (Smith), Henderson, Parkin | |
| Booked | none | Booked | Yeates |
|  Sent Off | none |  Sent Off | none |

Discipline

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| Fouls committed | 67 |
| Average per game | 11.17 |
| Yellow cards | 11 |
| Red cards | 0 |

Set piece goals

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Scored from free kick | 2 |
| Conc from free kick | 1 |
| Scored from corner | 1 |
| Conc from corner | 1 |

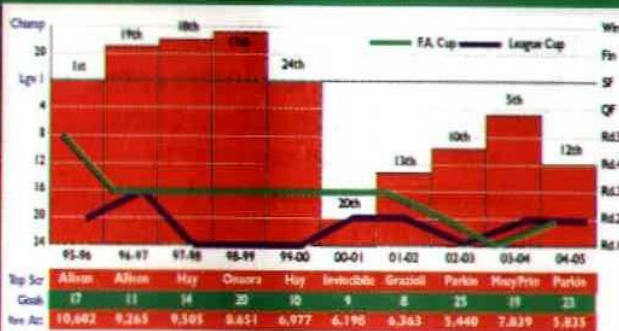
Set piece goals

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Scored from free kick | 0 |
| Conc from free kick | 2 |
| Scored from corner | 1 |
| Conc from corner | 1 |

Strike ratio

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Shots on target | 37 |
| Goals scored | 10 |
| % shots scored | 27 |
| Divisional rating | 7 |

Swindon's Last 10 Years



Strike ratio

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Shots on target | 30 |
| Goals scored | 8 |
| % shots scored | 26.7 |
| Divisional rating | 8 |

Top scorer

Matty Fryatt

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Goals Scored | 3 |
| Games Played | 6 |
| Points Won | 3 |

Top scorer

Rory Fallon (Joint)

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Goals Scored | 2 |
| Games Played | 4 |
| Points Won | 2 |

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a view from the south with...

southern saddler



Julian Bennett sees red at Bournemouth on Monday as we battled out a deserved point.

BEFORE the game started last Saturday, I was hoping that the referee would not find five minutes of added time at the end of the match, as I had to board a boat in Walton on Thames at 7.15pm, so time was going to be very much of the essence getting back.

As a matter of fact, I could have set off back down south at about 4.20pm and not have missed too much!

I don't really want to dwell too much on the detail of last Saturday, as it is all too painful for us Saddlers. I thought that Swansea were a mediocre team, certainly the worst team that we have played this season, so to lose 5-2 after a ten-minute period of shambolic defending, which constituted an insult to the adjective 'schoolboy', demonstrates just how bad we were.

The only amusing part of the day was the astonishing refereeing decision which gifted us an equaliser when, in my opinion, Jorge Leitao gave the Swansea keeper a helping shove into the back of the net. I hope that this incident does not represent the sum total of refereeing decisions which go for us this season as I

would rather have such a piece of luck go for us when we are 0-0 with a couple of minutes to go.

Speaking of refereeing blunders, we suffered our usual disgraceful penalty decision down at Selhurst Park in the first round of the Carling Cup.

It should have come as no surprise that the spot-kick was awarded. Cast your minds back to our last ill-fated visit there at the end of the 2003/04 season when a certain Mr. Tommy Black (us Southern Saddlers have a particular nickname for him!) hurled himself theatrically to the floor to steal a penalty decision for The Eagles which was a key factor in sending us down.

The good thing about football is that there is always another game around the corner to get a bad performance out of the system and everything was going okay at Bournemouth on Bank Holiday Monday until Julian Bennett lost his head and deservedly got himself sent off for a reckless and totally unnecessary tackle on the half-way line. This, of course, completely changed the complexion of the game and ruined a game plan that had been working pretty well.

In the circumstances, our goalless draw was a tremendous achievement and hopefully we can view the events of last Saturday as a mere blip!

So, the hard work needs to start again and we desperately need to get back to winning ways if we are not to throw away all of the benefits of the good start we made. It certainly won't be easy today against a Swindon side who are looking to have found their feet after an underwhelming start of the season.

We did, of course, do the double over The Robins last season, although we made life hard for ourselves in the game at Bescot Stadium where we gifted them a two-goal lead before restoring some sanity to proceedings and banging in three goals. More than anything, I would like to see a first home clean sheet of the season today to restore some much-needed confidence to a defence which I still feel is good enough to be the bedrock of a promotion bid this season.

So, how to cheer up my fellow Saddlers today who may be feeling a little low after the events of the past week?

Well, a fortnight ago, all was well with the World. There I was at my local celebrating the 40th Birthday of the landlord of the finest pub in south-west London - The Jolly Coopers in Hampton if you are ever down my way. There was a free barbecue and bar, the evening was sunny and my beloved Walsall had just ground out an entirely satisfactory 1-1 draw away at Hartlepool. On top of that, my local non-League club, Hampton & Richmond had just recorded a first home win of the season over arch-rivals Walton & Hersham! Can life get any better I thought?

As usually happens at these occasions, I got chatting to a quiet and unassuming chap about football. I braced myself to having to go into some detail about where Walsall is and what division we

play in (mind you, since Paul Merson became manager, even the southern press down here have doubled Walsall FC coverage from one quarter-of-an-inch each month to half-an-inch per month!). To my surprise, not only did my new drinking companion know quite a bit about football, but actually professed himself to be very envious of our success over the last few years!

Now I live in a very Chelsea-dominated environment, where interest in Walsall is not what it should be, despite my best efforts. I was, therefore, rather surprised to be chatting to someone who knew a lot about lower League football in Chelsea land. It turned out that he was a dyed in the wool East Stirling fan, despite his Home Counties accent, and continued to follow their fortunes mainly from afar.

