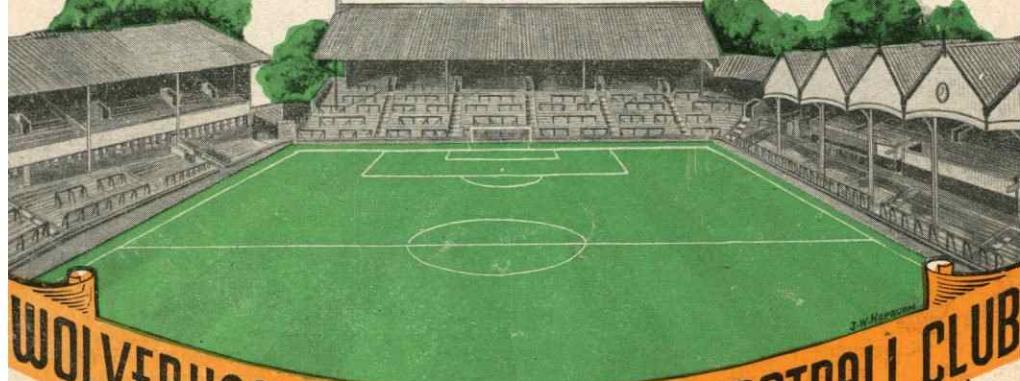


SEASON

1955-56

OUT-OF
DARKNESS-COMETH
LIGHT.



Official Programme

3^d WINNERS F.A. CUP
1892-3 1907-8 1948-9

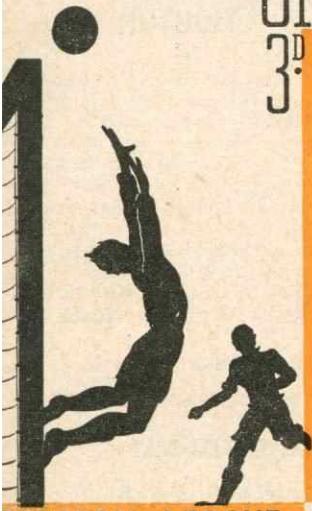
FINALISTS
1888-9 1895-6 1920-1 1938-9

WINNERS FOOTBALL LEAGUE
(WAR) CUP 1941-2

CHAMPIONS

Div. I	-	-	1953-4
Div. II	-	-	1931-2
Div. III (North)	-	-	1923-4
Central League	1931-2, 1950-1-2-3		

Runners-up Div. I
1937-8-9 1949-50 1954-5



FOOTBALL LEAGUE



FIRST DIVISION

FOOTBALL LEAGUE — FIRST DIVISION

MOLINEUX GROUNDS, WOLVERHAMPTON
(Covered Accommodation for 30,000)

SATURDAY, MARCH 17th, 1956
Match No. 33. Kick-off 3 p.m.

Shirts:
Gold
RIGHT

WOLVES

Knickers:
Black
LEFT

WILLIAMS

STUART 2 SHORTHOUSE 3

SLATER 4 WRIGHT 5 FLOWERS 6

HANCOCKS 7 BROADBENT 8 WILSHAW 9 BOOTH 10 MULLEN 11

Linesman—Yellow Flag
H. HORNER
(Kenilworth)

Referee—
A. E. MOORE
(Lowestoft)

Linesman—Red Flag
J. C. NICHOLAS
(Chippenham, Wilts.)

ADAM 11 PEARCE 10 GREGORY 9 TURNER 8 DAVIES 7

SHANKS 6 KELLY 5 MORTON 4

JONES 3 DUNNE 2

BAYNHAM

LEFT

Shirts:
White

LUTON TOWN

Knickers:
Black
RIGHT

THE TEAMS ARE SUBJECT TO ALTERATION



To COMPLETE enjoyment
ALL WOLVES FANS ASK FOR
BUTLER'S BOTTLED BITTER

Wolverhampton Wanderers Football Club (1923) Limited

Wolves 1, Luton 2 PS. WOLVERHAMPTON

GALLANT Luton. Reduced to nine fit men at times, they out-played these insipid Wolves and romped to their double of the season. And there was never any question about the result, with Wolves, once the fastest team in English football, slow, apathetic and purposeless.

