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the saddler

Official Matchday Magazine of Walsall F.C.



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WALSALL
versus
LUTON TOWN

**Tuesday,
20th February 2001
Kick-off: 7.45pm**

Nationwide League Division Two



ORIGINAL QUALITY TIMELESS UNIQUE UNSPOLT



BANKS'S

Original

PLAYER'S POT-POURRI



Youngster, Mark Wright tells us his favourites....

Favourite colour?

Red.

Favourite food and drink?

Chicken & rice and water.

Favourite newspaper?

The Sun.

Favourite book?

David Beckham's autobiography.

Favourite group/singer?

No favourite group, but I enjoy garage music and soul.

Favourite team-mate?

Karl Hawley - we have progressed through the Centre of Excellence, youth team and reserves together.

Favourite item of clothing?

My trainers.

Favourite film?

The Shawshank Redemption.

Favourite actor?

Samuel A. Jackson.

Favourite TV programme?

Match of the Day.

Favourite place?

My home in Wolverhampton.

Favourite away ground?

Highbury.

Favourite day of the week?

Saturday - when we are playing football.

manager's corner

Ray Graydon reflects on a battling comeback at Bournemouth and looks forward to two home games in quick succession....

an extremely hard-earned point against another improving team.

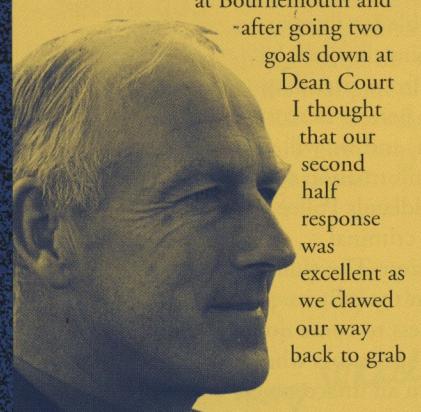
I was delighted for Darren Byfield; he did not have a particularly easy week in the build up to the game, attending a family funeral and only travelling down to link up with us on the south coast on the Friday. However, he came on full of determination and got his reward by heading home his second goal of the week after netting a similar effort for the reserves last Wednesday.

Strong Position

There is another tough game in prospect on Saturday as we play host to Wrexham, but one glance at the current League table will tell you that we are still very much in a strong position and if we can make a swift return to the home form that I know we are capable of then we can strengthen that position over the next few days.

The backing and support which we received at Bournemouth was excellent and a vital ingredient in our comeback, so we will be looking for more of the same not only this evening but for the rest of the vital run-in to the end of the season which lies ahead. I know that you can do it....

Best Wishes,



Ray Graydon

Saddlers on the Net - www.saddlers.co.uk

bescot beat all the latest Club news with Roy Whalley

All-Ticket' decision on Millwall game

Our home game against Millwall on Saturday, March 31st has all the makings of a crucial promotion encounter. It is a game that looks certain to attract a big crowd, and that includes large travelling contingent from Millwall. After consultations with West Midlands Police, we have decided to make this game an 'all-ticket' affair. Tickets for the home

selections are now on sale from the Bescot Stadium Ticket Office and The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre at usual first-team prices.

Please note that on instructions from West Midlands Police, no tickets will be sold on the day of the game and there will be no cash turnstiles.

Coin throwing' could spell trouble

The 'coin throwing' incident towards the end of the Bury match on February 10th made what had already been a miserable afternoon even worse.

What on earth possesses people to do such stupid things?



Club news with Roy Whalley

It was plain for all to see that the Bury goalkeeper spent the afternoon wasting time without receiving any kind of reprimand from the referee. I have also received reports from stewards that the Bury 'keeper made obscene gestures towards fans on the Gilbert Alsop terrace. These factors, it has been argued, incited the crowd to behave in this aggressive manner.

The view of the club is quite simple. No matter what the circumstances, or the provocation; coin throwing can never be justified. The referee will report the incident to The Football Association who, in turn, has powers to impose a fine on the club. Worse still, throwing coins can cause major injury.

Let me make clear, if we can identify who was responsible for throwing those coins they will be banned from attending matches here at Bescot Stadium, and we will pass on the information to West Midlands Police for possible criminal prosecution. The club has shown in the past its willingness to come down hard on spectators who behave in an unacceptable

manner, and will continue to do so in the future.

Keep your Bournemouth ticket safe

Those supporters who travelled to Bournemouth on Saturday should retain their ticket stubs from this game to give themselves a chance of obtaining tickets for the trip to Northampton for the last match of the season on Saturday, May 5th.

Priority for the Northampton game will be given to season-ticket holders with a specified number of away ticket stubs, followed by season-ticket holders without ticket stubs and finally to non season-ticket holders with a specified number of away ticket stubs.

Cup action tomorrow

We travel to Moor Green for a Birmingham Senior Cup fourth round tie tomorrow evening (kick-off 7.30pm).

More home action this Saturday

There is more Nationwide League action here at Bescot Stadium

this coming Saturday, February 24th (kick-off 3.00pm), with the visit of Wrexham.

50/50 Draw

Results from the game against Bury on February 10th are as follows:

1st Prize - £182.95p - No.: 1503 - Winner: Paul Whitehouse, Darlaston.

2nd Prize - £25.00p - No.: 0505 - Winner: Tim Dowie, Tamworth.

3rd Prize - £25.00p - No.: 0302 - Winner: John Cooper, Walsall.

The competition continues today. Tickets are £1.00p each and will be on sale both inside and outside the stadium before the game. Results will be announced at half-time, and winnings can be collected from the Reception Office immediately after today's game.

Walsall on the Worldwide Web

www.saddlers.co.uk

The fastest growing form of communication that the club now has with supporters is undoubtedly via the Official Walsall

FC web-site - www.saddlers.co.uk

Over 5,000 visits are made each week, and the quality of the site now ranks with any club in the country. We have live match commentary (thanks to Walsall Invest and BBC Radio WM), all the very latest news and information direct from Bescot Stadium, match

reports within half-an-hour of the final whistle at all home games, player profiles, Centre of Excellence news, Community Programme news, club history and lots more.

Remember to use Walsall ClubCall - 09068-555 800

For all the very latest news and information from Bescot Stadium, ring Walsall ClubCall on 09068-555 800.

Stay on the ball with Walsall ClubCall!

Have you registered for the QuizMatch?

The newest and most exciting addition to the Official Walsall FC website is QuizMatch. This is a fantastic FREE new football trivia game.

You can test your knowledge and represent your club on-line against other clubs.

So what is it all about? There are 11 questions and 1,200 points to be won. The questions range across the World of football and will test the knowledge of every football fan. If you get over 950 points whenever you play, you'll win a place in The QuizMatch Champions League every Friday which gives you the chance to win some superb prizes.

Every time you compete your points will go towards your club. The more points you win, the higher Walsall will rise in the table. Since there will be promotion and relegation, every week Walsall has the chance to take the top spot.

So get on to the Official Walsall FC web-site - www.saddlers.co.uk and get playing....



Here we see our Matchday Mascot for the LDV Vans Trophy tie against Wigan Athletic last month alongside one of his Walsall FC heroes, Darren Wrack.

A Warm Welcome to our Match Sponsors - Hallmark Cars Ltd.

Like the Royal Navy, Walsall FC always travels first class.

And the reason for that is because the club employs one of the most prestigious coach companies in the country, Hallmark Cars Ltd. to provide first-team travel to away matches.

They provide a similar service for a number of Premiership and first division clubs, and provide coach transport for all the major sporting tournaments staged in Britain, including Euro '96.

Hallmark, based in Luton, but with a local branch at Coleshill, provide an executive standard of travel that ranks amongst the finest in the country.

We appreciate the service they provide for Walsall FC, and the support they are giving to our

commercial activities tonight as Match Sponsors.

We hope that our guests from Hallmark have an enjoyable and pleasant evening here at Bescot Stadium.

A Warm Welcome to our Matchball Sponsors - Banks's Brewery

Welcome back to Nigel Buet and his guests from Banks's Brewery, this evening's Matchball Sponsors.

No need to provide an introduction for Banks's. Club sponsors, shirt sponsors, stadium advertisers, match

sponsors and the suppliers of the best pint of beer in the UK - that's Banks's! Have a great time tonight, lads!

Thank you for your support. Enjoy the game....

Roy Whalley

Walsall Football Club Limited

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There's a brand new team at the heart of English football.