Now East Stirling have not really set alight the football World over the last few years. In fact, they went through a particularly bad patch a couple of years ago when they failed to win a home game for two seasons. Their average attendance is around 150 and these hardy souls saw East Stirling go about 80 home games without winning. Needless to say, the last few years have seen East Stirling firmly rooted at the bottom of Scottish League Division Three. The latest manager got the job because he apparently said that he was prepared to do it for nothing and wouldn't claim too many expenses! Previous East Stirling managers include a certain Mr. Alex Ferguson, whom I cannot imagine accepting those kind of employment terms these days!

So no matter how desperate we may have been feeling last Saturday evening, thank our lucky stars that we do not follow East Stirling!

Here's hoping for a Saddlers and England victory today...

ANDY SMITH

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Weebles wobble but they don't fall down

THE MOST difficult thing about writing a regular column is in deciding what to say. And after last Saturday's performance I didn't think I could say anything - I was literally speechless after the humiliating 5-2 defeat at the hands of Swansea City.

Thank goodness for August Bank Holiday matches and an opportunity to bounce straight back - and we did. A no-score-draw away from home is a good result when you are playing with only ten men for most of the match.

When I was growing up one of the toys being heavily marketed was the Weeble - a little chubby figure who you could knock over and he'd come straight back up.

I think - I hope - that Saturday's result was a case of Walsall getting a touch of the Weebles - we've had a little wobble, but we're not falling down. We're going to bounce right back.

Talking of falling down, our second goal on Saturday was one of the funniest to be seen at Bescot for quite some time. On the day I credited the goal to Jorge Leitao, but it's now clear that it was a Willy Gueret own goal. Willy Gueret? Well, he certainly got on that occasion!

Let's hope today's England v Wales encounter isn't as embarrassing!

I am missing today's match as I am now in Malaysian Borneo on a business trip. As Walsall kick-off at 1.00pm today it will be 8.00pm here in Kuching and I hope to follow The Saddlers by listening to live match commentary on Saddlers World - part of the Official Walsall FC Web-site.

The Internet is a wonderful invention. There are so many uses to which it can be put. One of the most popular uses amongst football fans is the message board facility. There are a number of independent message boards dedicated to Walsall FC and there is also a message board on the Official Walsall FC Web-site.

Message boards provide a place for football fans to discuss the game, to talk about the latest transfer rumours, and to get to know each other. Unfortunately some people also use them as an opportunity to attack and abuse other people, and to do so while hiding behind anonymous usernames.

Such behaviour is not allowed on the Official Walsall FC Message Board, so if you are looking for a safe and welcoming place to discuss all things to do with Walsall FC, then look no further than The Saddlers' own Web-site.

You have to register to use the message board, but it is free to register and use. There's a small group who frequent it and they'll be glad to see more members join with them. Find out more information at www.saddlers.co.uk

GAVIN DRAKE

Pitchside announcer, Gavin Drake can be seen loitering on the sidelines, microphone in hand, at every home game.



supporters club news

with Royston Randle & Bob Sadler

WELCOME TO THE GAME

WE WOULD like to welcome all supporters to today's game as we play host to Swindon Town in a game that kicks off earlier than usual due to England's big World Cup qualifier against Wales.

After The Saddlers suffered a heavy home defeat to the Welshmen of Swansea last weekend, let's hope that we have double reason to celebrate after both of today's important games.

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS AT THE SADDLERS CLUB

- Saturday, September 10th - Double Tribute Show featuring Ollie Hughes as Robbie Williams and Nicole as Kylie Minogue. Tickets are £4 each for members and £6 each for non-members.
- Saturday, September 17th - Coast To Coast Legends Show starring Barry Steele as Roy Orbison and Garry Slade as Billy Fury. Tickets are £4 each for members and £6 each for non-members.
- Saturday, September 24th - Back by popular demand, Just One Look - Hollies Tribute Show. Tickets are available now at £6 each for members and £8 each for non-members.

Meals by Ultimate Catering are available at all shows in The Saddlers Club.

SUPPORTERS CLUB COACHES TO AWAY GAMES

- Saturday, September 10th - Yeovil Town - Fare is £13 per person and departs Bescot Stadium at 10.10am.
- Saturday, September 24th - Scunthorpe United - Fare is £12.50 per person and departs Bescot Stadium at 10.45am.
- Saturday, October 1st - Port Vale - Fare is £9.50 per person and departs Bescot Stadium at 12.15pm.

Book today at The Supporters Club Travel Office, situated at the rear corner of The Saddlers Club, between 11.15am and 12.45pm and also after the match. You can also book in the foyer of The Saddlers Club on a Tuesday (non match nights) and Thursday evening between 7.00pm and 9.00pm.

Cash is required with bookings and NO telephone bookings are accepted.

Passengers are also collected from Bloxwich, Bridgeman Street, North Walsall and Delves.

LINE DANCING

We have Line Dancing in The Saddlers Club every Thursday evening. It's a great way to keep fit, so why not come along! Beginners classes run from 7.15pm until 8.30pm and mixed ability sessions are from 8.30pm until 11.00pm. Everyone is welcome.



barmyarmy putting YOU in the picture...



Brothers Gary and Paul Brisbourne are seen here during a close season trip to Las Vegas where they took a tour of the Hoover Dam and also stopped off in Boulder City along the way.

As you can see from the picture, they were very keen to show off their Saddlers' colours during the tour.



Andrew Jackson of Stonnall is seen here lapping up the sunshine on Clearwater Beach in Florida during his summer holiday.