Two players alone made any presence of displaying their usual form in this Wolves side—Broadbent and Slater.

Eighteen-year-old Tony Gregory outwitted Billy Wright more than once and scored his first League goal four minutes before the interval. It also proved to be the match winner.

Wolves' only chance to dominate the game came early on, when Broadbent switched beautiful pass to Wilshaw.

The centre forward vshot and, as the ball rebounded from the upright, so Wolves' chance of taking a quick lead disappeared.

Luton's goal was a brilliant one. United, Adam took a corner from the left a goall and his wing colleague Davies, running into the middle, left Williams

gasping with a flick of the head, which Wolves never matched. with Tottenham Hotspur could not be played because Spurs were cup-tied; and even the floodlit game with Bilbao had to be called off.

Now that they are back in action again, let us hope it is to provide us with something of the best, if only to compensate for the long absence.

NEWCOMERS TO THE TOP FLIGHT

AND now for the welcome to Luton Town who, in their first season in the First Division have met with truly mixed fortunes. Some of their earlier results, including their 5-1 defeat of our own team at Kenilworth Road, and the subsequent thrashing of Sunderland on the same ground were distinctly heartening to them.

Since then however, they have had a series of misfortunes and like ourselves have been plagued by a succession of injuries. These had much to do with a run of reverse results but they came into their own again with a surprise victory at Roker Park to give them the undoubted distinction of a double over one of the outstanding clubs in the land.

They are welcome to Molineux where, it may be recalled, we last saw them in a cup replay with Blackpool a few years ago. And if they play as well as they did in the earlier fixture we are in for some thrills.

AMONG PROFESSIONAL PIONEERS

ALTHOUGH they have taken such a long time to reach the First Division, Luton Town are one of the older clubs in the country, having been in existence since 1885. It is interesting in view of their subsequent rise to fame to note that they were among the first of the southern clubs to take professional players into their ranks. That was as long ago as 1891.

For many years they were stalwarts of the old Southern League, after a short spell in the Second Division. They also commanded respect during their Third Division days and when they eventually went into the Second Division again they proved worthy opponents for all and sundry.

We have a recent link with the Town inasmuch as it was to them that Jesse Pye went a few seasons ago to become a most popular forward with the Hatters and to play no small part in their rise to the upper crust of the Second Division.

BACK TO THE FRAY

IT was on the Birmingham City ground that our first eleven came back to the fray on Saturday after their enforced three weeks rest. After the fighting show put up by the Blues towards the end of the game there will be a lot of people interested today in the progress of their semi-final tie against Sunderland.

The Blues are to be complimented on something else too — the improvements they have made to their ground as part of the rebuilding scheme after the wartime damage.

THERE'S A BUSY TIME AHEAD

WE shall soon be entering on the busy Easter period, with three matches in four days but that is not all. There are the re-arranged matches with Tottenham Hotspur (at home) and Sheffield United (away).

There is a possibility too, depending on what happens between Spurs and Manchester City at Villa Park today, of a semi-final replay here next Wednesday.

A week later we are staging the annual Inter-Services match the opponents on this occasion being the Army and the R.A.F.

Today's Topical Talk

LET'S get away from all the politics and into the fresh air of the field of play. It's The Cup semi-finals today and while Birmingham City are battling at Sheffield for the Midlands, Manchester City are seeking, over the way at Villa Park, to bring about an important Double Event.

Manchester believes it can scoop the pool — by taking the League Championship to Old Trafford through the impressive United and the Cup to Maine Road.

Has one place ever bagged both honours? Yes. Preston North End (1889) and Aston Villa (1897) both won League and Cup. That's old news. Otherwise, only one city has celebrated both honours simultaneously — Liverpool won the League and Everton the Cup in 1906. It's this record which Cottonopolis is now challenging.