Football and the Government have teamed up in a new partnership to provide new lifeblood for the grass roots of English football - pumping financial support into the game that's so close to the hearts of so many. From parks pitches to professional football clubs, we'll be there to help everyone who loves football, providing a new generation of facilities for all



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Mick Kearns
(Community Liaison Officer)

Hello. Nice to see you....

After the disappointments of our last game here it is important that we can bounce straight back with a win against a Luton Town side who have struggled for much of the season.

With another home game following hot on the heels of this one on Saturday we have an ideal opportunity to pick up vital points.... Let's hope that we can do it!

As ever, your backing is going to play a key role so I hope to hear you all in good voice straight from the first whistle to the last.

Until next time!



Car supplied by ALDRIDGE
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swifty's chit-chat

RAILTRACK SIX-A-SIDE

Pool Hayes and St. Thomas of Canterbury Junior Schools are the latest qualifiers in the Railtrack-sponsored six-a-side competition for Junior Schools in the Walsall area. Congratulations go out to all involved there.

JUNIOR SADDLERS AWAY DAY

The next Junior Saddlers Away Day is to Meadow Lane, home of Notts County, on Saturday, March 3rd. Please see the notice board in The Junior Saddlers Room for further details.

WALSALL FC FEBRUARY HALF-TERM SOCCER SCHOOL

This week we are again holding our very successful Soccer Schools.

There are still a few places left on the two-day Soccer School that takes place right here at Bescot Stadium on

Swifty's Lucky 7

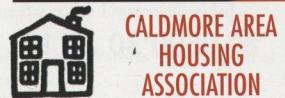
Swifty puts members of The Junior Saddlers under the spotlight...



RAILTRACK

• Together Keeping Kids Safe •

1. Name Amy Bills
2. Age 11
3. School: Shelfield Community School
4. Favourite Walsall Player: Dean Keates
5. Favourite TV Show: Friends
6. Favourite Pop Star/Group: 5ive
7. Favourite food: Chicken curry



CALDMORE AREA
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ASSOCIATION

BACKING OUR BALLBOYS

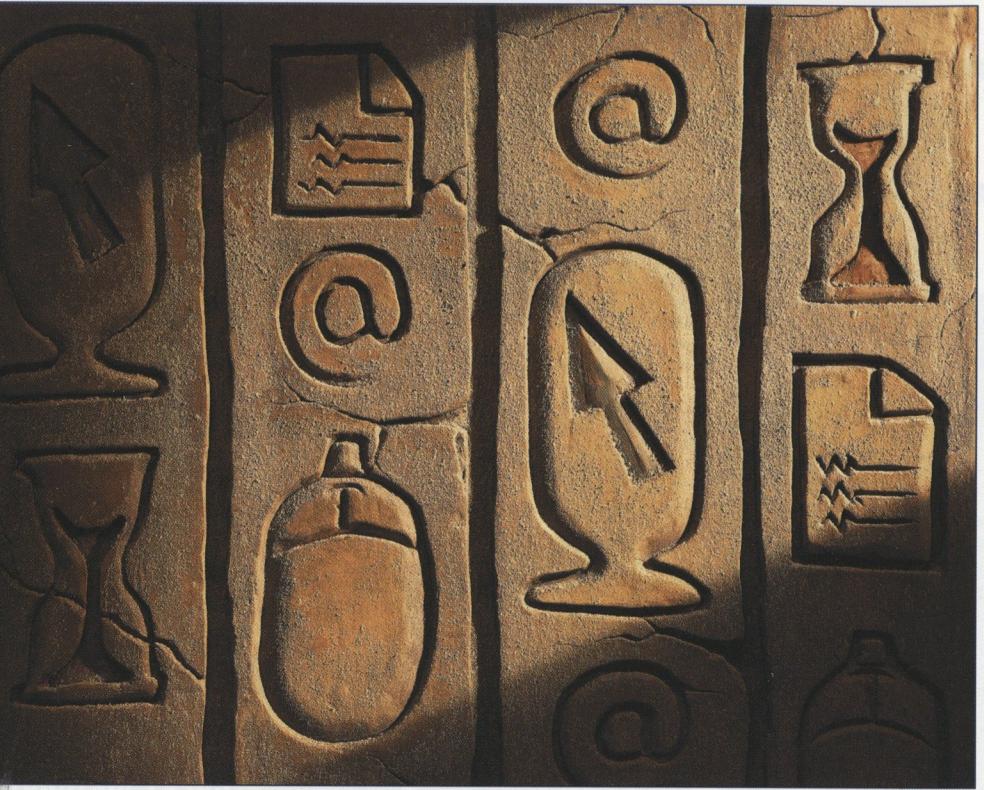
junior saddlers gallery

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:



Prior to our last home game against Bury, young Harry Boniface was on the pitch to receive a signed Walsall FC football from his hero James Walker as part of a Birthday Treat

Saddlers on the Net - www.saddlers.co.uk



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THE GREAT WALSALL FC YOUTH DEVELOPMENT WEATHER GAME - LATEST RESULTS AND WINNERS

Results for the week commencing Monday, February 5th are as follows:

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
Corfu	2	3	1	9	9
Istanbul	6	0	4	2	9
Tenerife	0	8	8	2	0
Innsbruck	1	9	1	7	5
Edinburgh	4	4	5	9	9
Stockholm	7	9	8	1	9

The Great Walsall FC Weather Game is operated to raise funds for the Youth Development Programme.

For just 20p per day, five days per week, you have the chance to win a £10,000 prize, with lots of other prizes ranging from £2.00p to £200. If you would like to join the competition, entry forms are available from Bescot Stadium, The Football Shop, or simply by calling Gemma on 01922-651 412.

The latest list of winners includes: Mrs Farmer (Kingswinford), Mr. D. Causton (Wolverhampton), Mr. I. Whale (Aldridge), Mr. M. Aulton (Brownhills), Mr. M. Taylor (Lichfield), Mr. P. J. Griffiths (Wednesfield), Mr. R. Langford (Dudley), Mr. S. Dutton (Clayhanger), Mr. D. Vale (Brownhills), Mrs. R. Birch (Pelsall), Mrs V. Wain (Mossley Estate), Mr. K. Shaw (Dudley), Mr. B. C. Varley (Sutton Coldfield).

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME JOB?

Are you looking for a part-time income? Offering very good commission, with unlimited earnings potential, and holiday incentive prizes when you hit your sales targets.

Interested? We would like you to sell The Great Weather Game to family and friends. You will be doing a very important job for Walsall FC, and giving yourself the chance to earn a good income

FORMER SADDLERS STARS JOIN ALLAN CLARKE AT BESCOT ON THURSDAY

It will be a tremendous night of nostalgia in The Bonser Suite this Thursday evening. Former Walsall starlet Allan Clarke is celebrity speaker, along with Frank Worthington and comedian Don Reid. In the audience will be an array of former Saddlers stars including Mick Kearns, Brian Caswell, Colin Harrison, Tony Richards, Colin Taylor, Frank Gregg, Stan Jones, Jimmy McMorran and Alan Roper, plus the man who brought Allan Clarke to Walsall FC, former Chief Scout Ron Jukes.

A big audience is assured and any remaining spaces can be reserved by telephone on 01922-651 412. Tickets cost £27.50p per person, inclusive of a five-course meal.

'BIG JACK' NEXT FOR BESCOT

Former England 1966 World Cup winning hero and Republic of Ireland manager, Jack Charlton OBE is celebrity speaker at our Sporting Dinner on Thursday, March 29th, together with that great comedian Mick Walker.

Tickets are £30.00p each, inclusive of a five-course meal, and reservations can now be made on 01922-651 414

CABARET NIGHT NEWS....

Full houses have enjoyed tremendous Cabaret Nights in The Bonser Suite during the past two weeks featuring The Syd Lawrence Orchestra and Singers, and then on Saturday The American Drifters provided a great night's entertainment.

The next Cabaret Night, on Friday, March 2nd, features Gary Gibson as John Lennon in 'A Tribute to John Lennon'. Gibson, who bears an uncanny resemblance to Lennon, and the

commercial break

'Anthology of The Beatles' Band, will provide the music and songs which made Lennon such a giant figure in the World of showbusiness. Tickets are £10.00p for the show, or £20.00p to include a four-course meal.

Then on Friday, March 23rd The Bonser Suite stages a Black Country Laughter Show, with Tommy Mundon, Lizzie Wiggins and Maggie O'Hara.

Again tickets are £10.00p for the show or £20.00p to include a delicious four-course meal.