Despite soaring temperatures, The Saddlers' fanatic was keen to show off his colours, which attracted plenty of interest and puzzled looks from the locals.

Belated Birthday Wishes
BRIAN SPRINGTHORPE
All the best from everyone
here at Walsall FC

Happy Birthday
DAVE PARKES
From all your family and friends
here at Walsall FC

Happy Birthday
KATE HEALY
Love and best wishes Andy

Keep those pictures flooding in! Also, why not have your celebratory message included FREE OF CHARGE? Write to Barmy Army, Bescot Stadium, Walsall WS1 4SA or E-mail a.poole@walsallfc.co.uk

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WANT TO TAKE PART IN 'KICK IT FOR A TICKET'?

If you are over the age of eight, a Junior Saddlers member and want to take part in our 'Kick It For A Ticket' half-time competition, please E-mail your name and contact number to a.poole@walsallfc.co.uk.

Alternatively write to: Kick It For A Ticket, The Junior Saddlers, Bescot Stadium, Walsall WS1 4SA.

Don't forget that this opportunity is only open to Junior Saddlers members. You can win match tickets and Walsall FC footballs plus stand a chance of scooping the main prize which is a 2006/07 Family Season-Ticket.

JOIN THE JUNIOR SADDLERS

If you are under the age of 16 and a keen supporter of Walsall FC, then The Junior Saddlers is the club for you!

Membership has risen each year as youngsters take advantage of the following special offers and privileges:

- A Birthday and Christmas card signed by your favourite Walsall player.
- Exclusive admission to The Junior Saddlers Room - on presentation of your membership card (this is a members-only room for Junior Saddlers and their parents to savour the pre-match build-up).
- The opportunity to be a ball boy/girl at a first-team match.
- Financial concessions on a minimum of six away trips through the course of the season.
- A Christmas party for all members and their families - including

special guests!

- The opportunity to get your picture in the Matchday Programme.
- Plus many other activities arranged during the season.

The membership subscription fee for this season is still just £5.00. For a membership application form you can either call into the Main Reception or The Junior Saddlers Room at Bescot Stadium.

Alternatively why not give Mick Kearns a call on 01922-644 742 or write to him at The Junior Saddlers, Bescot Stadium, Bescot Crescent, Walsall WS1 4SA.

SUMMER SOCCER SCHOOLS A SUCCESS

During the summer holidays the Walsall FC Community Programme ran a number of successful Soccer Schools. As in the past couple of years, we linked in with the Walsall Ready, Steady, Summer scheme.

This year we invited Premiership referee, Alan Wiley to come in and talk to some of the children. Alan was wearing 'two hats' on these occasions as he spoke not only about his refereeing career, but also about his other job as the Young Persons Officer for Walsall Police.

Alan was able to talk to the



youngsters about the importance of playing safely, particularly at this time of the year.

The players have also played their part by talking to the children on the importance of healthy living, exercise and a good diet. They also participated in a question-and-answer session.

We thank everyone who has helped to make our Summer Soccer Schools such a success.

BIRTHDAY TREAT

On the pitch prior to the game against Southend United last month was Sophie Foster who received a signed Walsall FC football from her Saddlers' hero, Matty Fryatt as part of a Birthday Treat.



ON BALLBOY DUTY

The ball boys for this afternoon's game are provided by New Invention Victory Under-13s FC. We hope that everyone involved has a memorable time and keeps the game flowing freely.

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SATURDAY CLUB

The Walsall FC Community Programme operates Saturday Clubs each week throughout the season at the following venues:

- WILLEHALL SPORTS COLLEGE - 10.00am until 12.00noon,
- SHELFIELD SPORTS COLLEGE - 10.00am until 12.00noon,
- BESCOT STADIUM - 9.00am until 11.00am (five to eight year-olds only),
- BESCOT STADIUM - 11.00am until 1.00pm (nine to 14 year-olds only).

Boys and girls between the ages of five and 14 are welcome on all courses unless otherwise specified.

Saturday Clubs cost just £3 per session. Children can also pay £5 extra for entrance to League matches on the weeks that Walsall are at home (transport to matches is not provided). Children will be supervised all day.

Call **01922-644 742** for further information...

gallery

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:
Nikki Thompson (14),
Jake Hicklin (7).



junior view

SWINDON Town's last visit to Bescot Stadium brought plenty of great action and drama last season as we scored a late winner to secure a 3-2 success.

We took six points off the Robins last term, so a repeat performance would be nice this time around.

The lads battled well to earn a point at AFC Bournemouth on Bank Holiday Monday as we overcame the loss of Steve Staunton through injury and the first half dismissal of Julian Bennett.

It was an excellent defensive performance as we bounced back from a poor showing in our previous game against Swansea City.

Jorge Leitao has really caught my eye in recent games with his fantastic work-rate and non-stop running.

Let's pull together and make sure that we can return to winning ways this afternoon...

CRAIG TAYLOR



Excellence in Learning

PUPILS who have attended the Study Support Centre over the last year have been involved in a variety of exciting activities.

Look out for further information on other new and exciting activities that we have planned on this page throughout the year.

All the activities are designed to be motivational, encourage teamwork, help with problem-solving and build up self-esteem in young people.

In July, at the Playing for Success celebration event, pupils from each school took part in reciting a poem.