PRIZE COLLECTIONS

HERE have been other notable celebrations. Thus Lancashire in 1928 performed the hat-trick by winning the Cup (Blackburn Rovers), Division One (Everton) and Division Two (Manchester City).

In 1950 the South had its shout, with Arsenal (Cup), Portsmouth (First Division) and Spurs (Second Division) all triumphant, but London has never cornered both the leading crowns.

In 1954 the Wolves (League Champions) and Albion (Cup winners) brought the game's principal honours to this corner of the world, and these have been the principal localised prize-collections.

THE SHADOW

CAN Manchester do the double? The League title seems to be going to the United, on merit, and the City's 4-0 win at the Hawthorns was a "Who's-going-to-stop-us!" sort of threat to the Spurs in the Aston semi-final today.

They say, too, that coming events cast a shadow. Well, a year ago the City were beaten in the Final-tie by Newcastle, and it has several times happened at Wembley that the losers of one season reappear as winners the season after.

It was so in 1934-35 when the same Manchester City club were beaten by Everton and twelve months later won the Cup by beating Portsmouth. It was so in 1937-38 when Preston lost to Sunderland and reappeared to beat Huddersfield Town. It was so in 1945-46 when Charlton fell to Derby and returned to reclaim the Cup by beating Burnley.

Is this a strange series of happenings to be continued? Will losers become winners at Wembley for the fourth time in only 18 seasons?

Incidentally, Villa Park has one poignant memory for the Spurs. When they were dominating the semi-final there in 1953 Alf Ramsey, International full-back now manager at Ipswich, turned to tap the ball to his goalkeeper in the closing stages of the game, failed to send it far enough, and up came a Blackpool man to score the winning goal. By the little things are great events decided . . . Blackpool won the Cup.

by Ivan Sharpe

"THE CLOWN PRINCE"

BIRMINGHAM'S chances in the other semi-final may turn largely on what they are able to do about the unpredictable Leonard Shackleton, who doesn't seem to mind the title of "Clown Prince of Soccer." I've just seen him again — at Everton.

Once he tap, tap, tapped the ball three times on his instep, and still beat his man. Nine times in ten his trickeries came off, and it was Shackleton's embroidery — unguessability — that turned an ordinary-looking Sunderland attack into a goal-snatching, victorious combination.

As Manager Arthur Turner was watching, Birmingham may be well-prepared for that sort of thing this afternoon. Can anyone tell what Shackleton will do next? Does he know himself?

LUTON TOWN

AND talking of unguessability, is there anything quite so uncertain as football form? Take today's Molineux guests from Luton, once the home of the well-dressed young man's straw hat.

On the season's opening day came surprise Number One — I saw Preston play like League Champions and beat Everton by four goals at Goodison Park. So I went to see them again, playing Luton at Preston, four days later. Surprise Number Two: Luton were the stars, and MacEwan from South Africa at centre-forward played with all the zeal and zip of Nat Lofthouse.

Now Preston are worried about relegation, and Luton have only just won their first home point of 1956. Vagaries of form may be the spice of football but that isn't how club managers describe them.

NEW BOY

AROUND November, Luton had a boom and in that time the Wolves (15) weren't the only team to take a tumble. Now they are in the second half of the League table, and well pleased, I guess, to be no nearer the relegation zone.

Their appearance at Molineux introduces Ron Bayham, England goalkeeper — the young man from Birmingham who was found by the Bedfordshire club in the ranks of Worcester City and who played well enough to replace an International goalkeeper in Bernard Stretton. Another son of Birmingham, Syd Owen, has rendered sterling service at centre-half.

There's a noticeable Irish accent in this camp as Seamus Dunn, Tom Aherne and George Cummins are all from those parts, while a new youngster of 18, Tony Gregory, has just made his debut in the League team at centre-forward. He received good reports for ball-control. Now on with the game.