Reservations for both show's can be made on 01922-651 414 or 01922-651 416, or by calling into The Bescot Stadium Ticket Office or The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre.

AMERICAN WRESTLING BACK AT BESCOT!

American Wrestling has a huge TV following in the UK, and if you want to see some of these stars in action, why not come along to see live American Wrestling in The Bonser Suite on Sunday, March 11th. The show starts at 6.00pm and there is two hours of non-stop action for this great family night out. Tickets are £10.00p (adults), £8.00p (juniors) or £25.00p for a Family Ticket (two adults and two children), and they are now on sale from Bescot Stadium and The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre. Alternatively you can book by telephone on 01922-651 416.

PRESENTATION TIME

For our televised clash with Rotherham United towards the end of last month, our good friends at Caldmore Area Housing Association did the honours as Match Sponsors and hidden somewhere within their guests is Zigor Aranalde who presented a signed Walsall FC football (picture A). It was a particularly pleasing evening for our Spanish full-back who earned the Man of the Match prize of a bottle of bubbly (picture B). Zigor was also the main man in The Swifts Club as he took home their Man of the Match prize which, as ever, was a crate of Banks's (picture C).

And finally, we were delighted to have A&D Barton and Sons (Pelsall) Ltd. as our Matchball Sponsors, for which they picked up a signed Walsall FC football as part of the sponsorship package (picture D).



Saddlers email - wfc@saddlers.co.uk

waiting in the wings



Avon Insurance League Division One AS AT 15/02/01

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wrexham	15	9	1	5	29	19	28
WALSALL	14	8	3	3	20	14	27
Sheffield United	13	7	2	4	18	12	23
Blackpool	15	7	1	7	19	25	22
York City	13	6	2	5	20	14	20
Shrewsbury Town	13	6	2	5	24	20	20
Stoke City	15	5	3	7	16	19	18
Grimsby Town	13	5	2	6	14	16	17
Wigan Athletic	14	5	1	8	15	24	16
Scunthorpe United	14	3	5	6	21	26	14
Darlington	12	4	1	7	12	21	13
Lincoln City	11	3	3	5	25	23	12

AVON INSURANCE LEAGUE 2000/2001 FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	F-A
Wed 16/8/00	York City (away)	1-1
Wed 30/8/00	Wigan Athletic (away)	3-2
Wed 6/9/00	Wrexham (away)	1-0
Wed 20/9/00	Lincoln City (home)	2-1
Wed 4/10/00	Blackpool (home)	2-0
Wed 11/10/00	Scunthorpe United (away)	1-4
Wed 25/10/00	Shrewsbury Town (away)	0-1
Wed 8/11/00	Grimsby Town (home)	1-1
Wed 15/11/00	Darlington (home)	3-0
Mon 20/11/00	Stoke City (away)	1-0
Wed 6/12/00	Sheffield United (home)	2-0
Wed 10/1/01	Wigan Athletic (home)	2-0
Wed 24/1/01	Sheffield United (away)	0-0
Wed 31/1/01	Bedworth United (away) (BSC 3)	3-0
Wed 14/2/01	Lincoln City (away)	1-4
Wed 21/2/01	Moor Green (away) (BSC 4)	
Wed 28/2/01	Blackpool (away)	
Wed 14/3/01	Scunthorpe United (home)	
Wed 28/3/01	Grimsby Town (away)	
Wed 11/4/01	Shrewsbury Town (home)	
Wed 18/4/01	Stoke City (home)	
Wed 25/4/01	Darlington (away)	
TBA	York City (home)	
TBA	Wrexham (home)	

All matches kick-off at 2.00pm and for the remainder of the season, home games will be played at the Victoria Ground, home of Bromsgrove Rovers FC.

OYSTER
VEHICLE MATCH Ltd.
01952 882288

on the verge

NAME: Dion Scott
POSITION: Defender
RESERVE TEAM APPEARANCES: 14
RESERVE TEAM GOALS: 1

Fielding a very youthful side, The Saddlers made progress into the fourth round of the Birmingham Senior Cup after coming away from Dr. Martens Western Division Bedworth United with a solid 3-0 success.

In what was a competitive game our lads worked well and acquitted themselves superbly against a decent non-League outfit who, particularly in the first half, were keen to get about us in an attempt to throw our youngsters out of their stride.

Credit

All credit to our lads who stood up to the challenge well, going in at the interval goalless before killing the game off with some good second half play.

Our first goal came from the penalty spot after Andy Bishop was fouled and he got up to dispatch the spot-kick with consummate ease. Bishop then doubled our advantage with his second goal of the evening as he anticipated a fine cross from the left by Xavier Barraud to nip in front of the 'keeper and give us a bit of a cushion.

Comfortable

After the second goal we looked much more comfortable as the game petered out and we rounded

off our performance with a third goal following more good play down the left wing as the ball eventually reached Nick Smith who showed good control before turning sharply and beating the 'keeper with a decisive shot.

All in all we were delighted with the performance, especially considering that our side was very inexperienced. We now face a fourth round tie away at Moor Green, which should provide us with another stern test.

Walsall: Bate, Joseph, Teesdale, Hunt, Paschal, Stanley, Smith, Campbell (Gaunt), Barraud, Bishop, Hawley. Sub not used: Wright.

Mick Halsall



FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE 2000/2001 FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	F-A
Sat 19/8/00	Chesterfield (home)	4-1
Sat 26/8/00	Rotherham United (away)	6-1
Sat 2/9/00	Macclesfield Town (home)	3-1
Sat 9/9/00	West Bromwich Albion (away)	2-1
Sat 16/9/00	Mansfield Town (home)	2-0
Sat 23/9/00	Port Vale (away)	1-0
Sat 30/9/00	In Service Training	
Sat 7/10/00	Sheffield United (home)	3-8
Fri 13/10/00	Shrewsbury Town (home)	6-0
Sat 21/10/00	Notts County (away)	2-1
Sat 28/10/00	West Bromwich Albion (home)	1-1
Sat 18/11/00	Sheffield United (away)	3-0
Sat 25/11/00	Port Vale (home)	4-1
Sat 9/12/00	In Service Training	
Sat 16/12/00	Notts County (home)	3-0
Wed 20/12/00	Chester City (FLY Cup)	3-1
Sat 23/12/00	Mansfield Town (away)	4-2
Sat 6/1/01	Macclesfield Town (FLY Cup)	0-0
Sat 13/1/01	Chesterfield (away)	3-1
Mon 22/1/01	Shrewsbury Town (away)	3-1
Fri 26/1/01	Rotherham United (home)	4-1
Sat 10/2/01	Macclesfield Town (away)	2-0

All matches 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 – CENTRAL CONFERENCE

AS AT 11/2/01

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
WALSALL	18	16	1	1	56	20	49
Sheffield United	17	12	3	2	50	23	39
Notts County	17	6	5	6	40	27	23
Rotherham United	18	6	4	8	26	40	22
West Bromwich Albion	17	6	3	8	24	26	21
Chesterfield	17	6	3	8	25	36	21
Mansfield Town	18	5	4	9	22	31	19
Port Vale	17	4	5	8	22	34	17
Macclesfield Town	15	4	4	7	18	29	16
Shrewsbury Town	16	1	6	9	20	37	9

Walsall
TEC Proud sponsors of the
Walsall FC Youth team

A wet and windy Monday afternoon in Shrewsbury doesn't instantly evoke exciting images, but mention this to the Walsall FC youth team players and they will tell you differently as it was scene of our first, and hopefully not last, Championship success of the season as the young Saddlers clinched The Football League Youth Alliance - Central Conference title after leading the way for some time.

Going into the game we knew that at least a draw would be good enough to see us home and dry, however in difficult conditions our nerves seemed to get the better of us early on as we went a goal down to an ever improving Shrewsbury side.

Nevertheless we soon got into our stride, playing some excellent football and always looking as though we would score at some stage. Sure enough in the second half we eventually hauled ourselves level through Nick Smith and at this point there was only going to be one winner.

Pattern Of Play

It was pleasing to see the lads keep the pattern of play and create chances even when things were not going all our own way. At youth team level this is not always the case and in the end I was delighted with the discipline and determination which was displayed by our boys as the lively Andy Bishop and substitute Jamie Campbell went on to add further goals to clinch maximum points. It was fitting that our third and final goal was the 50th

that we have scored in 16 League games, and now with two games still to play we can look forward to entering the Merit League where we will take the opportunity to look towards next season by fielding some of the lads who haven't had much of a chance so far and bringing in a number of potential new scholars.