Playing for Success

*The mini bus arrives, strap up and off to Bescot we are bound
To the Study Support Centre in the stadium, at the back of the ground*

*A welcome there from Amazing Andrea and Saddler Sue
And lots of fun activities planned for all of us to do*

A tour around the stadium, the shop, control room, gym and more

*Something exciting at Bescot behind almost every door
All the staff are friendly, wave, say hello or smile*

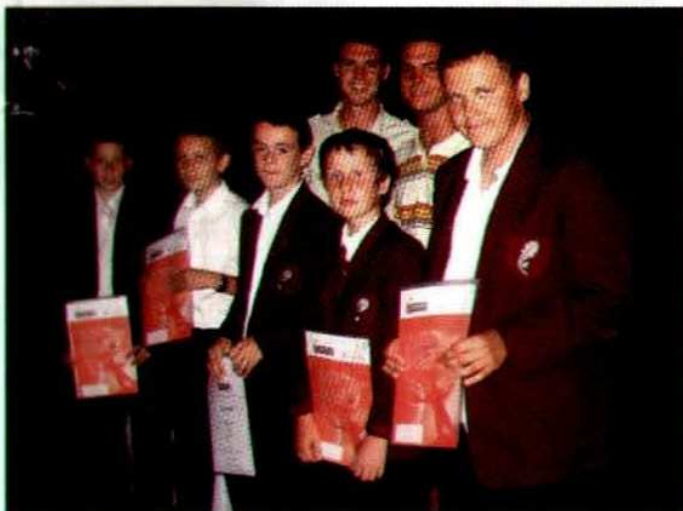
Glad that it's not only a day we are here, but coming for quite a while

We work on the computers to improve our Maths and English too

*There is fun and laughter, and our confidence it grew
We watched the abseillers putting up the new sign, Floors-2-Go
Another day we did activities to encourage the team, you know*

Designed and made an outfit, a card for the team, motivational poems for them all

*Paul Merson's lads, that's the Bescot Boys - come on Walsall!
Now it's time for us to celebrate with everyone here today
That's Blue Coat, Aldridge, Pool Hayes, Shire Oak, North Walsall, Little Bloxwich and Rough Hay.*



Pictured here we see Anthony Gerrard and Daniel Fox presenting certificates to Shire Oak pupils - July 2005.



For further details on what the Study Support Centre has to offer, contact 01922-629 238...



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Walsall FC Historian, Geoff Allman takes a look at the players who have enjoyed

Ian Crichton profiles the local lads who have come through the ranks over the years...

remarkable debuts



local talent



DOUG Lishman, a commando in World War II, had been signed from Paget Rangers in the summer of 1946 at the age of 23. He went straight into our reserve team for the opening game of the new season, scored against West Bromwich Albion's third team and for the next three months had reserve team followers clamoring for him to be given a chance at first-team level.

That chance came on December 18th 1948 when manager Harry Hibbs brought him into our front line in place of Albert Mullard for a second round FA Cup replay at Ipswich after an 11,438 gate had seen us held to a goalless draw at Fellows Park on the previous Saturday.

It was perhaps appropriate that while the first-team had failed to score at home, our reserves had chalked up an 8-1 win against Coventry with Lishman netting four of the goals, all in the first half.

A home tie with Liverpool awaited the winners and though the replay was on a cold Wednesday afternoon at Portman Road, 11,521 packed into the ground to see a very even first half with Reg Foulkes outstanding in our defence and Lishman not only looking dangerous himself up front, but also providing some delightful touches in holding our front line together.

The game really came alight after 54 minutes when Ron Crutchley played the ball accurately to Wally Brown who sent winger

Jackie Maund away down the right. He eventually crossed and as both Lishman and Dennis Wilshaw went for the ball it was Lishman who got the final touch to turn the ball home.

That proved to be the only goal of the game and earned us an 18,370 gate against Liverpool for a tie that we lost 5-2 after twice holding the lead. Lishman held his place from then onwards and for a season and-a-half formed a partnership with Wilshaw that is still talked about by our senior fans.

Lishman's debut day almost ended in tragedy, though, as the coach that was taking our team between Liverpool Street and Euston Stations caught fire. The players had to leap for safety and winger Kenny Davies had to escape through a window. Happily the coach driver and a passing bus driver put out the blaze and the team, and even the kit, was unharmed.

Lishman never forgot his debut and after scoring 29 goals in 65 games he moved on to score an incredible 137 in 245 games for Arsenal with whom he won a first division Championship medal in 1953 after playing for them in the FA Cup Final a season earlier. He then had a good season with Nottingham Forest before retiring in the summer of 1957 and devoting his energies to his in-laws' furniture business in Longton.

Sadly he died in 1994 but he will be remembered as a player with real class who scored goals at all levels.

PLAYER:
Doug Lishman

POSITION:
Inside-forward

DATE-OF-BIRTH:
14/9/1923

TOTAL WALSALL APPS:
65

TOTAL WALSALL GOALS:
29



DEAN Keates was born in 1978 and although his early years were spent in Bentley, it was on the streets of the Beechdale Estate that the youngster first began to harbour thoughts of playing professionally despite his rather diminutive stature.

He first caught the eye playing for Forest Star and Cresswell Wanderers in the Walsall Junior Youth League, but there was really only one club he wanted to play for and he decided to concentrate on playing District football for Walsall Schools. Remaining a fixture for four years until he was old enough to sign schoolboy forms for The Saddlers.

Within a year he had been offered a YTS place and by the age of 18 he was making his debut for the first team when he came on as substitute for Darren Bradley in the 1-0 defeat at Plymouth in October 1996.

He then had to wait another three months for his full League debut against Notts County and although the battling midfielder impressed many supporters in the 3-1 win, Chris Nicholl never selected him again.

Following Nicholl's departure in the summer of 1997, however, in came the flamboyant Jan Sorensen and the big Dane, who had been a hard working midfielder himself, knew a little diamond when he saw one.