1st with the latest - SPORTING STAR

FIRST DIVISION

1955						
Aug. 20	—West Bromwich A.	(0-1)	a	1-1		
“	24—Portsmouth	(0-0)	a	1-2		
“	27—Manchester City	(2-2)	h	7-2		
“	31—Portsmouth	(2-2)	h	3-1		
Sept. 3	—Cardiff City	(2-3)	a	9-1		
“	10—Huddersfield Town	(6-4)	h	4-0		
“	17—Blackpool	(2-0)	a	1-2		
“	24—Chelsea	(3-4)	h	2-1		
Oct. 1	—Bolton Wanderers	(1-6)	a	1-2		
“	8—Manchester United	(4-2)	a	3-4		
“	15—Sheffield United	(4-1)	h	3-2		
“	22—Newcastle United	(3-2)	a	1-3		
“	29—Birmingham City	(—)	h	1-0		
Nov. 5	—Luton Town	(—)	a	1-5		
“	12—Charlton Athletic	(2-1)	h	2-0		
“	19—Tottenham Hotspur	(2-3)	a	1-2		
“	26—Everton	(1-3)	h	1-0		
Dec. 3	—Preston North End	(3-3)	a	0-2		
“	10—Burnley	(5-0)	h	3-1		
“	17—West Bromwich A.	(4-0)	h	3-2		
“	24—Manchester City	(0-3)	a	2-2		
“	26—Arsenal	(3-1)	h	3-3		
“	27—Arsenal	(1-1)	a	2-2		
“	31—Cardiff City	(1-1)	h	0-2		
1956						
Jan. 2	—Sunderland	(0-0)	a	1-1		
“	7—West Bromwich A. (F.A.C. 3)	h	1-2			
“	14—Huddersfield Town	(0-2)	a	3-1		
“	21—Blackpool	(1-0)	h	2-3		
“	28—(4)					
Feb. 4	—Chelsea	(0-1)	a	3-2		
“	11—Bolton Wanderers	(1-2)	h	4-2		
“	18—(5) Manchester United	(4-2)	h	0-2		
Mar. 10	—Birmingham City	(—)	a	0-0		
“	17—Luton Town	(—)	h			
“	24—Charlton Athletic	(3-1)	a			
“	31—Newcastle United	(2-2)	h			
April 2	—Aston Villa	(1-0)	h			
“	3—Aston Villa	(2-4)	a			
“	9—Sheffield United	(2-1)	a			
“	7—Everton	(2-3)	a			
“	14—Preston North End	(1-1)	h			
“	18—Tottenham Hotspur	(4-2)	h			
“	21—Burnley	(0-1)	a			
“	28—Sunderland	(2-0)	h			

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OTHER MATCHES

Aug. 7	Spartak 3, Wolves 0, in Moscow.
Aug. 12	Dynamo 3, Wolves 2, in Moscow.
Nov. 9	Wolves 2, Dynamo 1 (Floodlight), at Molineux.
Jan. 28	Wolves 5, San Lorenzo 1, at Molineux.
Mar. 14	Wolves v. Bilbao (Floodlight) at Molineux.
Rd. 1—W.B.A. 0, Wolves 6. Rd 2—Stoke City 2, Wolves 3. Rd. 3—Wolves 3, Coventry City 1	
Rd. 4—Wolves 9, Peterborough United 0. Rd. 5—Bolton Wanderers 2, Wolves 0.	
Mar. 28	Army v. R.A.F., at Molineux.

FIRST DIVISION

	P. W. D. L. F. A. P.
MAN UTD	34 20 7 7 69 45 47
BLACKPOOL	33 17 7 9 73 51 41
MAN CITY	32 14 9 9 62 50 37
NEWCASTLE	34 16 4 14 74 53 36
SUNDERLAND	32 14 7 11 65 71 35
WOLVES	31 14 6 11 68 53 34
BIRMINGHAM	33 13 8 12 60 48 34
BOLTON	32 14 6 12 56 41 34
CARDIFF C	33 14 6 13 47 56 34
BURNLEY	33 13 8 12 49 43 34
PORTSM'TH	33 14 6 13 65 72 34
ALBION	33 15 4 14 48 54 34
CHARLTON	34 14 5 15 68 67 33
EVERTON	34 12 9 13 47 54 33
LUTON T	33 13 6 14 54 50 32
CHELSEA	33 12 8 13 51 64 32
ARSENAL	33 11 9 13 46 57 31
PRESTON	34 11 6 17 60 62 28
TOTTENH'M	31 11 5 15 41 46 27
SHEFF. UTD	31 10 5 16 45 55 25
HUDDERSF'D	33 9 6 18 41 74 24
ASTON VILLA	33 6 11 16 37 61 23