Team Effort

For the time being though, everyone involved with the youth team can be justifiably proud of their efforts so far. With 14 wins and just one defeat from 16 League games it really has been a team effort by all concerned. Walsall: Bate, Paschal, Joseph, Gaunt, Hunt, Wright (Worley), Smith, Stanley, Barraud (Campbell), Bishop, Hawley (Caines).

Mick Halsall



Stats It!

NAME: Richard Teesdale
DATE OF BIRTH: 9/3/83
POSITION: Defender
LEAGUE APPS: 17
LEAGUE GOALS: 0
CUP APPS: 5
CUP GOALS: 0

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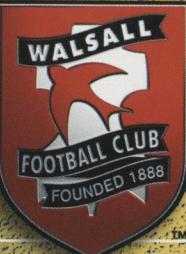
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State of Play

Setting the scene for
today's game



Déjà vu

Previous encounters
with The Hatters



The Wright Stuff...

Mark Wright
talks to us



Visiting Ours

We welcome
Luton Town



state of play

with Andy Poole

Good evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the Cot Stadium as we take on Luton Town side who have been finding some good form lately, whilst at the same time it is fair to say that we have stammered and spluttered our way through the last few games. Nevertheless we can't lose sight of the fact that we are still handily placed in the table and there are many clubs within the division, Luton included, I would expect, who wouldn't be swapping places with us at this moment in time. Taking an eye over our

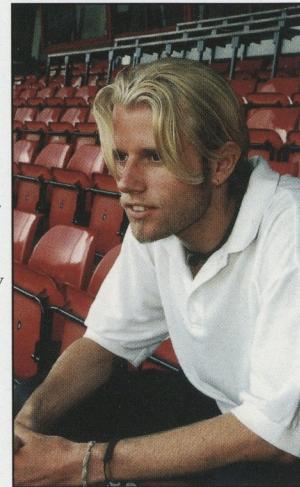
consecutive home games. At Bournemouth on Saturday that never-say-die spirit was in evidence yet again but the worrying aspect was that we had to go two goals down for it to jolt us into life. Okay, we got away with it this time but methinks that most of the sides we have to visit between now and the start of May won't be so forgiving. We need to rediscover that cutting edge which served us so well early on in the campaign.

After losing our proud unbeaten home League record in our last game here, it is imperative that we put the Bury debacle well and truly behind us and focus our minds on launching another unbeaten run. No matter what team you are or what League you play in it is always extremely difficult to go throughout an entire season without losing at home. Let's just hope that the Bury game was merely a minor blip and normal service will be resumed, starting this evening and continuing on Saturday

when mid-table Wrexham are our visitors.

As I stated earlier, we certainly need to be taking as many points from our home games as possible because we have some mighty tough away assignments to tackle over the next few months....

Come on you Saddlers!



Passionate about The Saddlers.

React to the action after the final whistle - call the legendary Tom Ross on 0121 683 1152.

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déjà vu

Walsall FC Historian, Geoff Allman looks back at an exciting encounter against The Hatters....

Walsall 3 Luton Town 2 – April 12th 1997

We were still in the running for a play-off place when Luton came here for a second division clash back in April 1997, while our visitors were still battling it out with Bury and Brentford for one of the two automatic promotion spots. The Hatters were on something of a roll as they were undefeated in their previous six games but we had not helped our own cause by going down 2-1 at leaders Bury in midweek when Kevin Wilson was sent off for the one and only time in his career following an innocuous looking challenge.

5,415 fans – our second highest gate of the season – saw us take the lead in classic fashion after 19 minutes when John Hodge left his marker for dead and crossed perfectly for Kyle Lightbourne to rocket in a header that Tony Feuer pushed out only for Lightbourne to make no mistake from the rebound.

There was end-to-end action until a sudden flurry of goals early in the second half as Andy Kiwomya bent a free-kick round the wall to equalise in the 53rd minute and Graham Alexander set up Steve Davis to head Luton into the lead just two minutes later.

Back we came on the hour-mark as Lightbourne surged on to John Keister's through-ball to slide home past Feuer. Could we go on to win? The answer was soon provided by the busy Lightbourne who found Hodge unmarked on the edge of the penalty area and our star winger hammered home a great shot to cap a fine display by both players.

Sadly we went on to lose three of our last four games to slip to a final position of 12th while Luton ended up in third place

despite being unbeaten in their last five games, and ended up crashing to Crewe in the semi-final of the play-offs. Despite neither side going up at the end of the season they did provide all of those who were present with a memorable and highly entertaining game.

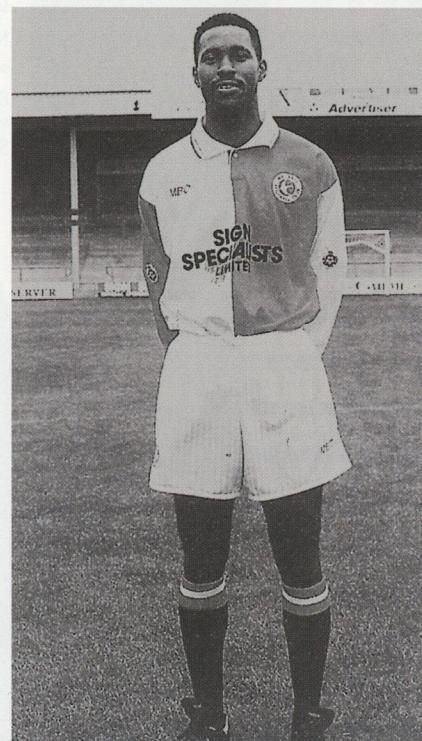
Walsall: Walker, Blake, Evans, Viveash, Butler, Mountfield, Watson, Keister, Lightbourne, Wilson (Roper), Hodge (Beckford).

Luton Town: Feuer, James, Thomas, Waddock (Guentchev), Davis, Johnson (Patterson), McLaren, Alexander, Oldfield (Fotiadi), Thorpe, Kiwomya.

Attendance: 5,415.

THE BOY DONE WELL

Ray Wiggins was a young striker who had joined us from Rushall Olympic in the



Kyle Lightbourne – enjoyed a lively game against The Hatters back in 1997.

summer of 1962 and had played some useful games during our brave but unavailing attempt to stay in Division Two. He had played only twice however in the first half of the 1963/64 season, but came good on what was a dull December afternoon as a crowd of just 3,863 – our lowest for nearly nine years – turned up for the visit of Luton Town, who had just come down with us from Division Two.

A new 'Saddlers Song' was launched before the kick-off though not many joined in the singing, but they roared on 21 minutes when Ken Hodgkinson put Wiggins through and the young striker flicked the ball neatly past former England goalkeeper Tony Baynham. Before half-time Baynham was scrambling again as a Trevor Foster cross ricocheted off defender Gordon Fincham and over the line before the 'keeper could get to it.

Early in the second period Wiggins' heading ability was tested and he came up trumps as Hodgkinson's cross was just out of the reach of Baynham but perfect for Wiggins as he rushed in to power home.

Later Trevor Foster proved that he too could head a ball as he dived to convert a George Meek cross to send us all home happy with a 4-0 success, singing the new 'Up, up The Saddlers' song in very good voice and speculating on whether we had uncovered another gem of a striker. Unfortunately for Wiggins the season ended with him out of the team as we struggled to stay up. All in all he played only 19 first-team games and scored six goals, later returning to Rushall Olympic to give them many years' good service. Many of us who saw him on that December day back in 1963 will still claim that had he been with us at a different time in our history, Ray Wiggins might have made a more permanent contribution to the team, but the boy certainly 'done well' that day.

Walsall: White, Roper, Sharples, Palin, McPherson, Wills, Meek, Matthews, Wiggins, Hodgkinson, Foster.

Luton Town: Baynham, Morton, Bramwell, Pacey, Fincham, McGuffie, Fairchild, Smith, Turner, Reid, McKechnie.

Attendance: 3,863.

on the pitch

n conversation with Mark Wright



Mark Wright is one of the latest products Walsall's impressive youth system to reach the professional ranks, and he is delighted to have been given his big chance by the club.

He only celebrates his 19th Birthday this Saturday, but already he has sampled the thrill of playing against a Premiership side packed with big names and some World-class stars.

That was on September 27th when Walsall visited Upton Park for the second leg of the Worthington Cup tie against West Ham United, trailing by just one goal from the first leg at Bescot.