Keates was in from the word go and made 33 League appearances as well as figuring in the two great Cup runs which were to end at Upton Park and Old Trafford.

The pocket dynamo missed the occasional game during our

promotion season of 1998/99 but he always came back with renewed enthusiasm to snatch some useful goals, such as the winner at Reading as The Saddlers defied the odds and took the division by storm.

Back in the second tier of English football for the first time in over a decade, Ray Graydon's boys began to struggle and Keates was often made the scapegoat despite giving everything for the cause. He started in only 50% of the games and yet scored five goals, including headers against Barnsley and Plymouth - not bad for someone 5'6" tall!

The 2000/01 campaign was to be his last with the club and although Walsall again won promotion following amazing scenes at the Millennium Stadium, it was a frustrating time for Keates who was now little more than a squad player. Although he was offered a fresh deal at Bescot Stadium in the summer, he jumped at the opportunity to join Jan Molby at Hull City.

Keates spent two years with The Tigers, making 54 appearances before linking up again with Molby at Kidderminster. His time at Aggborough was a personal success even though the club struggled and last season he was Supporters' Player of the Year. With relegation to the Conference confirmed, it was obvious that he would once again be looking for pastures new and after 52 appearances and seven goals in a Hammers shirt he joined Lincoln City the day after his 27th Birthday in preparation for the coming season.

PLAYER:
Dean Keates

POSITION:
Midfield

DATE-OF-BIRTH:
30/6/1978

TOTAL WALSALL APPS:
161 (4)

TOTAL WALSALL GOALS:
13



CHRIS WESTWOOD
Motorland
01922-494 800



DARREN WRACK
The Junior Saddlers



MARK WRIGHT
Emma

the season so far

COCA-COLA LEAGUE ONE

As at 1/9/2005

| Team | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Huddersfield | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 6 | 13 |
| Swansea | 6 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 13 | 9 | 12 |
| Brentford | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 11 |
| Rotherham | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 11 |
| Port Vale | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 11 |
| Scunthorpe | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 11 |
| Tranmere | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 10 |
| Oldham | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 10 |
| Bournemouth | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 9 |
| Gillingham | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 6 | 9 |
| WALSALL | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 11 | 9 |
| Southend | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 8 |
| Bradford | 6 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 7 |
| SWINDON | 6 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 7 |
| Barnsley | 6 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 7 |
| Nottm Forest | 5 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 8 | 6 |
| Hartlepool | 6 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 6 |
| Chesterfield | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 8 | 12 | 6 |
| Blackpool | 6 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 10 | 6 |
| Bristol City | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 5 |
| Milton Keynes Dons | 6 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 5 |
| Colchester | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 5 |
| Doncaster | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 5 |
| Yeovil | 6 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 11 | 2 |



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| DATE | OPPOSITION | VENUE | RESULT | ATTENDANCE (AWAY) | POSITION | REFEREE |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------|----------|----------------------|----------|--------------|
| AUGUST 2005 | | | | | | |
| Sat 6 | Rotherham United | A | 2-1 | 5,386 (1,097) | - | J. Robinson |
| Tue 9 | Nottingham Forest | H | 3-2 | 8,703 (2,469) | 2 | K.A. Woolmer |
| Sat 13 | Southend United | H | 2-2 | 5,569 (529) | 1 | M. Thorpe |
| Sat 20 | Hartlepool United | A | 1-1 | 5,060 (320) | 3 | G. Oliver |
| Tue 23 | Crystal Palace (CC1) | A | 0-3 | 5,508 (170) | - | J. Singh |
| Sat 27 | Swansea City | H | 2-5(+06) | 5,745 (903) | 10 | M. P. Russe |
| Mon 29 | AFC Bournemouth | A | 0-0 | 5,953 (610) | 11 | L. Probert |
| SEPTEMBER 2005 | | | | | | |
| Sat 3 | Swindon Town | H | | | | |
| Sat 10 | Yeovil Town | A | | | | |
| Sat 17 | Chesterfield | H | | | | |
| Sat 24 | Scunthorpe United | A | | | | |
| Tue 27 | Brentford | H | | | | |
| OCTOBER 2005 | | | | | | |
| Sat 1 | Port Vale | A | | | | |
| Sat 8 | Milton Keynes Dons | H | | | | |
| Sat 15 | Huddersfield Town | A | | | | |
| Sat 22 | Doncaster Rovers | H | | | | |
| Sat 29 | Barnsley | A | | | | |
| NOVEMBER 2005 | | | | | | |
| Sat 12 | Gillingham | H | | | | |
| Sat 19 | Milton Keynes Dons | A | | | | |
| Sat 26 | Rotherham United | H | | | | |
| DECEMBER 2005 | | | | | | |
| Tue 6 | Oldham Athletic | A | | | | |
| Sat 10 | Nottingham Forest | A | | | | |
| Sat 17 | Hartlepool United | H | | | | |
| Mon 26 | Tranmere Rovers | H | | | | |
| Wed 28 | Bradford City | A | | | | |
| Sat 31 | Blackpool | H | | | | |
| JANUARY 2006 | | | | | | |
| Mon 2 | Bristol City | A | | | | |
| Sat 7 | Swindon Town | A | | | | |
| Sat 14 | Colchester United | H | | | | |
| Sat 21 | Chesterfield | A | | | | |
| Sat 28 | Yeovil Town | H | | | | |
| FEBRUARY 2006 | | | | | | |
| Sat 4 | Brentford | A | | | | |
| Sat 11 | Scunthorpe United | H | | | | |
| Tue 14 | Colchester United | A | | | | |
| Sat 18 | Oldham Athletic | H | | | | |
| Sat 25 | Southend United | A | | | | |
| MARCH 2006 | | | | | | |
| Sat 4 | AFC Bournemouth | H | | | | |
| Sun 12 | Swansea City | A | | | | |
| Fri 17 | Tranmere Rovers | A | | | | |
| Sat 25 | Bradford City | H | | | | |
| APRIL 2006 | | | | | | |
| Sat 1 | Blackpool | A | | | | |
| Sat 8 | Bristol City | H | | | | |
| Sat 15 | Port Vale | H | | | | |
| Mon 17 | Doncaster Rovers | A | | | | |
| Sat 22 | Huddersfield Town | H | | | | |
| Sat 29 | Gillingham | A | | | | |
| MAY 2006 | | | | | | |
| Sat 6 | Barnsley | H | | | | |