CENTRAL LEAGUE

	P. W. D. L. F. A. P.
MAN UTD	33 24 6 3 96 28 54
LIVERPOOL	33 20 10 3 79 43 50
EVERTON	34 20 8 6 69 40 48
BLACKPOOL	32 15 7 11 65 50 37
SHEF WED	31 14 8 9 59 45 36
BURNLEY	33 14 8 11 63 60 36
ALBION	32 15 6 11 72 57 36
PRESTON	33 12 10 12 38 42 34
WOLVES	33 16 1 16 74 60 33
ASTON VILLA	31 11 10 10 56 50 32
BURY	32 14 4 14 57 71 32
SHEF TD	33 12 8 13 38 40 32
BLACKBURN	34 12 7 15 50 62 31
MAN CITY	32 12 4 16 63 68 28
DERBY CO	33 9 8 16 38 41 26
BOLTON	31 9 7 15 28 39 25
NEWCASTLE	30 9 7 14 50 59 25
STOKE	32 7 11 4 34 62 25
HUDDERSF'D	30 8 8 14 50 65 24
LEEDS	31 9 5 17 50 61 23
BARNESLEY	33 8 5 20 37 82 21
CHESTERF'D	31 7 6 18 40 63 20

1956

CENTRAL LEAGUE

	1955
Aug. 20	—Newcastle United (2-0) h 6-2
“	22—Liverpool (1-1) h 1-2
“	27—Manchester City (3-1) a 0-1
“	29—Liverpool (2-1) a 2-3
Sept. 3	—Sheffield Wednesday (2-3) h 3-1
“	10—Huddersfield Town (1-2) a 1-3
“	14—Stoke City (8-0) h 5-0
“	17—Blackburn Rovers (3-1) h 4-0
“	21—Chesterfield (3-1) h 6-1
Oct. 1	—Bolton Wanderers (0-1) h 1-0
“	8—Derby County (5-0) h 5-0
“	15—West Bromwich A. (3-3) a 1-3
“	22—Everton (1-0) h 3-1
“	29—Barnsley (2-0) a 2-1
Nov. 5	—Bury (4-1) h 4-2
“	12—Leeds United (3-1) a 1-3
“	19—Burnley (1-1) h 6-2
Dec. 3	—Preston North End (1-4) a 0-4
“	3—Sheffield United (3-1) h 2-0
“	10—Manchester United (2-3) a 0-4
“	17—Newcastle United (3-2) a 2-4
“	24—Manchester City (2-2) h 4-4
“	27—Chesterfield (2-0) a 0-4
“	31—Sheffield Wednesday (0-0) a 2-0

	1956
Jan. 7	—Huddersfield Town (0-1) h 5-1
“	21—Blackburn Rovers (0-3) a 1-2
“	28—(4)
Feb. 4	—Blackpool (3-1) h 0-1
“	11—Bolton Wanderers (2-1) a 1-0
“	18—Derby County (3-1) a 2-5
“	25—West Bromwich A. (4-2) h 4-3
Mar. 3	—Everton (1-2) a 0-1
“	10—Barnsley (1-1) h 0-1
“	17—Bury (1-0) a
“	24—Leeds United (5-0) h
“	31—Burnley (1-2) a
April 2	—Aston Villa (1-2) a
“	3—Aston Villa (5-0) h
“	7—Preston North End (1-0) h
“	14—Sheffield United (1-1) a
“	21—Manchester United (0-1) h
“	28—Stoke City (1-0) a

LAST SATURDAY — BIRMINGHAM CITY v. WOLVES



One of the many thrilling incidents during the game at St. Andrews last Saturday. Blues goalkeeper gathers the ball safely as Deeley challenges from the wing.