Mark was sent on as a substitute about ten minutes from the end, with the score locked at 1-1 and The Hammers hanging on desperately with The Saddlers going flat out for another goal which would have levelled the tie on aggregate.

like Nigel Winterburn and Stuart Pearce - not to mention being on the same pitch as such stars as Paolo Di Canio, Frederic Kanoute and Joe Cole.

"The gaffer had told me I might be involved in the tie and I was naturally very pleased to be in the squad. When I heard I was on the subs bench I was a bit nervous, but not too much.

"I think it was a terrific performance by us and we really deserved to win the game. The Hammers were hanging on near the end when we hit the bar and forced a lot of corners."

Mark comes from a footballing family. His father, Evran, played for Walsall for a short time, and he is now turning out for Rushall Olympic. Mark's uncle Henry has been around the non-League scene in the Midlands for a very long time and is now also with Rushall Olympic.

Men in Black

Mr. N. S. Barry
referee

Commencing his refereeing career back in 1974, he progressed through the League's to get on to the National List of Referee's in 1993/94. In his spare time he is heavily involved in the training and education of referees

Assistant referee J. R. Hubbard Assistant referee J. T. Taylor

Fourth Official S. Castle

goals on CD The Official Sponsors of the Substitute Board

Evran gave his son every encouragement in football as soon as the lad started playing seriously with Eastfield in Wolverhampton. Mark went on to play for his junior school, East Park, operating up front and getting his fair share of goals. He was also selected to represent Wolverhampton Schools at Primary level.

tale of the turf

	Walsall	Luton Town
Half Time Score		
Full Time Score		
Scorers		
Man of the Match		
Attendance		

Then it was on to Deansfield High School, Wolverhampton, and he played in the centre of midfield there.

It was Mark's dad who enrolled him in the Walsall FC Centre of Excellence as soon as he was old enough, but his progress was halted for a time when, at the age of 12, he was run over and broke his ankle. He explained: "I was running across the road in the school holidays to catch a bus, and I never saw the car that hit me. It caught my back leg, and I was out of action for over two months recovering from the fracture. "But I was determined it would not interfere with my football once the injury had healed."

After leaving school Mark concentrated on his soccer at Bescot and was pleased to be taken on as a YTS trainee.

Last month things got even better when he was taken on as a professional, and he intends to work extremely hard to become a regular member of the first-team squad.

So, how does he rate Walsall's progress in Division Two: "We have a very good chance of winning promotion this season if we keep working hard and taking our chances," he said.

"We have some very tough away games on the horizon, but if we win them it will put us in a great position."

By Paul Marston,
Birmingham Post & Mail.

Walsall Squad List



1 James WALKER

1 Mark OVENTALE

2 Chris MARSH

2 Gavin McGOWAN

3 Ian BRIGHTWELL

4 Matthew SPRING

4 Tom BENNETT

5 Julian WATTS

5 Andy TILLSON

6 Marvin JOHNSON

6 Ian ROPER

7 Peter THOMSON

7 Darren WRACK

8 Paul McLAREN

8 Darren BYFIELD

9 Stuart DOUGLAS

10 Mark STEIN

10 Liam GEORGE

11 Brett ANGELL

11 Adam LOCKE

12 Ronnie EKELUND

12 Stuart FRASER

13 Andrew FOTIADIS

13 Matthew TAYLOR

14 Jorge LEITAO

14 Nathan ABBEY

15 Zigor ARANALDE

15 Emmerson BOYCE

16 Carl EMBERSON

16 Tresor KANDOL

17 Mark WRIGHT

17 Peter HOLMES

18 Paul HALL

18 Andre SCARLETT

19 Gary BIRCH

19 Dean BRENNAN

20 Matthew GADSBY

20 Jude STIRLING

21 Karl HAWLEY

21 Scott WARD

22 Ian GAUNT

22 Friedrich BREITENFELDER

23 Dion SCOTT

23 Rocky BAPTISTE

24 Tony BARRAS

24 Kent KARLSEN

25 Gabor BUKRAN

25 Petri HELIN

26 Pedro MATIAS

26 Lee MANSELL

27 Bryan SMALL

27 Richard DRYDEN

28 David HUNT

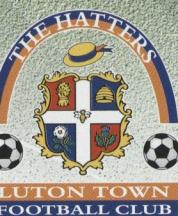
28 Keith ROWLAND



Luton Town Squad List

1 Mark OVENTALE	1
2 Gavin McGOWAN	2
4 Matthew SPRING	4
5 Julian WATTS	5
6 Marvin JOHNSON	6
7 Peter THOMSON	7
8 Paul McLAREN	8
9 Stuart DOUGLAS	9
10 Liam GEORGE	10
11 Adam LOCKE	11
12 Stuart FRASER	12
13 Andrew FOTIADIS	13
14 Matthew TAYLOR	14
15 Nathan ABBEY	15
16 Emmerson BOYCE	16
17 Tresor KANDOL	17
18 Peter HOLMES	18
19 Andre SCARLETT	19
20 Dean BRENNAN	20
21 Jude STIRLING	21
22 Friedrich BREITENFELDER	22
23 Rocky BAPTISTE	23
24 Kent KARLSEN	24
25 Petri HELIN	25
26 Lee MANSELL	26
27 Richard DRYDEN	27
28 Keith ROWLAND	28

Visiting Ours



Luton Town

Nickname: The Hatters

Year Formed: 1885

Home Turf

Ground: Kenilworth Road

Pitch Measurements: 110yd x 72yd

Record Attendance: 30,069

Previous Ground(s): Excelsior, Dallow Lane (1885), Dunstable Road (1897-1905)

MARK OVDENALE

The arrival of a new board of directors at Kenilworth Road early last summer enabled former manager Ricky Hill to secure the services of the 26-year-old goalkeeper from AFC Bournemouth for a substantial fee. Previously with Northampton and Barry Town, he was immediately given the number one shirt but hasn't commanded a regular starting berth this term.

PETRI HELIN

The Finnish International arrived in November 2000 to bring some much-needed experience and know-how to the squad. A number of clubs had been alerted to the midfielder's skill by his regular appearances for his country, including the winning of his 18th cap in the draw with England in the World Cup qualifying competition.

EMMERSION BOYCE

One of the many players to emerge through the clubs youth development programme, the defender was signed as a YTS trainee in the summer of 1995, and made the breakthrough to the first-team last season after occasional appearances following his debut in an Auto Windscreens Shield tie against ourselves in January 1999.

MATTHEW TAYLOR

When Luton were in receivership in the summer of 1999, players had to be sold or given away to save money, while severe restrictions were imposed on new recruits. So once more Luton had to look at the young talent coming up through the ranks, and at the age of just 17 this wing-back was given his chance, and immediately settled to become a regular in the team.



STUART FRASER

A stylish defender and former skipper of the Luton youth team who was given his League debut on the final day of the 1997/98 season and within a year

was established as a regular and respected member of the first-team squad.

LEE MANSELL

An injury crisis at Kenilworth Road thrust the young midfielder into a dramatic debut in the FA Cup. He had to make the transition straight from the youth squad to the first-team in January, and was an instant success. He was just 58 seconds into his debut against Queens Park Rangers, in an FA Cup third round replay, when he scored his first senior goal. He is typical of many of the boys Luton have brought through the ranks – the club have looked after him since he was an 11 year-old, and signed him as a soccer scholar (previously the YTS scheme) as soon as he left school.



Lee Mansell

MATTHEW SPRING

A competitive midfielder, he was a driving force in the Luton side that reached the FA Youth Cup semi-finals in 1997, and after a League debut when still only 17 years of age, he soon became a regular face in the first-team.

KEITH ROWLAND

The former Northern Ireland international midfielder has linked up with the club on a three-month loan agreement from Queens Park Rangers that began on January 27th. Capped 18 times by his country, Rowland began his career as a trainee at Bournemouth in 1989 and was sold to West Ham for £110,000 four years later. He

moved across London to Loftus Road in January 1998 and the hope is that his experience at a higher level will help The Hatters in their current plight.

Keith Rowland

for the record

The Saddlers' record against the Hatters

League	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	17	10	2	5	39	16
Away	18	4	2	12	16	39
TOTAL	35	14	4	17	55	55

PETER HOLMES

A member of the Sheffield Wednesday youth team under Ricky Hill, he was promptly snapped up when Hill took over the reins at Kenilworth Road. A product of the FA's School of Excellence, the two-footed midfielder was signed up for a nominal fee and his game is improving all of the time.