ALL MATCHES COCA-COLA LEAGUE ONE UNLESS STATED

GOALSCORERS IN CAPS



| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|--------|--------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| Oakes | Pead | Fox | Gerrard | Bennett | Standing | Osborn | Wrack | K. TAYLOR | Wright | Fryatt | LEITAO | •Kinsella | •Dann | •Larrosa | •Coleman |
| Oakes | Pead | Fox | WESTWOOD | Bennett | Standing | Osborn | Wrack | K. Taylor | Leitao | FRYATT | WRIGHT | Kinsella | Larrosa | •Gerrard | •Coleman |
| Oakes | Pead | Fox | Westwood | Bennett | Wright | Smith | Wrack | K. Taylor | LEITAO | FRYATT | Staunton | Osborn | •Kinsella | •Larrosa | •Coleman |
| Oakes | Pead | Fox | WESTWOOD | Staunton | Smith | Osborn | Wrack | K. Taylor | Leitao | Fryatt | Standing | •Kinsella | •Bennett | •Wright | •Coleman |
| Oakes | Pead | Fox | Westwood | Bennett | Smith | Osborn | Standing | Merson | Leitao | Wright | Larrosa | •Kinsella | •Gerrard | •K. Taylor | •Coleman |
| Oakes | •Pead | Bennett | Westwood | Staunton | Smith | Wright | Wrack | K. Taylor | Leitao | FRYATT | Standing | Osborn | •Gerrard | •Larrosa | •Gilmartin |
| Oakes | Pead | •Bennett | Westwood | Gerrard | Osborn | Standing | Merson | K. Taylor | Leitao | Fryatt | Kinsella | Wright | Roper | •Larrosa | •Gilmartin |

SPORTING DINNER IN SUPPORT OF THE IAN ROPER TESTIMONIAL FUND

The hilarious **STAN BOARDMAN** is joined by former Liverpool hard-man, **JOEY JONES** in what promises to be a great night of entertainment here at Bescot Stadium on Thursday, October 20th.

Come and show your support for Ian Roper in this his Testimonial Year, tickets are £30 per person to include a delicious five-course meal.

Call 0870-442 0111 or 0870-442 0222 to book.

ARE YOU A 'LUCKY PROGRAMME' PRIZE WINNER?

If your programme is signed on the centrefold pages by skipper, Chris Westwood and stamped with the Official Walsall FC company stamp, you have won one of these fantastic prizes...

- Two tickets for our next home game against Chesterfield,
- A copy of Formula One 04 PlayStation 2 game,
- A signed Walsall FC football.

Prizes can be collected from the Reception Office before or after the game on a first-come-first-served basis.

Scored & conceded in last 15 mins

| For | 76-90 | Total | % | AGAINST | 76-90 | Total | % |
|--------------|-------|-------|------|--------------|-------|-------|------|
| Tranmere | 4 | 9 | 44.4 | Rotherham | 2 | 3 | 66.7 |
| Forest | 3 | 8 | 37.5 | Oldham | 5 | 8 | 62.5 |
| Rotherham | 3 | 8 | 37.5 | MK Dons | 3 | 8 | 37.5 |
| Swindon | 3 | 8 | 37.5 | Bradford | 2 | 6 | 33.3 |
| Gillingham | 2 | 6 | 33.3 | Gillingham | 2 | 6 | 33.3 |
| Bournemouth | 2 | 7 | 28.6 | Scunthorpe | 2 | 7 | 28.6 |
| Doncaster | 1 | 4 | 25.0 | Chesterfield | 3 | 12 | 25.0 |
| Yeovil | 1 | 4 | 25.0 | Colchester | 2 | 8 | 25.0 |
| Southend | 2 | 9 | 22.2 | Swansea | 2 | 9 | 22.2 |
| Huddersfield | 2 | 10 | 20.0 | Walsall | 2 | 11 | 18.2 |
| Blackpool | 1 | 5 | 20.0 | Yeovil | 2 | 11 | 18.2 |
| Colchester | 1 | 5 | 20.0 | Huddersfield | 1 | 6 | 16.7 |
| Barnsley | 1 | 6 | 16.7 | Barnsley | 1 | 7 | 14.3 |
| Bradford | 1 | 6 | 16.7 | Bristol City | 1 | 7 | 14.3 |
| MK Dons | 1 | 6 | 16.7 | Doncaster | 1 | 7 | 14.3 |
| Hartlepool | 1 | 7 | 14.3 | Forest | 1 | 8 | 12.5 |
| Scunthorpe | 1 | 8 | 12.5 | Swindon | 1 | 9 | 11.1 |
| Brentford | 1 | 9 | 11.1 | Blackpool | 1 | 10 | 10.0 |
| Oldham | 1 | 9 | 11.1 | Bournemouth | 0 | 5 | 0.0 |
| Walsall | 1 | 10 | 10.0 | Brentford | 0 | 4 | 0.0 |
| Swansea | 1 | 13 | 7.7 | Hartlepool | 0 | 9 | 0.0 |
| Bristol City | 0 | 6 | 0.0 | Port Vale | 0 | 5 | 0.0 |
| Chesterfield | 0 | 8 | 0.0 | Southend | 0 | 7 | 0.0 |
| Port Vale | 0 | 7 | 0.0 | Tranmere | 0 | 5 | 0.0 |