WOLVES MATCHES AND TEAMS

MARCH 10th, 1956

Worcestershire Combination

v. Quarry Bank (h) 5-1.

Sidebottom, Wickers, Deakin, Ogden, Hall, Slater, Instone, Hickman, Parsonage, Pillinger, Bagnall.

Scorer: Bagnall 3, Instone, Parsonage.

RESULTS

Walsall Minor League

F. H. Lloyd's 0, Wolves 8.

FIRST DIVISION

Central League
Match No. 34

NEXT MATCHES AT MOLINEUX
Leeds United Reserves 3 p.m.

SATURDAY NEXT, MARCH 24th, 1956

First Division
Match No. 35

NEWCASTLE UNITED 3 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31st, 1956

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TO-DAY'S
SCOREBOARD

A MANCHESTER CITY
 TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR
B SUNDERLAND
 BIRMINGHAM CITY
C ARSENAL
 MANCHESTER UNITED
D BLACKPOOL
 NEWCASTLE UNITED
E BOLTON WANDERERS
 WEST BROM. ALBION
F HUDDERSFIELD TOWN
 EVERTON
G PORTSMOUTH
 SHEFFIELD UNITED
H BLACKBURN ROVERS
 WEST HAM UNITED
I BRISTOL ROVERS
 FULHAM
J DONCASTER ROVERS
 BURY
K HULL CITY
 BRISTOL CITY

M LEICESTER CITY
 ROTHERHAM UNITED
N LINCOLN CITY
 PORT VALE
P LIVERPOOL
 SWANSEA TOWN
Q NOTTINGHAM FOREST
 MIDDLESBROUGH
R PLYMOUTH ARGYLE
 NOTTS COUNTY
S STOKE CITY
 LEEDS UNITED
T BRENTFORD
 SHREWSBURY TOWN
U READING
 WALSALL
V BURY RSERVES
 WOLVES RESERVES
W

X

Y

FIRST DIVISION

APPEARANCES			GOALSCORERS	
League	Cup	League	League	Cup
Broadbent	29	1	Smith	2
Shorthouse	27	1	Russell	1
Wright	27	1	McDonald	1
Hancocks	26	1	Mason	1
Clamp	26	1	Jones	1
Williams	26	1		
Stuart	26	1		
Mullen	25	1		
Slater	24	1		
Booth	20	1		
Flowers	15	1		
Wilshaw	15			
Murray	15			
Swinbourne	14			
Showell	8			
Deeley	7			
Sims	5			

CENTRAL LEAGUE

APPEARANCES			GOALSCORERS			
League	Cup	League	League	Cup		
Howells	25	Booth	8	Smith	11	
Deeley	24	Bonson	8	McDonald	11	
Swinbourne	17	Thomson	22	Clamp	6	
Hancocks	17	Showell	22	Mullen	6	
Broadbent	9	Russell	22	Jackson	6	
Wright	8	Sims	22	Wilshaw	5	
Mason	8	McDonald	21	Taylor	4	
Jones	4	Clamp	19	Lill	4	
Jones	3	Wilshaw	19	Middleton	3	
Mullen	3	Booth	18	Stuart	3	
Slater	2	Wilshaw	18	Broadbent	2	
Booth	2	McDonald	16	Harris	2	
Flowers	1	Shorthouse	13	Clark	2	
Wilshaw	1	Clamp	13	Slater	2	
Murray	1	Flowers	13	Walmsley	2	
		Own Goal	10	Hancocks	2	
			Dwyer	Showell	2	
			Flowers	9	Timmins	2
			Burden	1		
			Beavon	9		
			Mason	8		
			Stobart	8		
			Timmins	8		

(Up to and including March 10th, 1956)



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