FRIEDRICH BREITENFELDER

The lanky midfielder was one of many hopefuls who presented themselves for trials at Kenilworth Road before this season kicked off and after impressing during a number of trial games he was offered a contract. Starting his career with Rapid Vienna as a 15 year-old

schoolboy, he moved up through the ranks to win an occasional place in their first-team, but at the age of 18 he moved on to Casino Bregenz, before another Austrian club, FCM St Polten, signed him. It turned out to be an unlucky move as the club went out of business in March last year.

STUART DOUGLAS

A striker with excellent pace, he was a 17 year-old trainee when he scored on his League debut against Oldham in 1995. After bursting onto the scene, he was hit by a series of injuries before he could establish himself in the first-team, but determination overcame all difficulties and he won a regular place in the side during the 1998/99 campaign, flourishing as a marksman and also a creator of chances for his front-line colleagues.

LIAM GEORGE

Full of pace and nimble footwork, the striker came through the ranks after joining his home-town club as a schoolboy, and he soon became a regular member of the Republic of Ireland squad that progressed to the European Youth Championship Final in the summer of 1998. Making his League debut in September 1997, he unfortunately suffered a broken leg soon afterwards. Completed his first full campaign in the League last season, in which he was the clubs leading scorer and also progressed to win Eire Under-21 honours.



Keith Rowland

LINK MAN

DAVID PREECE

'Mini' Preece was the personification of the busy little midfield work-horse that every team needs in their engine room and he gave great service to both this evening's teams.

Born in Bridgnorth in 1963, he was one of the many outstanding discoveries by our former Chief Scout Ron Jukes. After a two-year apprenticeship he signed professional forms in July 1980 and made his Saddlers first-team debut in the following January, going on as substitute for Mark Rees in the 2-1 home win over Chester City.

He gained a regular place in the 1982/83 season, scoring goals at both Huddersfield and Wigan as he showed that he packed a powerful shot in addition to his skill on the ball and high work rate. He was a key figure in our run to the semi-final of the Milk Cup in 1983/84, running the midfield in the 2-1 triumph against Arsenal at Highbury and posing plenty of problems for Liverpool in the 2-2 draw at Anfield.

It was nice to see him turn up for the 'Evening with Ron Jukes' which was held in The Bonser Suite last year.

ANDREW FOTIADIS

Another local discovery, he chose to stay on at school before signing as a professional. He won England Schools caps at Under-15 and Under-18 level, and developed a style to delight Luton fans and worry opposing defences. An old-fashioned centre-forward, with good physique, power, and determination.

MARK STEIN

Nearly 20 years after joining Luton as a schoolboy, the striker returned to Kenilworth Road in the summer to help out former team-mate Ricky Hill. Brother of Brian, another noted Luton striker, Mark had four years at Luton before enjoying a career as a popular goalscorer with QPR, Oxford, Stoke, Chelsea and Bournemouth. He was poised to join Swansea under the Bosman Ruling in the summer, but rapidly agreed to go "back home" when the call from Kenilworth Road came.



Richard Dryden

RICHARD DRYDEN

The experienced defender answered the call from an old friend when Lil Fuccillo signed him on

a free transfer from Southampton at the start of the month. The two had been player and coach together at Birmingham City eight years previously. Started his career at Bristol Rovers before giving sterling service to Exeter City, which earned him a £250,000 move to Notts County. He then went on to serve the likes of Birmingham, Bristol City and Southampton. He also spent some time on loan at Stoke City last season, helping them win the Auto Windscreens Shield at Wembley.

at the helm

Name: Joe Kinnear
Appointed: February 2001
Previous Five Bosses: David Pleat (1991-95), Terry Westley (1995-2000), Lennie Lawrence (1995-2000), Ricky Hill (2000), Lil Fuccillo (2001)

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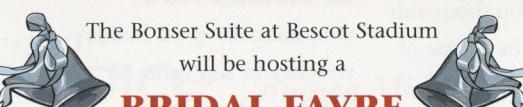
Any help that you can give will be much appreciated....

CHELTENHAM TOWN FOOTBALL PROGRAMME FAIR

There will be a Football Programme Fair at The Club House, Whadden Road, home of Cheltenham Town FC this coming Sunday, February 25th.

Doors open at 11.00am, with free admission and there will be plenty of football programmes and other memorabilia available from pre-War to present day.

For further details telephone 01793-831 094.



The Bonser Suite at Bescot Stadium
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BRIDAL FAYRE

on Wednesday, February 28th 2001.

Doors open at 7.00pm and close at 10.00pm, with
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The Fayre will feature a spectacular Fashion Show by Jeneve Bridalwear of Hedgesford and lots of specialised Wedding exhibitors.

Also, you will be able to get free room hire for all weddings booked on the evening.

A Licensed bar and snacks will be available all evening, so why not come along and let us introduce you to the leading specialists in Wedding services.



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information highway

The African Team of the Year for 2000 was Cameroon, gold medal winners at the Sydney Olympics. Pierre Lechantre's side, including the likes of Eto'o and Geremi (Real Madrid), Lauren (Arsenal) and Mboma (Parma) also achieved a 1-1 draw in Paris against World Champions France. In second spot were Nigeria, who lost only one game last year, while South Africa came third. All in all there were 46 placings (Djibouti took the wooden spoon) but six countries were not classified because they had played less than five games during the course of the year.

For the first time since the creation of the J-League in 1993, a Japanese club has won the treble. Kashima Antlers had already clinched the League title and the League Cup when they met Shimizu S-Pulse in the Final of the Emperors Cup. A crowd of 53,000 turned out at the Tokyo National Stadium to see the Antlers win 3-2, a triumph for the all-Brazilian management team of Toninho, Cerezo and Zico. The new season in Japan will begin on March 3rd with the two sides meeting again in the Super Cup and the League will commence a week later.

Diego Maradona is in talks with his former club Napoli regarding a return to the club in some administrative capacity, possibly as an advisor with responsibility for the academy system. Maradona fancies himself as Director General of the club where he won two Championships, a UEFA Cup, Italian Cup and Italian Super Cup. There is talk of a 'Maradona Village' complete with restaurants and shops dedicated to the Argentine.... who knows, there may even be a Pharmacy!

Denilson de Oliveira, who was the World's most expensive footballer when he joined Real Betis from Sao Paolo for £21 million in 1998, has returned to the Spanish club. Now aged 23, the Brazilian International had been loaned to Rio outfit Flamengo for the whole of last season. He now finds Betis in the second division. Principally the reason for his return is that Flamengo were no longer able to guarantee his wages!

Neil Morris

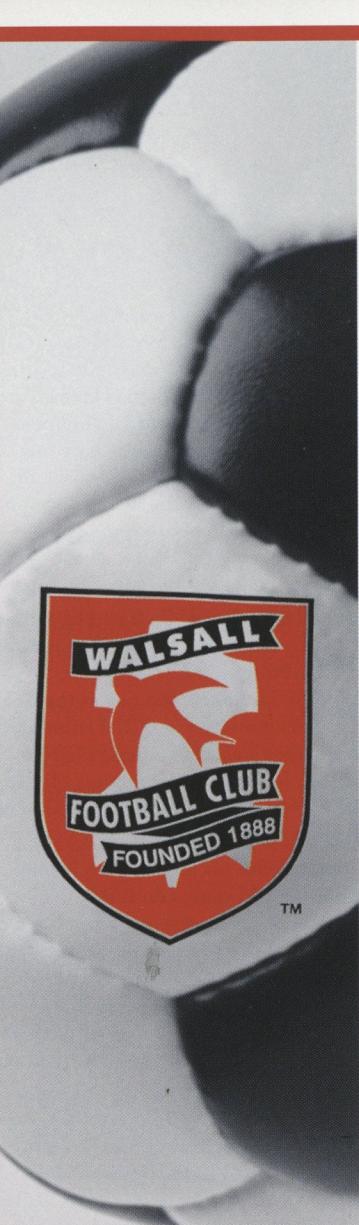
WEB SITE OF THE WEEK

www.eurosport.com

If you have Cable or Satellite TV you will know this channel, famous for bringing Latvian tractor pulling and the like to our screens. This site is heavily accented towards football and features all of the main European Leagues plus Champions League and UEFA Cup information. All in all a solid and decent mainstream site.

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supporters' club news



WELCOME ONE AND ALL....