Margins of victory & defeat

| Won by | 1 gl | 2 gls | 3 gls | 4+ gls | Lost by | 1 gl | 2 gls | 3 gls | 4+ gls |
|--------------|------|-------|-------|--------|--------------|------|-------|-------|--------|
| Swansea | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | Chesterfield | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Huddersfield | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Yeovil | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Rotherham | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | Barnsley | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Tranmere | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Bradford | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Oldham | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | Colchester | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Brentford | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | Doncaster | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Port Vale | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Forest | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Scunthorpe | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Swindon | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Bournemouth | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Blackpool | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Barnsley | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Oldham | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Bradford | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | Bristol City | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Chesterfield | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | Hartlepool | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Gillingham | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Southend | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Forest | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Swansea | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Southend | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | Tranmere | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Swindon | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Walsall | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Walsall | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Bournemouth | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Blackpool | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Brentford | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bristol City | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Gillingham | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Colchester | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Huddersfield | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Doncaster | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Port Vale | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Hartlepool | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Rotherham | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MK Dons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Scunthorpe | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Yeovil | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | MK Dons | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

Scored from penalties

Successful from 12 yards

| Player | Club | Goals |
|-----------|--------------|-------|
| Fryatt | Walsall | 2 |
| Abbott | Huddersfield | 1 |
| Boyd | Hartlepool | 1 |
| Burton | Rotherham | 1 |
| Campbell | Brentford | 1 |
| Crosby | Scunthorpe | 1 |
| Greenacre | Tranmere | 1 |
| Hayter | Bournemouth | 1 |
| Liddell | Oldham | 1 |
| McIndoe | Doncaster | 1 |
| Trundle | Swansea | 1 |
| Williams | Barnsley | 1 |
| Windass | Bradford | 1 |



Taking responsibility: Terriers' Pawel Abbott

Volleyed goals

Most goals from shots on the volley

| Player | Club | Goals |
|-------------|--------------|-------|
| Abbott | Huddersfield | 1 |
| Bullock | Hartlepool | 1 |
| Burton | Rotherham | 1 |
| Commons | Forest | 1 |
| Dinning | Port Vale | 1 |
| Dobie | Forest | 1 |
| Gray | Southend | 1 |
| Greenacre | Tranmere | 1 |
| Guttridge | Southend | 1 |
| Halford | Colchester | 1 |
| Hayes | Barnsley | 1 |
| Keogh | Scunthorpe | 1 |
| Liddell | Oldham | 1 |
| Mullin | Rotherham | 1 |
| Parker | Blackpool | 1 |
| Surman | Bournemouth | 1 |
| Wilbraham | MK Dons | 1 |
| Windass | Bradford | 1 |
| Worthington | Huddersfield | 1 |
| Wright | Walsall | 1 |



Spectacular strike: Forest's Scott Dobie

Goalkeeping & goalscoring

Best goalkeeping ratio

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Total goals conceded | 3 |
| Opposition shots on target | 30 |
| Percentage of shots saved | 90.0 |

Rotherham



Best strike ratio

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Total goals scored | 9 |
| Shots on target | 24 |
| Percentage of shots scored | 37.5 |

Southend



Worst goalkeeping ratio

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Total goals conceded | 10 |
| Opposition shots on target | 28 |
| Percentage of shots saved | 64.3 |

Blackpool



Worst strike ratio

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Total goals scored | 4 |
| Shots on target | 34 |
| Percentage of shots scored | 11.8 |

Yeovil



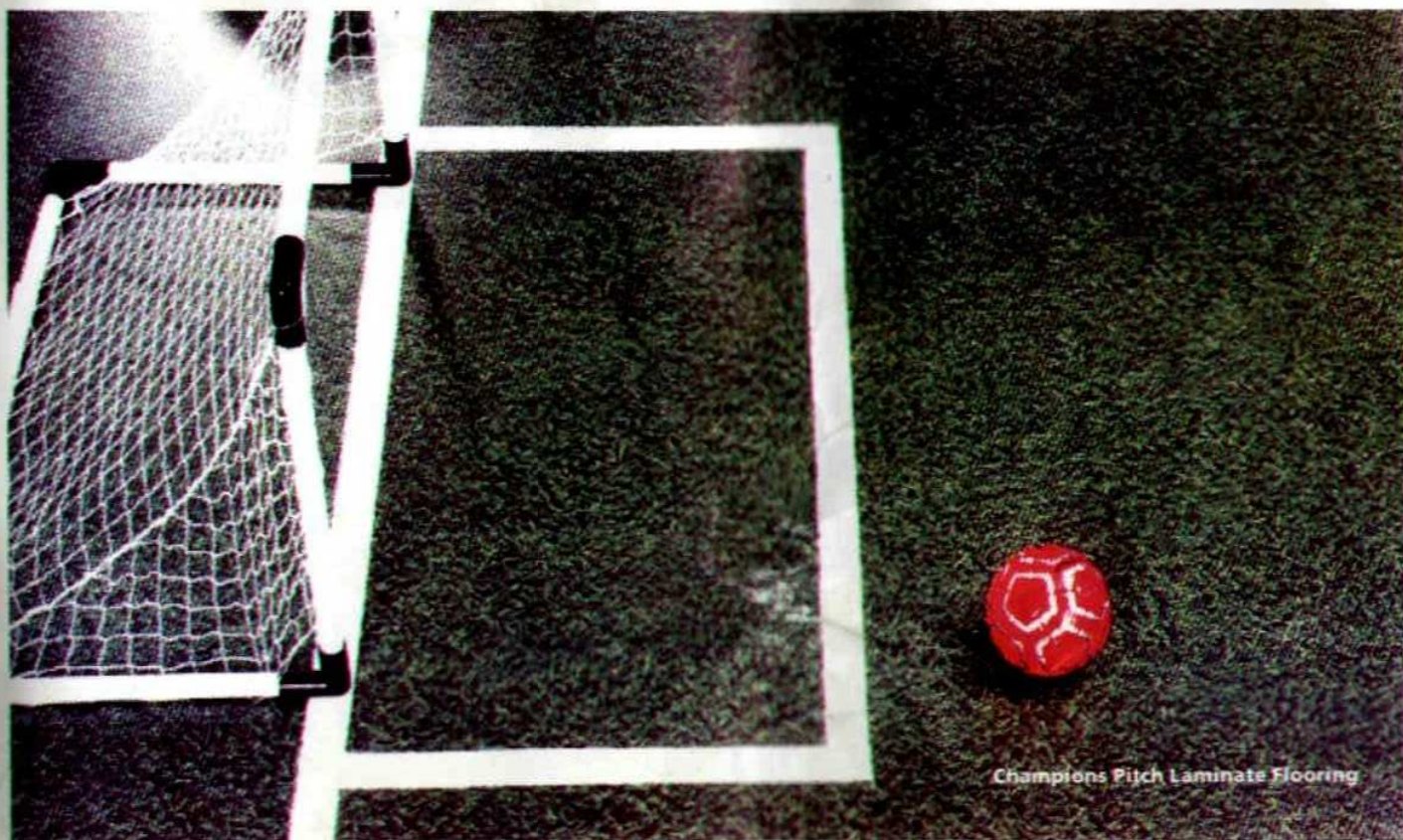
Comebacks & throwaways

| Won from | -3 | -2 | -1 | TOTAL | Lost from | +3 | +2 | +1 | TOTAL |
|--------------|----|----|----|-------|------------|----|----|----|-------|
| Chesterfield | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | Yeovil | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Bournemouth | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Barnsley | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Doncaster | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Blackpool | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Gillingham | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Bradford | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Scunthorpe | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Colchester | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Swindon | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Forest | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Walsall | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Swansea | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Drawn from | -3 | -2 | -1 | TOTAL | Drawn from | +3 | +2 | +1 | TOTAL |
| Bournemouth | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | MK Dons | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Hartlepool | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | Gillingham | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Brentford | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | Hartlepool | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Scunthorpe | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | Southend | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| | | | | | Walsall | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |

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walsall v swindon town - saturday, 3rd september 2005

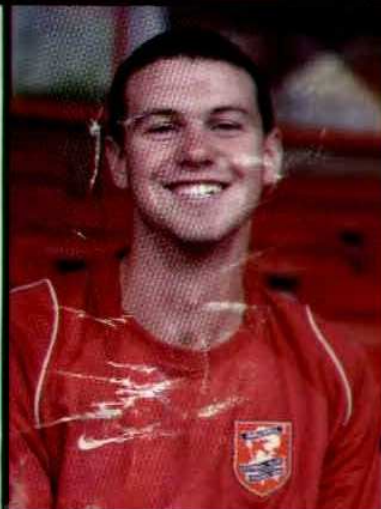
match essentials

walsall



swindon town

- 1 Andy Oakes
- 2 Craig Pead
- 3 Daniel Fox
- 4 Anthony Gerrard
- 5 Chris Westwood
- 6 Ian Roper
- 7 Michael Standing
- 8 Simon Osborn
- 9 Jorge Leitao
- 10 Paul Merson
- 11 Darren Wrack
- 12 Matty Fryatt
- 14 Mark Wright
- 15 Kris Taylor
- 16 Mark Kinsella
- 17 Julian Bennett
- 18 Joe Broad
- 19 Taiwo Atieno
- 20 Daryl Taylor
- 21 Rene Cilmartin
- 22 Sean Platt
- 23 Jonny Harkness
- 24 Scott Dann
- 25 Steve Staunton
- 26 Lee Vaughan
- 28 Paul Smith
- 29 Ruben Dario Larrosa



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- 1 Rhys Evans
- 2 Sean O'Hanlon
- 3 Jack Smith
- 4 Nicky Nicolau
- 5 Jerel Ilil
- 6 Steve Jenkins
- 7 Gareth Whalley
- 8 Rory Fallon
- 9 Tony Thorpe
- 10 Stefan Miglioranzi
- 11 Jamie Cureton
- 12 Ricky Shakes
- 13 Matthew Bulman
- 14 Alan Reeves
- 15 Andrew Nicholas
- 16 Kyle Lapham
- 17 Charlie Comyn-Platt
- 18 Christian Roberts
- 19 Michael Pook
- 20 Patrick Collins
- 21 Ben Wells
- 22 Andy Caton
- 23 Nicky Summerbee
- 25 Colin Heath
- 26 Tom Heaton
- 27 Andrew Gurney

REFEREE: T. M. Kettle

ASSISTANT REFEREE: K. G. Evans (plain flag) ASSISTANT REFEREE: D. J. Hine (red/yellow flag)

FOURTH OFFICIAL: O. Langford

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