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all supporters to this evening's game, particularly those who have made the journey up from Luton. May I remind them that they are invited to join us in The Saddlers Club both before and after the game, where drinks and light snacks are available at reasonable prices.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Have you renewed your Saddlers Club Membership for the year 2001? If not, please collect your 2001 card from The Saddlers Club duty doorman, not forgetting to produce your old card when renewing.

Membership renewal prices have been pegged at £5.00p (£2.50p for senior citizens).

ATTRACtIONS AT THE SADDLERS CLUB

Saturday, February 24th – 'Disco Nite' with Jason Paul Roadshow. Admission is £2.50p each, and the doors open at 8.00pm. Please note that this is an adults only event, with late bar.

Friday, March 2nd – The Butties – Walsall's very own answer to The Beatles. Doors open at 8.00pm and there is a late bar. Admission is £3.00p.

**female
VOICE** **Bianca Middleton**

The first lady of Walsall Football Club has her say....

I've decided that I detest playing Bury! Games we've played against them lately have been terrible and the results not much better either. I can't believe that Andy Preece's team have the satisfaction of doing the double over us this season – that really hurts, particularly as I felt we would go on and beat them once Darren Wrack bagged the equaliser. Gabby Bukran's sending off right on the stroke of half-time proved crucial and I was dreading us falling behind again as I knew how difficult it would be and so it proved in the end. Good riddance to them for this season at least!

It wasn't a very good few days for the club as we also saw our LDV

Vans Trophy hopes crash at Stoke. After doing so well to get past Wigan in the previous round, our youngsters couldn't do it again and were well beaten by a much more experienced side. Hopefully things will have been learnt from it, though. Young defender Ian Gaunt has certainly experienced a full range of emotions in his two games for the club. Firstly, he was on target with the last minute winner against Wigan following an impressive display and then he was red-carded at Stoke. He is sure to bounce back as he looks a highly promising player.

The matches remaining are starting to disappear fast so we

AWAY TRAVEL

Saturday, March 3rd – Notts County – Fare: £8.00p each – Departs Bescot Stadium at 12.00noon.

Tuesday, March 6th – Bristol City – Fare: £9.25p each – Departs Bescot Stadium at 4.55pm. Usual pick-up points available.

Book this evening at The Supporters Club Travel Office, situated at the rear corner of The Saddlers Club, between 6.15pm and 7.30pm and after the match. We will also take bookings in The Saddlers Club foyer on Tuesday and Thursday evenings between 7.00pm and 9.00pm.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

On Saturday, March 17th we have the ever-popular Ivy League, supported by the award-winning Wayne Rivers and gorgeous vocalist Stephanie Louise. Tickets are now on sale at £8.00p each.

Royston Randle / Bob Sadler

really need to start winning as many as we possibly can. Mark McGhee's Millwall don't appear to be slipping up very often and we must stay as close to them as we can. There are a number of clubs who could win automatic promotion still and I just hope that we are one of them. Let's keep our fingers crossed that we have got our bad patch out of the way and have a strong – and successful – run to the finish line. It would be a lovely feeling to regain our first division place, particularly as we didn't deserve to go down last time.

I suppose we had to lose at Bescot sometime, but it is vital that we get ourselves straight back on track, starting this evening when we play host to struggling Luton. There are no easy games and The Hatters are desperate for points for a very different reason to us. With another home game against mid-table Wrexham coming up

this Saturday nothing but six points, at this stage, will be good enough. We simply can't afford any more slip-ups like in our last game here. Finishing the season in the same way that we started it would do very nicely and just maybe we could then start planning our trips to Molineux and the like.... What an appetising thought that is!

CALLING ALL FEMALE SADDLERS!

If you want to share your views with our Bianca on this page why not drop us a line at Female Voice, the Walsall FC Matchday Programme, Bescot Stadium, Bescot Crescent, Walsall WS1 4SA. Alternatively you can fax us on 01922-723 922. We will look forward to hearing from you....



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Milton Keynes - The Kingston Centre, (near Tesco), Milton Keynes.

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today's
the day

February 20th has been quite a lucky date for us and as our four defeats have all been away from home, we are defending an unbeaten home record tonight that dates back over 100 years. The first League match took place in 1926 although our three Birmingham League matches had produced one win and two draws in the years leading up to World War One.

Chesterfield were our first opponents and we cruised to an easy 3-1 win with the opposition even giving us an own goal. Centre forward Harry Crockford, who had once played for the visitors, scored the first and the other came from Bert White who had arrived at Fellows Park via Fulham, Blackpool and Arsenal.

Coincidentally our most recent game was also against The Spireites and took place at Bescot Stadium during our promotion campaign of 1998/99. Andy Rammell snatched his 17th goal of the season to secure a point but surprisingly he would only net three more goals in the remaining three months as we finished strongly to secure the runners-up spot in Division Two behind Fulham.

Our last win was 3-2 against Scunthorpe back in 1993. Wayne Clarke scored twice in what was a great year for him, whilst full-back Wayne Williams played his last game in our colours. Our only other post-War win had been achieved in 1971 when two goals from the on-loan Jimmy Seal had helped to sink Wrexham 3-1. Seal's goals that season were invaluable and probably ensured that we avoided relegation.

Draws have been achieved against Northampton (1990), Lincoln (1982), Swansea (1979) and Grimsby (1965), whilst our two post-War defeats have both been to London clubs as Fulham triumphed by two goals to nil in 1988 when we were in a run of six games without a win, but for the previous defeat we need to go back almost half a Century when Crystal Palace won a close game with the only goal being scored before a crowd of over 10,000.

Three players made their debut for us in the game, which was not surprising as Major Buckley used a total of 41 players in that 1953/54 season!

Our pre-War defeats were 3-0 at Brighton back in 1937 and a 3-1 setback at Southend in 1929, with a 1-0 home win over Darlington sandwiched in between.

On this day in history, violent storms hit England in 1861 blowing the steeple off Chichester Cathedral. Lord

Mountbatten became the last Viceroy of India in 1947 and John Glenn became the first American to orbit the earth three times only 15 years later.

February 20th was also the birth date of the poet Voltaire and the founder of Britain's oldest ballet company the Ballet Rambert.

Nearer our own time, it is also the Birthday of Robert Altman, director of M.A.S.H. and Sydney Poitier, the first black actor to win an Oscar for Lilies of the Field (1963). The genial Jimmy Greaves is 61 today and many older supporters may well remember this £99,999 footballer ending up in the crowd during an FA Cup tie against Tottenham Hotspur at Fellows Park back in 1969.

Ian Crichton.



Andy Rammell celebrates his goal against Chesterfield on this day in 1999.

February 20th

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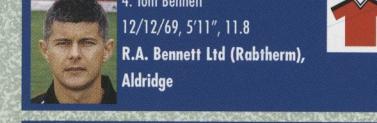
15. Zigor Aranalde
28/2/73, 6'1", 13.2
Walsall Football
Supporters Club - 01922 633357



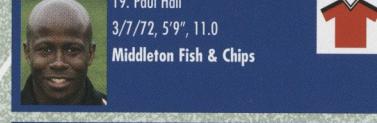
3. Ian Brightwell
9/4/68, 5'10", 12.5
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Walsall 01922 622547



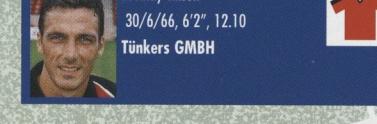
17. Carl Emberson
13/7/73, 6'2", 14.7
Beasley Johnson Loynes
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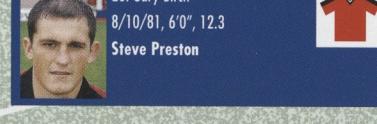
4. Tom Bennett
12/12/69, 5'11", 11.8
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19. Paul Hall
3/7/72, 5'9", 11.0
Middleton Fish & Chips



5. Andy Tillson
30/6/66, 6'2", 12.10
Tinkers GMBH

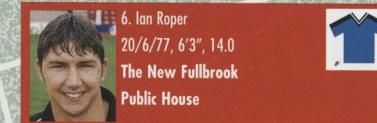


20. Gary Birch
8/10/81, 6'0", 12.3
Steve Preston



Ray Graydon
The Red Cow, Allens Lane,
Pelsall

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6. Ian Roper
20/6/77, 6'3", 14.0
The New Fullbrook
Public House



21. Matthew Godsby
6/9/79, 6'1", 11.12
Roscrea Hotel, Blackpool.
Tel: 01253-624 747



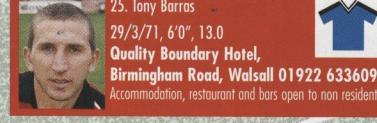
7. Darren Wrack
5/5/76, 5'9", 12.2
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622 443



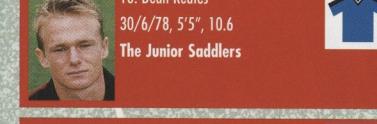
24. Dion Scott
24/12/80, 5'11", 11.0
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8. Darren Byfield
29/9/76, 5'11", 11.11
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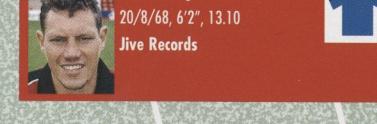
25. Tony Barros
29/3/71, 6'0", 13.0
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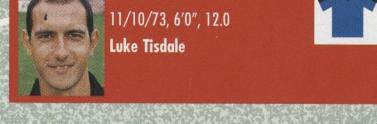
10. Dean Keates
30/6/78, 5'5", 10.6
The Junior Saddlers



26. Gabor Bukran
16/11/75, 5'11", 12.3
Broadway Flowers, 202 The Broadway,
Walsall 01922 725967



11. Brett Angell
20/8/68, 6'2", 13.10
Jive Records



27. Pedro Matias
11/10/73, 6'0", 12.0
Luke Tisdale

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The Tales of Saddlers Fans Home and Away

DEEP SEA SADDLERS

Getting their Walsall shirts wet on a recent holiday to Mauritius are Pearl and Bill Jones of Sutton Coldfield.

Bill has been a Saddlers supporter for over 50 years, regularly following the club both home and away, and is a season-ticket holder along with his children Simon and Amanda. Pearl meanwhile takes in the occasional game but was more than happy to pose in Walsall colours for this underwater walk.



There is a nice story behind this picture as it was lost along with the couple's other holiday snaps when they got mixed-up with someone else's, however thanks to the Walsall FC Matchday Programme all photo's were eventually returned to their rightful owners.

away we go

OPPONENTS: Notts County

DATE: 3/3/01

KICK-OFF: 3.00pm

VENUE: Meadow Lane, Nottingham

ADMISSION: £13.00p (adults), £7.00p

(OAP's), £2.00p (juniors under the age of 16) – Seating only.

COACH FARE: £9.00p per person

DEPARTURE TIMES: 12.00 noon from Bescot Stadium and 12.05pm from Bridgeman Street



OPPONENTS: Bristol City

DATE: 6/3/01

KICK-OFF: 7.45pm

VENUE: Ashton Gate, Bristol

ADMISSION: £14.00p (adults), £11.00p

(OAP's / students), £9.00p (juniors) –

Seating only.

COACH FARE: £10.00p per person

DEPARTURE TIMES: 4.30pm from Bescot Stadium and 4.35pm from Bridgeman Street



Write to: Barmy Army,
Bescot Stadium,
Walsall WS1 4SA.
Fax: 01922 - 723 922
E-Mail: Andypooke@cs.com

OVER TO YOU....

Barmy Army is the page which puts YOU in the picture. So, if your Walsall colours have been to some weird and wonderful places why not let us know about it. Likewise if you want to mark that special occasion for a Saddlers-supporting loved one this is the place to do it – FREE OF CHARGE! The contact details can be seen at the top of the page.... we will look forward to hearing from you all.

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There is some good news for all Saddlers fans who travel to Bescot Stadium by bus on Saturday's.

Travel West Midlands' 405 service has been increased to operate every 15 minutes during Monday to Saturday daytime, with the evening and Sunday frequency remaining at every 30 minutes.

The route will serve Walsall Bradford Place, Yew Tree and West Bromwich.

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ROLL CALL 2000/2001

	LA	LG	CA	CG
James Walker	29 (1)	0	7	0
Chris Marsh	3 (2)	0	0 (2)	0
Ian Brightwell	30 (1)	0	7	0
Tom Bennett	24 (4)	1	3 (1)	0
Andy Tillson	32	0	7	2
Ian Roper	11 (4)	0	1 (3)	0
Darren Wrock	10 (13)	4	3 (2)	1
Darren Byfield	17 (14)	8	6 (3)	1
Dean Keates	13 (9)	4	5 (2)	0
Brett Angell	20 (12)	10	3 (3)	1
Ronnie Ekelund	2 (5)	1	1 (2)	0
Jorge Leitao	26 (5)	12	7	3
Zigor Aranalde	31	0	7	0
Siggi Eyjolfsson	0	0	0 (1)	0
Carl Emberson	3	0	2	0
Mark Wright	0 (3)	0	2 (1)	0
Paul Hall	28 (2)	5	6	1
Gary Birch	0	0	2	1
Matthew Gadsby	0 (1)	0	2	0
Alfie Carter	0 (1)	0	0	0
Karl Hawley	0	0	0 (2)	0
Ian Gount	0	0	2	1
Dion Scott	0	0	2	0
Tony Barraza	21 (3)	0	7	1
Gabor Bukran	25 (4)	2	8	0
Pedro Matias	26 (4)	5	6	1
Bryan Small	0	0	2	0

Nationwide League Division Two

As at 19/02/01

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Millwall	31	11	1	4	35	11	9	3	3	27	18	64
Wigan Athletic	32	11	5	0	23	9	4	8	4	19	18	58
WALSALL	32	11	4	1	36	14	5	5	6	18	20	57
Stoke City	30	8	5	3	22	12	6	6	2	26	17	53
Rotherham United	29	8	4	3	30	18	7	4	3	18	16	53
Reading	29	11	3	2	43	16	4	3	6	14	19	51
Bristol City	30	9	3	4	37	19	5	6	3	15	11	51
Notts County	30	7	4	4	26	21	6	3	6	14	22	46
Northampton Town	31	5	5	4	16	15	6	4	7	17	21	42
Wycombe Wanderers	28	7	2	4	18	14	4	6	5	11	14	41
Bournemouth	29	4	6	4	19	16	6	4	5	28	21	40
Oldham Athletic	31	8	4	4	26	16	2	6	7	12	24	40
Brentford	30	5	6	3	18	19	4	6	14	22	39	
Wrexham	29	6	4	5	17	18	4	4	6	22	27	38
Bury	30	7	4	5	17	17	4	1	9	12	23	38
Peterborough United	30	7	3	4	21	18	2	5	9	14	24	35
Colchester United	29	5	3	6	14	15	4	5	6	15	21	35
Cambridge United	31	5	5	6	22	19	4	3	8	17	30	35
Swindon Town	29	4	5	6	20	25	4	2	8	9	21	31
Port Vale	27	5	5	4	20	13	2	2	9	8	22	28
Bristol Rovers	27	0	8	4	8	15	5	4	6	20	17	27
Luton Town	29	4	1	9	18	27	3	5	7	18	28	27
Swansea City	28	3	6	4	14	13	2	3	10	16	34	24
Oxford United	29	3	2	10	14	21	1	0	13	17	44	14

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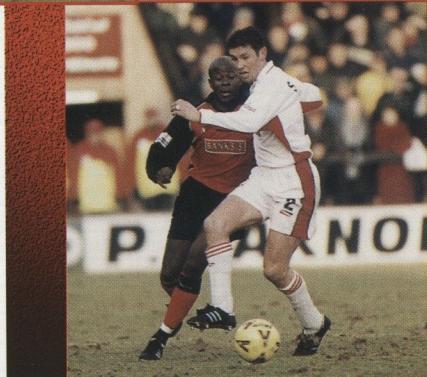
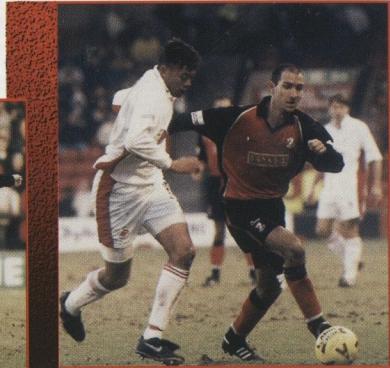
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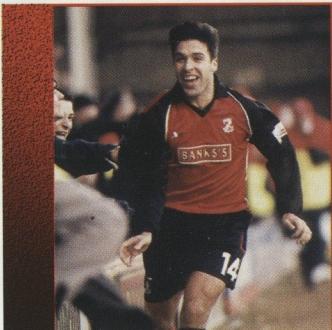
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Final score 5-1

Photographs by David Linney



tale of the turf

5	goals	1
5	corners	1
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5	shots off target	3
0	bookings	1
0	sending offs	0



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